

# KA MAKA'ANANA

Newsletter of the Ethnic Studies Program

University of Hawai'i at Manoa

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Spring 1995

## *Ethnic Studies Degree Finally A Reality!!!*

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ibrahim Aoude, Acting Director

It is good and exciting news for the Ethnic Studies Program this year: we are now a degree-granting Program and several students have already enrolled as Ethnic Studies majors. Our application to become a department is at the Vice President's office and we expect it to be submitted to the Board of Regents during this semester.

The certificate Program for non-Ethnic Studies Majors is doing well. More students have been enrolling in it. We often receive letters and post cards from certificate graduates letting us know that the certificate has been useful to them in their work. This is gratifying news that show how well we have been responding to the needs of the community.

Course offerings and enrollment in the Program have increased somewhat despite budget cuts. Thanks to our Lab Leaders who bring a needed dimension to the educational experience: peer learning. Lab Leaders have been an essential part of our teaching experience. They give a quality to the Program practically unmatched by other undergraduate units at the University of Hawai'i.

Professor Marion Kelly is now in charge of the Resource Room. She has two excellent assistants, Konia Freitas and Kawehi Ah Mai.

Marion has a plan to computerize much of the Resource Room material so it can be easily accessed by students and the community. The Program will be holding an "Ethnic Studies Community Conference" on May 20 and 21 at UHM. It will be co-sponsored by the Spark Matsunaga Institute for Peace. The theme, "Community Politics and Socio-economic Issues in Hawai'i" deals with topics such as: Hawaiian Sovereignty, land and water, capital-labor relations, poverty in Hawai'i, crime, environmental degradation, politics in Hawai'i, and the economy. Finally, the conference is being planned with considerable input from the community, especially from long-time supporters Mari McCaig and attorney Wayson Chow.

The Roland Kotani Scholarship fund is now fully funded. We hope to begin offering scholarships to our majors as early as Fall 1995.

Franklin Odo, Director of Ethnic Studies, is on leave this semester. He is teaching at Hunter College and Princeton (his Alma Mater). Franklin visited Hawai'i for a week to participate in the ceremonies honoring the Varsity Victory Volunteers that was held here at UHM on February 24, 1995. Franklin will be back to resume his responsibilities on June 15. I am looking forward to that date so I can go on vacation before the Fall 1995 semester begins.

It would not have been possible for our Program to accomplish much without the support of our office staff. Sandy Izawa and her

*(from p. 1)* **Director's Report**

team of assistants have been terrific. A special thanks to Sandy and our students workers, Ada Tsu, Ann Takemoto, Kathleen Aki, Denise Yoshimori, and Carol Campos. Thanks also to Joni Miyagi and Emily Murakami, who left the office team this semester.

The next academic year offers many challenges that we are eager to meet in order to leap with the Program to higher levels of teach-

ing and research excellence and community service.

Finally, many thanks to all of our community supporters and ex-lab leaders, without whom the Program would not be enjoying its current enviable status. We hope the Ethnic Studies Community Conference would be a further step in solidifying the ties that bind us to the multi-ethnic community of supporters.

## FOCUS ON FACULTY

### DAVIANNA MCGREGOR

Davi continues to anchor the large ES 101 Introduction to Ethnic Studies course and to teach the popular ES 221 Hawaiians course. Her research continues to focus on the continuity of Hawaiian belief, custom and practice in rural island communities.

Together with Pualani Kanahale, she recently completed an ethnographic report on the Pele beliefs, customs, and practices and how they will be impacted by geothermal energy development in the Kilauea volcano in the district of Puna, Hawai'i. The report is part of the Hawai'i Geothermal Project Environmental Impact Study. It is the first time that a Hawaiian cultural impact study was included as part of an environmental impact study.

Together with Group 70 and Cultural Surveys Hawai'i, she recently completed the Ke'anae-Wailuanui Cultural Landscape Study for the Maui County Planning Department. It is the first cultural landscape study in Hawai'i. The study sets a precedent and a standard for identifying the components, boundaries, use patterns, integrity, and significance of a cultural landscape for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

On a volunteer basis, Davianna will serve with Pualani Kanahale, Leslie Kuloloio, Hardy Spoehr, and Rowland Reeve on the consultant team organized by PBR (Philips,

Brandt, Reddick) for the Kaho'olawe Land Use Plan. The consultant team is responsible for developing a plan for future land uses of Kaho'olawe, which will serve as the basis for determining which 25 % of the island which will be cleared to a subsurface depth.

Davianna also serves as vice-chairperson of the Hawaiian Sovereignty Elections Council. She helped write the Councils 1994 and 1995 reports to the Hawai'i State Legislature. She also helps write the educational materials distributed by the Council.

### *Remember Rosie?*

She is now a junior at the Kamehameha Schools and drives. The Ethnic Studies faculty supported her in two huli-huli chicken sales this year. The first sale helped send her to a national debate tournament on immigration reform at the University of California at Berkeley. The second sale will help send her to Aotearoa (New Zealand) as part of her science research project on the Moa, the flightless Polynesian bird. *(cont. on p. 3)*

*(cont. from p. 2)*

## IBRAHIM G. AOUDE

Ibrahim G. Aoude is organizing an ETHNIC STUDIES COMMUNITY CONFERENCE on Community Politics and Socio-economic Issues in Hawai'i, which will be held on May 20 and 21, 1995 at the UH. Brahim has also organized a panel on Hawai'i: Ethnicity, Class, and Politics for the Association of Asian American Studies, June 1-4, 1995 Oakland conference and will be presenting a paper entitled, "The End of an Era: New Directions in Hawai'i Politics" on that panel. Brahim has also completed a book review of Camille Mansour's recent book *Beyond Alliance* Israel and US Foreign Policy. The review will appear in the summer issue of Arab Studies Quarterly. He will be traveling to Egypt this summer to continue researching that country's political economy. Brahim is also active in the community where he is a member of the Downtown Neighborhood Board; the People's Fund Board; the Rainbow Peace Fund Board; People Against Chinatown Evictions (PACE); Rainbow Coalition; and Americans for Impartiality in the Middle East (AIME).

## FRANKLIN ODO

Franklin Odo is on leave this semester. He is currently teaching classes on Asian Pacific American history at Hunter College in New York City and Princeton University. In these classes "everyone gets exposed to Hawai'i's multiethnic struggles and contemporary sovereignty movement. Besides coming across dead bodies in the morning (let him tell you that story), Franklin is involved in protest movements against New York State and City budget cuts.

The story behind teaching the class at Princeton is that there is a growing Asian-American Studies Movement at Princeton. One of the students who is very active in the move-

ment is from Hawai'i, and when she heard that Franklin was coming to New York, she and a handful of students asked him to teach at Princeton. Franklin said, "They made me an offer I couldn't refuse."

Franklin will be returning soon for the summer to work with Davianna on the "Hawai'i History Institute," co-sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, Historic Hawai'i Foundation, Hawai'i Pacific University, Ethnic Studies, and UH Summer Session. The Institute will cover most recent research findings on history from pre-contact to contemporary issues including the sovereignty movement and race relations. Thirty teachers selected from throughout Hawai'i will attend this intensive month-long session. They will receive graduate credits, free books and videos, field trips, room and board, plus \$1,000 stipends.

## LINDA A. REVILLA

Linda is currently teaching ES 301, "Ethnic Identity" and working as a Research Health Scientist at the Veterans Affairs Pacific Center for Post-traumatic Stress Disorder. She recently published a chapter on Filipino Americans with Dr. Pauline Agbayani-Siewert of UCLA in *Asian Americans*. Linda's research projects include a study of Filipino American Vietnam Veterans and a review of the Filipino American mental health literature. She is the producer and writer for a film documentary, "An Untold Triumph: America's Filipino Soldiers," which will tell the forgotten story of the First and Second Filipino Infantry Regiments during World War Two, and has been busy fundraising for the film. She will be presenting papers on these regiments at the Ethnicity and Multiethnicity conference, BYU-Hawaii, and the Hawaii Pacific Regional Symposium at the Association for Asian American Studies conferences. Finally, she will be consulting with KITV on their series on Filipino Americans.

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*(cont. from p. 3)*

## JON OKAMURA

Jon Okamura is a researcher with the Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity Office and teaches as a lecturer in the Ethnic Studies Program, most recently courses on Filipinos in Hawai'i and Japanese in Hawai'i. He has been doing research on the international Filipino diaspora and recently presented a paper on "The Global Filipino Diaspora as an Imagined Community" at a conference on "Contemporary Asian-Pacific Diasporas" in Los Angeles. The highlight of this trip was visiting his alma mater, the University of Southern California where he graduated 24 years ago, and discovering that his old office is now the Jane Goodall Primate Research Center.

Jon also is continuing his research on ethnicity and ethnic relations in Hawai'i. He wrote a paper on "The Illusion of Paradise: Multiculturalism in Hawai'i" for an East-West Center Program on Cultural Studies conference on "Configuring Minority/Majority Discourse: Problematizing Multiculturalism" and will be giving a paper on "Beyond Demographics: Ethnicity and Electoral Politics in Hawai'i" at this year's Association for Asian American Studies conference. He also is co-editing a book on Filipino Americans in commemoration of the 90th anniversary of Filipino immigration to Hawai'i in 1996.

## LIANA PETRANEK

Liana Petranek is currently teaching ES 381 (Social Movements in Hawaii). During the first Summer Session of 1995 she will be teaching ES 301 (Ethnic Identity).

In Fall 1994 she was the program director for the Third Annual Arab Cultural Celebration sponsored by Americans for Impartiality in the Middle East and co-sponsored by Hawaii Association of Middle East Artists. In May of 1995, Liana will be a panelist for the Ethnic Studies Community Conference. She will be

presenting a paper entitled, "A Worker's Perspective on the Transformation Problem at Hawaiian Air."

## KATHRYN WADDEL TAKARA

The past two years have been a starship of events in the academic, personal, and community arenas. Of course I continue to teach my two courses on the African American experience and the introduction to ES course in which happily I always continue to learn more.

There was a completion of the Ph.D. in Political Science in 1993, "The Fire and the Phoenix: Frank Marshall Davis (An American Biography)," which included a very good defense, revisions, and a graduation!! (Dr. Kay, if you please). I have begun research on the writer and mystic, Jean Toomer, of the Harlem Renaissance Period.

I presented a talk at the UH Biography Center, lectured to several community groups, and gave poetry readings at UH, WCC, the Women's Center, and in the community. I also appeared several times on cable TV (M'Shale, Passion) and on Spectrum (PBS), highlighted with an interview with the poet, actress, writer Dr. Maya Angelou. I was honored by the African American community at a dinner for outstanding African American women in Hawai'i with 6 others.

I presented a paper at the MMLA conference in Chicago in November 1994, "The Rage and Passion in the Poetry of Frank Marshall Advise, and on the same trip gave two lectures at UC Berkeley, and one poetry workshop sponsored by the California College of Arts and Crafts at a homeless shelter in San Francisco.

For two years I was active with the commission on the status of women at UHM, and became project director of "African American Visions '94: A celebration in cultural diversity," sponsored by Summer Session, and we presented 35 African American scholars and performing artists (a first for Honolulu!). I also

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became chair person of the Opele task Force which has a focus on recruitment and retention of African American students at UH. We established a Thurgood Marshall scholarship fund, through the UH Foundation, working with Jon Okamura and Amy Agbayani, and brought groups of African American high school students to UHM for the first time. I also became advisor to the Opele student services group, which celebrated African American history with a focus on blacks in the media.

Finally, my youngest daughter graduated from high school and went to Stanford (eeks! more money!) and my oldest daughter gave birth to Asha Jade, moving me to the galaxy of grandparents. But, I still love to connect to all ages of people and have to work hard to balance my energy between family, work, scholarship, poetry, and social activities.

This summer I will be going to China for five weeks with a group of about 20 educators from across the nation sponsored by the East West Center and funded by a Fulbright group. I hope to do some research on ethnic minorities and Chinese attitudes toward people of African descent.

### GREGORY YEE MARK

Gregory Yee Mark is a 1994-95 recipient of a Presidential Citation for Meritorious Teaching Award from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. The award will be given at a luncheon ceremony on May 5, 1995. Greg will be presenting two papers, "Kona's Chinese Pioneers" and "Double Jeopardy: Chinese Opium Court Cases of the 1920's" at the annual meeting for the Association for Asian American Studies (May 31-June 3, 1995) in Oakland, California. Besides traveling to California for the AAAS conference, this summer, he will be leading a tour group of students, friends, and relatives to China and Hong Kong.

Greg has also completed a book review of Renqiu Yu's book, To Save China, To Save Ourselves: The Chinese Hand Laundry Alliance of New York for the China Review International. In addition, he has co-authored an article with Wing Tek Lum entitled, "A Family Portrait," that will appear in the book, Xing: Photographs and Essays on Borders of Asian, Pacific Islanders, and Americans.

During the 1994-95 academic year, Greg has been teaching half time because of his year-long research appointment with Social Science Research Institute. In the Fall 1995 semester, he will be teaching ES 101, "Introduction to Ethnic Studies," and ES 331 "Chinese in Hawai'i."

Greg continues to be active in the local community. He is a Board member of the Hawai'i Chinese History Center and President of the Chinese Community Action Coalition.

### Dean Alegado

Dean continues to be actively involved in alternative economic development projects in the Subic Bay area, the site of the former U.S. naval base in the Philippines. He's also working on a book on the political economy of labor export in the Philippines. Dean presented a number of papers in 1994: "Converting the Former U.S. Bases in the Philippines: From Swords into Plowshares" at an Ethnic Studies Colloquium on April 19, 1994; "The Subic Freeport Zone in the Context of the Philippine's Development Strategy" at a Center for Philippine Studies Colloquium on September 23, 1994; "The Struggle for Affirmative Action in Higher Education Among Filipino Americans in Hawai'i" at an Operation Manong colloquium on October 24, 1994; "An Initial Analysis of the 1994 Hawai'i Gubernatorial Election" at a Center for Philippine Studies colloquium on Nov. 11, 1994, and; "Immigrant Youths from the Philippines: Embedded Iden-

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(from p.5) **Faculty Focus . . .**

ties in Hawai'i's Urban Community Context" at the First World Congress on Indigenous Filipino Psychology and Culture at the University of the Philippines held on Dec. 8-11, 1994. Besides his responsibilities in Ethnic Studies, Dean is a member of various committees on campus, including the Center for Philippine Studies' Executive Committee and the UH systemwide Pamantasan Task Force on the underrepresentation of Filipino students. He's also a faculty mentor and adviser for Filipino students at the UH. In the community, Dean continues to be a member of the youth gang and affirmative action task forces of the Oahu Filipino Community Council. In early January, Dean stopped off in Saipan to visit and interview a number of human rights and labor activists to get a first-hand view of the conditions faced by foreign migrant workers in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI), a U.S.-flag territory. He helped organize the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity's recent efforts to expose and educate the public about the abuse of foreign contract workers in the CNMI.

Dean was invited to present a paper on regional labor migration and ethnic conflicts in Southeast Asia at the 9th ASEAN Roundtable Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on July 5 - 8.

### Marlon Kelly

Marion Kelly has been with the Ethnic Studies Program since it began offering classes in 1970. She is a *keiki o ka 'aina*, having been born and raised in the Islands. As a result of years of research, she expands her lectures with extensive information on Hawaiian culture history and economic change, including the devastating changes that were introduced with the invasion of the Western market economy and its accompanying foreign culture. She also calls upon years of personal experience, having lived through many of the changes that have taken place in Hawai'i, for example, the shifts of economic dependency from sugar and pine to tourism and from local, and U.S. capital to world-wide capital and how these changes have impacted on the lives of the people of Hawai'i. ES-340 is a writing intensive course.

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## LAB LEADER UPDATES

### Jamie Fukul, Stacie Kaichi, Jennifer Malin

Greg Mark's Ethnic Studies lab leaders are all returning veterans, and they are absolutely thrilled to be back, and lab leading for the Rainbow Advantage Program learning community course, ES 101 (Intro). Jamie Fukui is currently a junior majoring in Ethnic Studies and Psychology. Last semester she attended the University of Nevada at Reno, but missed Hawai'i so much that she returned for the spring semester this year, where she can regularly eat crackseed and get parking tickets on her moped. Stacie Kaichi, recent theft victim, hopes to be vindicated soon by the criminal justice system (the person who tried to cash one of Stacie's

checks was caught at the bank!). Stacie is a recent graduate of the College of Education, and is now pursuing an Elementary Education Professional Diploma so she can get a teaching job where she is taller than her students. She has been a long time lab leader with Greg since 1991! Jenny Malin has likewise returned to UH and Ethnic Studies after a year on the East in the Coast. Returning from the University Of Delaware (Dull-aware?) in January, she is continuing grad studies in Historic Preservation at the American Studies Dept. She can be seen daily frothing at the mouth in the Resource Room or

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(from P. 6) *Lab Leaders . . .*

office, where she bugs the staff. She will also be assisting Davi and Franklin with the NEH Summer Institute in July.

### **Rodney Glover**

My experience as a teaching assistant in Ethnic Studies has been very different from my experience taking the class. I have learned that students in an introductory type course tend to take advantage of the simplicity of the material. They do just enough to get by, instead of pushing to the limits. They worked hard, but they weren't consistent. It has helped me to grow in my relations with different people of different backgrounds. It has also helped me to realize some of the needs and thoughts of these different backgrounds. The experience has been very valuable.

### **Shavondi Johnson**

My experience as a TA in Ethnic Studies 306 (African American Experience) has allowed me to work with more of my interpersonal skills in an authoritarian position. It has also broadened my horizons on the ongoing issues of the African American experience in a Polynesian arena. The knowledge of and reaction to the black experience in this Pacific arena is lacking. Research on this topic should be more adequately funded to stop these illusionary media stereotypes of the black race.

### **Colin Hayashida**

"As a lab leader for the ES 330 Class for the three semesters I have decided to get a change of pace this semester. I am now the lab leader for the ES 301 Class with Dr. Linda Revilla. I graduated last semester with a BA in Political Science, and plan on attending grad school some time soon. However, I am going into Sociology rather than Political Science."

## **WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

*(FORMER ES STUDENTS AND LAB LEADERS)*

**Dean Minakami** is in grad school at UH Manoa in the area of Urban and Regional Planning, and will be graduating in a couple of semesters.

**Mark Santoki** has left Citibank and is currently the editor of the Hawaii Herald, filling the shoes of Karleen Chinen and Arnold Hiura.

**Terril Chun** is currently awaiting admission into law school for the fall semester. In the meantime, he is working for the office of Sena-

**Kirk Tanaka.** "Currently, I am still in school and trying to finish up my Master's degree in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. The many experiences as a lab leader has been one of the positive aspects of my life and has led me to my involvement in community groups on a local level (Chinese Community Action Coalition) as well as organizations on a national level (Japanese American Citizen's League and the Association for Asian American Studies). Hopefully, these experiences will be beneficial to my life after I leave school."

## PROFILE OF AN ETHNIC STUDIES HONORS MAJOR:

**RICHELLE CHING**

Hi! My name is Richelle Ching. I'm currently a first semester junior at UHM, working towards a degree in Ethnic Studies. I've lived in Honolulu, Hawaii for all of the 20 years of my life, and marvel at the multicultural/multiethnic ties that bind us together and turn Hawaii into the "Aloha State." I think that it's kind of neat that people have the ability to love others because of their differences and not in spite of superficial variances (e.g. skin color, religion, etc.) that create barriers towards unity. Because of this appreciate for the uniqueness of individuals I became an Ethnic Studies major. I wanted to understand more about various cultural groups, and better acquaint myself with my own ethnicity, which is Chinese. I believe that individuals should take pride in their own (as well as others') cultural history. As a philosopher once said: "Knowledge is power, and the more you know, the more you grow." I think that if you know where the roots of your history lie, you lay the foundation for a solid identity, which guides you on the unsteady path of life.

When I was growing up, I wanted to be white. At the naive age of eight, I truly believed that dying my hair blonde and somehow changing my brown eyes to blue would make me attractive to everyone. Now I realize that the media played a large role in determining what was and is "beautiful," "attractive," and "normal." I've learned to accept myself for who I am, and am proud to be a

fourth-generation Chinese American, and, more generally, and Asian American. Because of my interest in my heritage, I've realized that much of what the Chinese contributed to American history is extremely important (the Chinese were instrumental in the creation of the American West), but not given as much attention (or credit, as American history is biased, written from a Euro American point of view. Hopefully, future generations will have more exposure to the role that ethnic minority groups have played in the building of the United States.

But, speaking in present terms, my quest in discovering (and uncovering) minority cultural history has been quite an experience. I've already taken three Ethnic Studies courses; 101 (Inter), 360 (Immigration to Hawaii), and 380 (Fieldwork, as a teaching assistant to an ES professor). Related courses include French-African Literature (mostly dealing with the effects of Western colonialism on a tribal culture) and Understanding Chinese Religions (Taoism, Confucianism, Buddhism). All of these courses have been valuable in my understanding of other human beings, and in understanding myself and what I want out of life. My future plans include law school and teaching. The professors in the Ethnic Studies Program have been excellent role models for me. Someday, like them, I hope to give back to society as much as it has given me. #

***"Knowledge is power, and the more you know,  
the more you grow. . ."***

(cont. from p. 6)

### **Focus on Faculty. . .**

Kelly also teaches a course in Modern Polynesia, ES392, Change in the Pacific: Polynesia, which is cross listed with PACS-392. This course introduces students to Tahiti (French Polynesia), Tonga, Aotearoa (N.Z.), Tuvalu, Samoa, and Hawai'i, concentrating on the impact of the modern world on the Polynesian people and the similarities and differences in their responses.

Among her many community interests, Kelly is active with the Pro-Hawaiian Sovereignty Working Group (P-HSWG) that hosted the People's International Tribunal Hawai'i in August 1993, as one of several events organized to mark the centennial of the overthrow of the independent Kingdom of Hawai'i by a small group of American businessmen, protected and supported by an illegal invasion and occupation by U.S. military troops. The People's International Tribunal Hawai'i put the United States on trial with nine international judges hearing testimony presented on all the major islands by over a hundred residents, Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian, on the disastrous effects that the takeover and occupation had on the indigenous Hawaiians. Copies of the Report on the 1993 People's International Tribunal Hawai'i may be obtained from Kelly. During the 1995 Spring Summer and Fall Semesters, the Ethnic Studies Program and P-HSWG are co-sponsoring a series of forums on the planned "Plebiscite" that is sponsored by the State of Hawai'i with funding by the State Legislature and OHA. For further information, call Kelly at 956-4218.

### **I CAN ONLY IMAGINE**

by

*Kathryn Waddell Takara*

*I can only imagine  
what happened  
underneath those banyan trees  
generations ago.*

*As the wealthy vacationed,  
the locals worked and wondered  
at the appropriated ease.*

*The foreigners,  
facilely labeled the natives  
as lazy, leisured in idleness,  
while colorfully  
complimenting with material  
favors the naked breasts and  
undulating hips.*

*I can only imagine  
generations ago  
on the verandah, under the same  
banyan tree, late afternoon elegance,  
cocktails and music of the surf.*

*I can only imagine  
Hawaiian men  
and women gracious i  
n their beauty,  
entertaining the red-nosed tourists  
who presumed superiority  
in missionary self-righteousness.*

*I can only imagine  
awkward juxtapositions  
of tobacco, alcohol  
and flower excused lasciviousness.*

*I can only imagine  
empty dreams,  
stolen kisses, hopeless tomorrows,  
and the genocide of a people.*

***"The People's International Tribunal Hawai'i put the United States on trial with nine international judges hearing testimony . . . on the disastrous effects that the takeover and occupation had on the indigenous Hawaiians. "***

# ETHNIC STUDIES COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

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May 20-21, 1995

8:30-4:30

University of Hawai'i- Manoa

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The Ethnic Studies Program of the University of Hawai'i, Manoa is sponsoring a conference entitled Community Politics and Socio-economic Issues in Hawaii. The conference deals with emerging issues such as Hawaiian sovereignty, land and water, capital-labor relations, high cost of housing, crime, drugs, Native Hawaiian health, environmental degradation, and ethnic and class inequities in education.

Attendance is free and open to the public. Brochure on the conference describing events and panels is available now.

*For more information, call Brahim Aoude at 956-4000*

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