



**AMPLIFYING  
OUR VOICES IN**

**UNITY &  
ACTION**



**April 26, 2023**  
Pre-conference

**April 27-28, 2023**  
Conference

**The Marriott Oakland City Center**  
Oakland, CA



ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

# THANK YOU

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April 27, 2023

On behalf of the Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) Board, I welcome you to this year's face-to-face conference!

Our theme this year is "Amplifying our Voices in Unity and Action". This theme is intentional as we are at a time in our lives that requires us to speak up and to amplify our collective voices in demanding change that is long due.

APAHE was founded in 1987 and is dedicated to enhancing the educational opportunities for Asian and Pacific American students; promoting and supporting the hiring, retention, and advancement of qualified Asian and Pacific American faculty, staff, and administrators; and creating a better understanding of issues in the public affecting Asian and Pacific Americans in higher education. We encourage you to be a part of our growing voices.

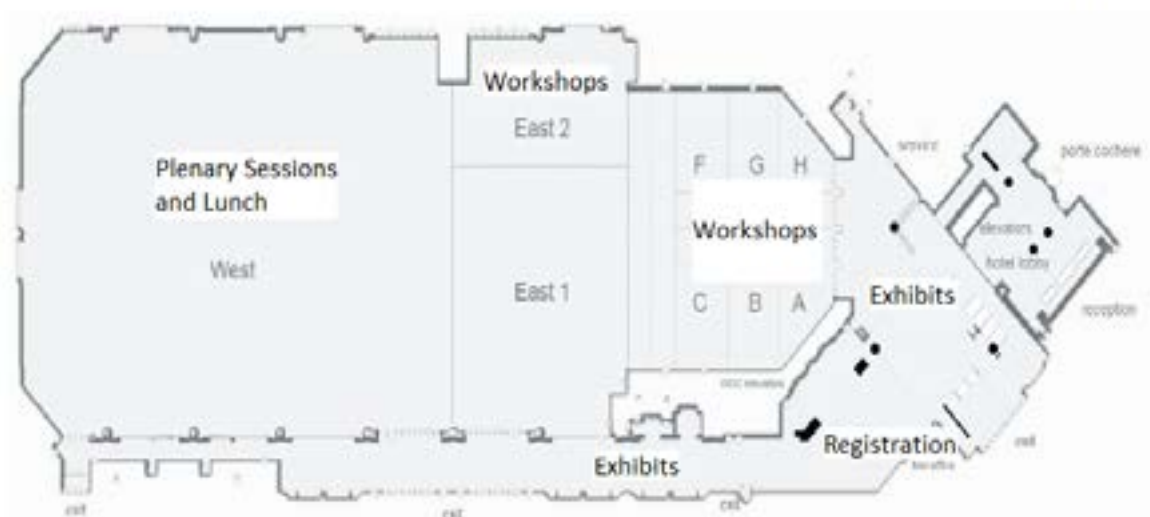
As you look over this year's program, I believe you will find a variety of relevant and inclusive topics for your consideration. At APAHE, our goal is that you will find yourself in a safe learning with leaders throughout the nation who have a commitment to your personal and professional growth. We further encourage you to reach out to others and to build not only your professional and career networks, but to grow your extended family.

On behalf of the APAHE Board, I welcome you to Oakland, California. I look forward to meeting and connecting with as many of you as possible in the days ahead. Have a great conference!

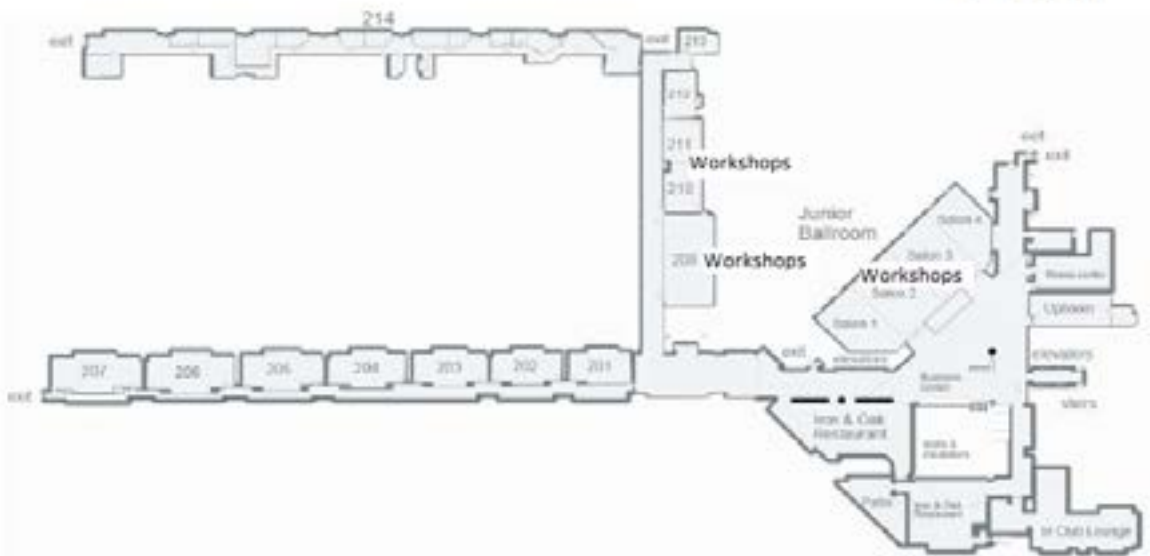
Onward!

Rowena M. Tomaneng, Ed.D.  
President, Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE)

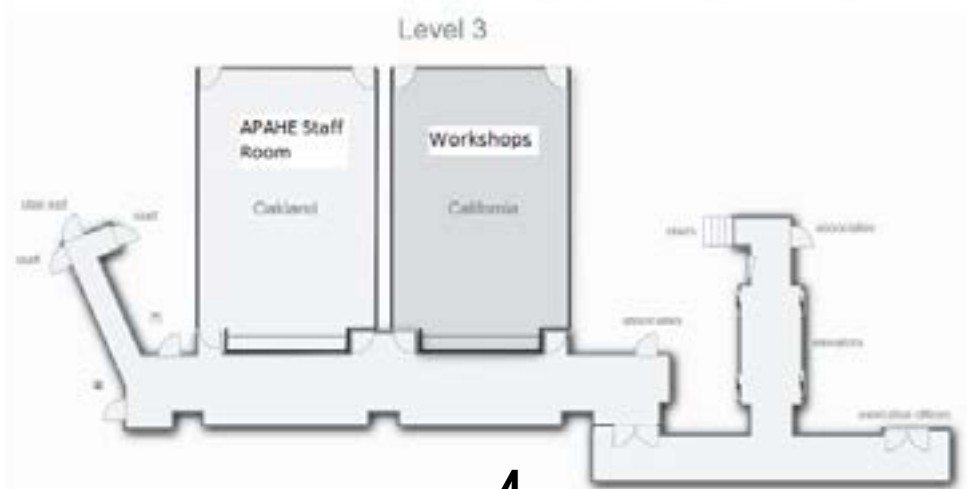
1<sup>st</sup> Floor



2<sup>nd</sup> Floor



Oakland and California Rooms – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor



# 2023 PROGRAM

**THURSDAY APRIL 27, 2023**

**7:00 a.m.**  
**GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR**

**Registration, Continental Breakfast and Networking**

**8:00 a.m.**  
**WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

**Conference Opening**

- Dr. Rowena Tomaneng, President, San Jose City College & APAHE Board President

**8:15 a.m.**  
**WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

**Greetings from the City of Oakland**

- Hon. Sheng Thao, Mayor, City of Oakland

**8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.**  
**WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

**Opening Keynote**

- Curtis Chin, Writer/Producer/Director/Activist

**9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**  
**WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

**Plenary Panel**

**TALATALANOA: PASIFIKA PERSPECTIVES FROM THE BARREL OF THE ALLYSHIP TIDAL WAVE**

- Moderator:
  - Dr. Andi Sims, Director of Student Life, Mt. San Antonio College
- Panelists:
  - Aseana Taione-Filihia, M.Ed., Assistant Director of Asian American Resource Center, Pomona College
  - Dr. Finausina Teisa Tovo, Coordinator and Co-Founder, MANA Learning Community, College of San Mateo
  - Kare'i Lokeni, MSW, Counselor, El Camino College, Long Beach City College, Santa Monica College
  - Karla B. Thomas, MPH, Deputy Director, Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC)

**GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR**

**Morning Posters**

- Digital Optics of a Counternarrative: An Arts-Based Examination Championing Filipino/a/x American Community College Student Resilience in the Inland Empire
- Leveraging Data to Examine and Understand the Experiences of AANHPI Students: Findings from the APIA Scholars Annual Survey

**10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Concurrent Sessions – Group A**

<p><b>A1 EAST 2 HALL 1ST FLOOR</b> State of Higher Education for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Californians</p>	<p><b>A2 GRAND BALLROOM AB 1ST FLOOR</b> Carrying Forward: Cultivating the Pipeline to Leadership</p>	<p><b>A3 GRAND BALLROOM C 1ST FLOOR</b> A Seat at the Table: Challenging the Academic Trajectory of Pacific Islanders</p>	<p><b>A4 GRAND BALLROOM F 1ST FLOOR</b> Voices Amplified: Engaging via the Lived Experiences of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in Higher Education</p>	<p><b>A5 GRAND BALLROOM GH 2ND FLOOR</b> Finding Ourselves in AANHPI History; APASS' Everyday People's History Museum</p>
<p><b>A6 JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2 2ND FLOOR</b> How to Identify Which Whiteness Is You Interacting With?</p>	<p><b>A7 JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4 2ND FLOOR</b> Sharing Our Stories: Identifying and Addressing Microaggressions for Healing and Empowerment</p>	<p><b>A8 ROOM 208 2ND FLOOR</b> The Sikh College Student Experience in the United States</p>	<p><b>A9 ROOM 210/211 2ND FLOOR</b> In a Time of Destruction, Create Something: AANAPISI Initiative at Fresno State</p>	<p><b>A10 CALIFORNIA ROOM 3RD FLOOR</b> Understanding the PhD Career Pathways of Asian Pacific Islanders in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Fields</p>

**11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.**

**WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

**Luncheon & Awards**

**WELCOME REMARKS**

- Hon. Mike Fong, California State Assembly Member, 49th District
- Hon. Evan Low, California State Assembly Member, 26th District

**CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF APAHE FOUNDERS**

- Dr. Frank Chong, President/Superintendent, Santa Rosa Junior College
- Dr. Dale Shimasaki, CEO, Strategic Education Services
- Dr. Audrey Yamagata Noji, Vice President of Student Services, Mount San Antonio College

**1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**Concurrent Sessions – Group B**

<p><b>B1 EAST 2 HALL 1ST FLOOR</b> Assertive Communication</p>	<p><b>B2 GRAND BALLROOM AB 1ST FLOOR</b> The (S)Pacifics: APIDAs Navigating the Work Waters and Keeping Your Values Afloat</p>	<p><b>B3 GRAND BALLROOM C 1ST FLOOR</b> Radical Self-Care: Essential to Amplify, Unite and Sustain Leaders for Action</p>	<p><b>B4 GRAND BALLROOM F 1ST FLOOR</b> Creating a Career Breakthrough into the CA Community Colleges</p>	<p><b>B5 GRAND BALLROOM GH 2ND FLOOR</b> Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Higher Education: The Role of AANAPISIs</p>
<p><b>B6 JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2 2ND FLOOR</b> CSUF's Journey on the Shift from Desi to South Asian: "Broadening Our Inclusive Terminology in the APISAA Community"</p>	<p><b>B7 JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4 2ND FLOOR</b> Culture, Climate and Conflict: The Art of Having Critical Conversations, Building Coalition and Belonging, and Challenging the Status Quo</p>	<p><b>B8 ROOM 208 2ND FLOOR</b> API Representation Matters: Unifying and Collaborating to Uplift Asian Pacific American Voices</p>	<p><b>B9 ROOM 210/211 2ND FLOOR</b> Owning Our Stories: The Critical Role of Narratives and Storytelling in Higher Education</p>	<p><b>B10 CALIFORNIA ROOM 3RD FLOOR</b> Leveraging Community Partnerships to Enhance Student Success and Community Empowerment</p>

**GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR**

**Afternoon Posters**

- Grab the Mic! It's Time to Liberate Our Students Through Podcasting
- Racism and Filipino American Student Leadership

**2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.**

**Concurrent Sessions – Group C**

<p><b>C1 EAST 2 HALL 1ST FLOOR</b> Blazing the Trail: California's First AANHPI Student Achievement Program</p>	<p><b>C2 GRAND BALLROOM AB 1ST FLOOR</b> APIDA Circles: Intimate and Honest Conversations for Growth with Fellow APIDA Leaders</p>	<p><b>C3 GRAND BALLROOM C 1ST FLOOR</b> Korean American Stories of Resilience Against Inequity and Discrimination</p>	<p><b>C4 GRAND BALLROOM F 1ST FLOOR</b> Reaching Beyond the Institution: Engaging AA&amp;PI Students through Community Responsive Outreach, Support, and Programming</p>	<p><b>C5 GRAND BALLROOM GH 2ND FLOOR</b> Agents of Change: Asian Pacific American Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Professionals at UC Davis</p>
<p><b>C6 JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2 2ND FLOOR</b> Navigating the Model Minority at UC Riverside's Residential Life: Through the Perspectives of Entry Level and Mid-Level Housing Professionals</p>	<p><b>C7 JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4 2ND FLOOR</b> Towards a Racial Equity Bias: Mitigating the Adverse Impacts of Implicit Bias in Recruitment &amp; Hiring Practices in Higher Education</p>	<p><b>C8 ROOM 208 2ND FLOOR</b> Beyond Cutting Fruit: Exploring Practices of Transformational Love for Collective Care, Well-Being, Justice and Joy</p>	<p><b>C9 ROOM 210/211 2ND FLOOR</b> Rancho Academy: A Unique Approach to Diversifying Community College Faculty</p>	<p><b>C10 CALIFORNIA ROOM 3RD FLOOR</b> From Little Representation to a Leadership Position at the Table: Strategies for Establishing an Institutionalized Asian American and Pacific Islander Presence on Campus</p>

**4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Concurrent Sessions – Group D**

<p><b>D1 EAST 2 HALL 1ST FLOOR</b> "I'm Here...Now What?": An Informal Guide for Next Steps of Engagement After APAHE</p>	<p><b>D2 GRAND BALLROOM AB 1ST FLOOR</b> Teaching Asian American Studies in Co-Curricular Programming</p>	<p><b>D3 GRAND BALLROOM C 1ST FLOOR</b> Keep the Fire Burning: How an API Learning Community Sparked an API Student Club</p>	<p><b>D4 GRAND BALLROOM F 1ST FLOOR</b> Connections, Collaboration, Community: The Entrepreneurial Journey</p>	<p><b>D5 GRAND BALLROOM GH 2ND FLOOR</b> United We Can Do More: The Role of Asian Faculty and Staff Associations in Building Institutional Capacity to Support Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities</p>
<p><b>D6 JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2 2ND FLOOR</b> Advocacy Matters: Asian Participation in Higher Education Unions</p>	<p><b>D7 JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4 2ND FLOOR</b> Transforming from a Racial Centered Warrior</p>	<p><b>D8 ROOM 208 2ND FLOOR</b> More than Buzz Words: Grounded Practices in Empowering Students to Find Their Voice, Own Their Stories, and Follow Their Compass for College and Beyond</p>	<p><b>D9 ROOM 210/211 2ND FLOOR</b> Empowering Student Social Justice Leaders with Culturally Affirming Pedagogy</p>	

# FRIDAY APRIL 28, 2023

**7:00 a.m.**  
**GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR**

**Registration, Continental Breakfast and Networking**

**8:15 a.m.**  
**WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

**Opening Performance**

- Cal Raijin Taiko

**8:25 a.m.**  
**WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

**Welcome, Acknowledgements and Recognitions**

**2023 APAHE PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

- Dr. Kevin Nguyen Chastain, Associate Director for Residential Life, University of California, Riverside
- Roger Moy, Budget Analyst, University of California, Davis

**8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.**

**WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

**Opening Keynote**

- Dr. Kevin Nadal
  - Professor, Author, Psychologist, Activist
  - Distinguished Professor of Psychology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
  - Distinguished Professor of Psychology, City University of New York Graduate Center

**9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

**WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

**Plenary Panel**

**REPRESENTATION MATTERS: AMPLIFYING VOICES OF AANHPI LEADERS**

- Moderator:
  - Dr. Eric Ramones, Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, West Valley-Mission Community College District
- Panelists:
  - Dr. Dyrell Foster, President, Las Positas College
  - Dr. Stephanie Fujii, President, Arapahoe College
  - Dr. Char Perlas, President, College of the Siskiyous

**GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR**

**Morning Posters**

- What Are You?: Identity and Community-Based Experiences of Asian/Black Multiracial Undergraduate Students
- We Are Our Stories: How Kapwa Inspires and Amplifies Cross-Community Solidarity Through Counter Narratives

**10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.**

**Concurrent Sessions – Group E**

<p><b>E1</b>  <b>EAST 2 HALL 1ST FLOOR</b>                      "To A Willing Heart, All Things Are Possible": Cultivating Community and Amplifying the Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Voice Where It Is Missing</p>	<p><b>E2</b>  <b>GRAND BALLROOM AB 1ST FLOOR</b>                      Talk Story and Relationship Building: Culturally Inclusive Career Services for Pacific Islander Students in Higher Education</p>	<p><b>E3</b>  <b>GRAND BALLROOM C 1ST FLOOR</b>                      Advancing Equity through the Vision and Voices of Afghan Students in the California Community Colleges</p>	<p><b>E4</b>  <b>GRAND BALLROOM F 1ST FLOOR</b>                      Full Circle Project: New Strategies for Closing Equity Gaps for Asian American and Pacific Islander Students</p>	<p><b>E5</b>  <b>GRAND BALLROOM GH 2ND FLOOR</b>                      Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) in Employee Evaluations</p>
<p><b>E6</b>  <b>JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2 2ND FLOOR</b>                      Centering the AAPI Community within Disability Rights</p>	<p><b>E7</b>  <b>JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4 2ND FLOOR</b>                      What's in a Name: Problematizing Calling Ourselves by Any Other Names</p>	<p><b>E8</b>  <b>ROOM 208 2ND FLOOR</b>                      California Community College New Legislation and Deal Promoting Student Success &amp; Equity</p>	<p><b>E9</b>  <b>ROOM 210/211 2ND FLOOR</b>                      Access, Relevance, Community (ARC): Ethnic Studies Transfer Pathways Between SF State and San Mateo County Community College District</p>	<p><b>E10</b>  <b>CALIFORNIA ROOM 3RD FLOOR</b>                      Our Voices Are Your Voices: Calling All UC Staff to Unite for Action</p>

**11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.**

**WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

**Luncheon & Awards**

**WELCOME REMARKS**

- Dr. Michael Drake, President, University of California System

**COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARD**

- Hon. Rob Bonta, Attorney General of California

**2023 APAHE CEO AWARDS**

- Dr. Dyrell Foster, President, Las Positas College
- Dr. Stephanie Fujii, President, Arapahoe College
- Dr. Char Perlas, President, College of the Siskiyous

**1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**Concurrent Sessions – Group F**

<p><b>F1</b>  <b>EAST 2 HALL 1ST FLOOR</b>                      History of APAHE From an OG Perspective</p>	<p><b>F2</b>  <b>GRAND BALLROOM AB 1ST FLOOR</b>                      Continuing to Build and Enhance APIDA Community at Your Institution</p>	<p><b>F3</b>  <b>GRAND BALLROOM C 1ST FLOOR</b>                      "But What About My Growth?": Developing a Professional Development Plan for Asian American Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Practitioners</p>	<p><b>F4</b>  <b>GRAND BALLROOM F 1ST FLOOR</b>                      Throwing to Save Our Lives: How the Plight of the Polynesian Quarterback Informs AANHPI College Persistence and Completion</p>	<p><b>F5</b>  <b>GRAND BALLROOM GH 2ND FLOOR</b>                      Empowering Student Educators: Peer Mentors as Teaching Fellows in the Asian American Mentor Program at the University of Illinois Chicago</p>
<p><b>F6</b>  <b>JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2 2ND FLOOR</b>                      Art Used to Cope with Intersectional, API, and LGBTQIA+ Challenges Presented/ Performed in Artistic Perspective</p>	<p><b>F7</b>  <b>JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4 2ND FLOOR</b>                      Sailing Beyond the Horizon: Enhancing Resources to Serve Indigenous Populations in Higher Education</p>	<p><b>F8</b>  <b>ROOM 208 2ND FLOOR</b>                      Caring for Our Own: Addressing Mental Health Challenges for AAPI Women in Higher Ed and Beyond</p>	<p><b>F9</b>  <b>ROOM 210/211 2ND FLOOR</b>                      Acknowledge, Critique, Transform: Pin@y Educational Partnerships' Community Action Praxis</p>	

# CONCURRENT SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

## Group A

**THURSDAY APRIL 27, 2023 TIME 10:45 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.**

**2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.**

### Concurrent Sessions – Group G

<p><b>G1</b> <b>EAST 2 HALL</b> <b>1ST FLOOR</b> The Orgasm Gap: Time to Malama Yourself in Wellness</p>	<p><b>G2</b> <b>GRAND BALLROOM AB</b> <b>1ST FLOOR</b> Pamilya through the Pandemic: Lessons of Liberation, Resistance, &amp; Healing within the Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies</p>	<p><b>G3</b> <b>GRAND BALLROOM C</b> <b>1ST FLOOR</b> Project Resilience: Connecting Students to Paid Transformative Internships in the AANHPI Community</p>	<p><b>G4</b> <b>GRAND BALLROOM F</b> <b>1ST FLOOR</b> Teach Me How to Swim Because You Already Taught Me How to Sink: Honoring Space &amp; Place to Reimagine School for Students of Oceania</p>	<p><b>G5</b> <b>GRAND BALLROOM GH</b> <b>2ND FLOOR</b> AANHPI Coalition through the Arts: Building AANHPI Students Leadership Between Non-Profits and Higher Education</p>
<p><b>G6</b> <b>JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2</b> <b>2ND FLOOR</b> Asian American Parenting as Changemaking</p>	<p><b>G7</b> <b>JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4</b> <b>2ND FLOOR</b> “Gin Kao Lao Bao – Have You Eaten”: Lao Food Movement and the Identity Development of Lao Community</p>	<p><b>G8</b> <b>ROOM 208</b> <b>2ND FLOOR</b> Culturally Relevant and Indigenous-based Education to Improve Academic Performance and Mental Health Outcomes for Chamorro and Refaluwasch Youth</p>	<p><b>G9</b> <b>ROOM 210/211</b> <b>2ND FLOOR</b> Strengthening the Presence and Bolstering Visibility of the Asian &amp; Pacific Islander (API) Population at a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI)</p>	

**4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

### Concurrent Sessions – Group H

<p><b>H1</b> <b>EAST 2 HALL</b> <b>1ST FLOOR</b> Chinatown Rising: Badass Asian Americans in the Civil Rights Movement</p>	<p><b>H2</b> <b>GRAND BALLROOM AB</b> <b>1ST FLOOR</b> Growing Our Own: AANAPISI Student Employment as Preparation for Careers in Asian American Communities</p>	<p><b>H3</b> <b>GRAND BALLROOM C</b> <b>1ST FLOOR</b> Collective Mentorship</p>	<p><b>H4</b> <b>GRAND BALLROOM F</b> <b>1ST FLOOR</b> Inafa’maolek: Agents of Change through Respect and Collaborative Stewardship</p>	<p><b>H5</b> <b>GRAND BALLROOM GH</b> <b>2ND FLOOR</b> The Asian American Foundation: Accelerating Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies in Higher Education</p>
<p><b>H6</b> <b>JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2</b> <b>2ND FLOOR</b> Bridge Between Content Creator and API Leader in Higher Education</p>	<p><b>H7</b> <b>JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4</b> <b>2ND FLOOR</b> From First-Generation Student to Career Professional: Navigating the Transition</p>	<p><b>H8</b> <b>ROOM 208</b> <b>2ND FLOOR</b> Towards an APIDA Sense of Belonging in Higher Education: Co-Constructing Spaces of Belonging with APIDA Centered Student Groups</p>		

**5:00 p.m.**

### Closing Reception

**EAST HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

#### A1 EAST 2 HALL, 1ST FLOOR

##### State of Higher Education for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Californians

**Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

This timely conversation presents key findings on the State of Higher Education for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Californians with an eye toward discussing collaborative efforts to best to serve California’s Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups in reaching their college goals. Through a data presentation and expert panel, this session outlines barriers and opportunities in supporting this expansive group and dismantles the “model minority myth” through data disaggregation for the 48 Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups across California.

**Presenters:**

- Vikash Reddy, Ph.D., Vice President of Research, Campaign for College Opportunity
- Rowena Tomaneng, Ed.D., President, San Jose City College
- Sally Chen, Education Equity Program Manager, Chinese for Affirmative Action
- Nkauj lab Yang, Executive Director, Commission on Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs

#### A2 GRAND BALLROOM AB, 1ST FLOOR

##### Carrying Forward: Cultivating the Pipeline to Leadership

**Target Audience: New Professionals**

This session will highlight the transformative experiences of the ASPIRE Peer Mentorship Program, an AANAPISI grant initiative at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Presenters will share practices, lessons learned, and experiences of leading a mentorship program with students which fosters leadership development that has shaped AAPI student leadership on campus. The session will draw upon the shared knowledge of how students apply what they learned in ASPIRE to their own leadership roles and experiences.

**Presenters:**

- Tev Lee, M.S., Associate Director of the Asian Pacific American Resource Center (APARC), University of Minnesota Twin Cities
- Michael Lee, Current Undergraduate Student pursuing Science in Business and Marketing Education, ASPIRE Student Coordinator, University of Minnesota Twin Cities

#### A3 GRAND BALLROOM C, 1ST FLOOR

##### A Seat at the Table: Challenging the Academic Trajectory of Pacific Islanders

**Target Audience: Undergraduate/ Graduate Students**

The Pacific Islander community is often overlooked and forgotten under the AAPI umbrella. With one of the lowest educational attainment rates in the United States, Pacific Islanders are negatively impacted by the lack of representation in higher education. This panel of professional staff and students will offer personal insight into the contributing factors that lead to this disparity and potential solutions. Outreach and retention services for Pacific Islanders will be discussed as proven academic access and achievement interventions.

**Presenters:**

- Rohit Maharaj, Business Services Assistant Director & Basic Needs Operations Manager, UCLA Community Programs Office
- Perzianee Devoux, Student, President, Pacific Islands’ Student Association at UCLA
- Theodore ‘Fitu’ Malepeai, INSPIRE Project Coordinator, UCLA Community Programs Office
- Sunia Akaveka, Student, External Vice President, Pacific Islands’ Student Association at UCLA
- Malia ‘Otuhiva, Student, Internal Vice President, Pacific Islands’ Student Association at UCLA

**A4****GRAND BALLROOM F, 1ST FLOOR****Voices Amplified: Engaging via the Lived Experiences of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in Higher Education****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

Participants will engage in critical dialogue and reflection across disciplines regarding their lived experiences as Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AANHPI). They will identify and consider how learning through lived experience could be incorporated into their higher education institutions as a means for elevating the voices of AANHPI. Lived experience engagement allows participants to exchange personal narratives and cultivate connections that fosters a sense of community among professionals and students. Workshop participants will be introduced to the power of engaging in lived experience dialogue with regards to teacher education and through an exploration of Filipinx American educators.

**Presenter:**

- Eleanor G. Castillo, Ph.D., Director of Discovery Program - Students as Scholar-Practitioners (SSP), University of California, Berkeley Student Learning Center (SLC)

**A5****GRAND BALLROOM GH, 1ST FLOOR****Finding Ourselves in AANHPI History; APASS' Everyday People's History Museum****Target Audience: New Professionals**

Faculty and students from Los Angeles Harbor College's APASS (Asian Pacific American Student Success) program share experiences creating the APASS Everyday People's History Museum. Each exhibit in our museum consists of photos and documents that illustrate the life story of an ancestor of an APASS student or faculty member. We will walk participants through the process of creating a simple exhibit based on a family member. Through the individual stories of our ancestors, we are connecting to major trends and nodal points in AANHPI history and honoring the complex lives of the everyday people that shaped our present and future.

**Presenters:**

- Karen Amano-Tompkins, M.A., English Professor and APASS (Asian Pacific American Student Services) Faculty Co-Coordinator, Los Angeles Harbor College
- Christian Lozada, MFA, English Professor and APASS (Asian Pacific American Student Success) Faculty Co-Coordinator, Los Angeles Harbor College
- Theresa Tsao, M.S., Adjunct Counselor and APASS (Asian Pacific American Student Success) Counselor Coordinator, Los Angeles Harbor College

**A6****JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2, 2ND FLOOR****How To Identify Which Whiteness Is You Interacting With?****Target Audience: New Professionals**

This workshop will engage the audience in an open dialogue on what it is like to navigate whiteness in a Predominantly White Institution (PWI, Emerging HSI) with tools used from AANHPI women of color in higher education spaces. This workshop is not an ultimate guide to whiteness nor is it conclusive of eradicating white supremacy within academic institutions but rather some useful tools offered by AANHPI women. Navigating whiteness is an ongoing exhausting and harmful experience, this topic is not nuanced but is critical for women in AANHPI communities.

**Presenters:**

- Christina Souknarong, M.Ed., Student Civic Engagement Coordinator, Salt Lake Community College
- Lani Pati, M.Ed., Student Programming Coordinator, Salt Lake Community College

**A7****JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4, 2ND FLOOR****Sharing Our Stories: Identifying and Addressing Microaggressions for Healing and Empowerment****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Our stories are real and need to be told. Period. This interactive session will create space to center the voices and experiences of AANHPI and other People of Color. By understanding microaggressions and their impact, we can empower an inclusive and supportive environment to develop effective tools to address them.

**Presenters:**

- Jody H. Hironaka-Juteau, Ed.D., Professor, Fresno State
- Vicki Taylor, Ed.D., Deputy Director, Fresno Metro Ministry and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Consultant, Oputa and Associates, Fresno Metro Ministry
- Francine Broadous Oputa, Ed.D., Company Executive Officer, Oputa and Associates, LLC

**A8****ROOM 208, 2ND FLOOR****The Sikh College Student Experience in the United States****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

This session will unpack the the Sikh higher education experience in the United States by unpacking the ways in which the community is racialized due to the intersection of their racial and religious identities, and dissecting the forms of oppression and violence the community has faced since their initial immigration to the United States. Furthermore, we will discuss the ways in which South Asian American subgroups are racialized and minoritized within higher education policy and practice given the sociopolitical climate. We also hope to discuss coalition building to better support the SA/MENA/SWANA populations.

**Presenter:**

- Amrik Johal, Ph.D., Assistant Dean of Students, Irvine Valley College

**A9****ROOM 210/211, 2ND FLOOR****In a Time of Destruction, Create Something: AANAPISI Initiative at Fresno State****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

As Fresno State's Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) Initiative embarks its second year, the panel discussion shares the progress and success of their first year and includes future plans for its grant-funded programming. Seeking to increase representation and support AANAPI-identifying undergraduate students in the Department of Criminology, the interactive panel discussion provides student testimonials and creates space for breakout group discussions to engage participants and welcome suggestions. The title, "In a time of destruction, create something," is a quote from the American novelist, Maxine Hong Kingston.

**Presenters:**

- Gaonoucci Belle Vang, Student Success Project Coordinator, California State University, Fresno AANAPISI Initiative
- Samantha Bautista, Work-Based Learning Experiences Project Coordinator, California State University, Fresno AANAPISI Initiative
- Lisa Xiong, Working Project Assistant, California State University, Fresno AANAPISI Initiative
- Lyneth Alacar, AAPIC Peer Mentor, California State University, Fresno AANAPISI Initiative
- Maika Lee, AAPIC Peer Mentor, California State University, Fresno AANAPISI Initiative

**A10 CALIFORNIA ROOM, 3RD FLOOR****Understanding the Ph.D. Career Pathways of Asian Pacific Islanders in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Fields****Target Audience: Undergraduate/ Graduate Students**

In 2019-2020, Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders (AANHPIs) aggregated, attained more doctoral degrees than White, Black, Hispanic, and American Indian/Alaskan Native students (NCES & IPEDS, 2020). Although AANHPIs are well represented in STEM, they are not reflected in faculty and staff in their graduate programs. In fact, AANHPIs have racialized experiences identical to underrepresented and marginalized students. Data from semi-structured interviews examines the doctoral and postdoctoral experiences of 11 AANHPIs. This qualitative study is a follow-up of the Council of Graduate Schools' Ph.D. Career Pathways for Program Improvement project funded by NSF and Andrew Mellon.

**Presenters:**

- Marlena Wolfgramm, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Researcher, Council of Graduate Schools
- Enyu Zhou, Ph.D., Senior Research Analyst, Council of Graduate Schools

# Group B

**THURSDAY APRIL 27, 2023 TIME 1:30 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.**

**B1**

**EAST 2 HALL, 1ST FLOOR**

## **Assertive Communication**

**Target Audience: New Professionals**

People sometimes find themselves overlooked or unheard because they do not effectively assert themselves in the workplace. This workshop creates a container that allows folks to try on a new definition of what assertive communication means without compromising their values. This workshop will provide participants with the tools – both collaborative and self-reflective, to confidently leverage their voices and share their perspectives and ideas.

**Presenters:**

- Alexander Cena, Director of Leadership Development, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics

**B2**

**GRAND BALLROOM AB, 1ST FLOOR**

## **The (S)Pacifics: APIDAs Navigating the Work Waters and Keeping Your Values Afloat**

**Target Audience: New Professionals**

APIDA professionals in higher education face certain stereotypes and expectations that can make it challenging to stay afloat while in choppy waters. When strong winds test your skills as the captain of your boat, what do you do? Come and join the conversation! You will hear from a panel of APIDA administrators, faculty, and staff who share their experiences in multiple types of higher education institutions. Learn about the different ways these APIDA professionals have made space for themselves in a variety of conditions and roles – successfully steering their boats windward to effectively serve their students while staying true to their authentic selves and values.

**Presenters:**

- Marianne Wolfe, M.S., Counselor, ELEVATE AAPI Director, Co-Coordinator for PUENTE Program, Irvine Valley College
- Deejay Santiago, Ed.D., Director, Student Recruitment and School Relations, Irvine Valley College
- Amrik Johal, Ph.D., Assistant Dean, Students, Student Life and Equity Administration, Irvine Valley College
- Chanthay Thompson, ELEVATE AAPI Counselor, Irvine Valley College
- Harrison Shin, ELEVATE AAPI Coordinator, Irvine Valley College

**B3**

**GRAND BALLROOM C, 1ST FLOOR**

## **Radical Self-Care: Essential to Amplify, Unite and Sustain Leaders for Action**

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Are you tired, run down, listless? Do you question how you can amplify voices when you're exhausted and grow weary? You are not alone, and your well-being and mental health matter! This session will discuss the history of self-care, the impact of racialized, and acknowledge the reality of compassion fatigue. This interactive presentation will emphasize the importance of radical self-care for leaders within and across diverse groups and include approaches and strategies for self-care to sustain and empower leaders for action.

**Presenters:**

- Jody H. Hironaka-Juteau, Ed.D., Professor, Fresno State
- Francine Broadous Oputa, Ed.D., Company Executive Officer, Oputa and Associates, LLC
- Vicki Taylor, Ed.D., Deputy Director, Fresno Metro Ministry and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Consultant, Oputa and Associates, Fresno Metro Ministry

**B4**

**GRAND BALLROOM F, 1ST FLOOR**

## **Creating a Career Breakthrough into the CA Community Colleges**

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Finding successful employment and breaking into the California Community College system can be difficult. Facilitator Rod Santos shares his experience about working in four-year public universities for 18 years and transitioning into the community colleges as a dean. Join us for a discussion on salary comparisons across the UC, CSU and CCCs; the benefits, differences, and challenges of being at the California community colleges; and creating steps for yourself to make your own career breakthrough.

**Presenters:**

- Rod Santos, M.S., Dean of Enrollment Services, Contra Costa College

**B5**

**GRAND BALLROOM GH, 1ST FLOOR**

## **Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Higher Education: The Role of AANAPISIs**

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

One of the most significant barriers to including NHPI students in broader discussions about equity and inclusion in higher education is a lack of research that can provide insight into their educational trajectory and their unique needs and challenges. Recognizing that institutions that serve high concentrations of NHPI students are important sites for learning and innovation related to NHPI student success, this session is designed as an interactive discussion that builds on findings from a collaborative research initiative with a group of AANAPISIs. Through a facilitated discussion, participants will explore the potential for an inquiry-based approach to identifying best practices for AANAPISIs.

**Presenters:**

- Robert Teranishi, Ph.D., Professor, UCLA
- Florie Mendiola, Ph.D., Director of Research and Policy, APIA Scholars
- Demeturie Toso-Lafaele Gogue, M.A., Doctoral Student, UCLA
- Kristine Espinoza, M.A., Doctoral Student, UNLV

**B6**

**JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2, 2ND FLOOR**

## **CSUF's Journey on the Shift from Desi to South Asian: "Broadening Our Inclusive Terminology in the APISAA Community"**

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

As the Asian Pacific American Resource Center at California State University, Fullerton, we are highlighting our transition from using the term 'Desi' to 'South Asian' to better amplify the voices of the communities we serve on campus. We intend to address new professionals entering diversity and inclusion spaces, who may be or encounter stakeholders in South Asian American identity work to create change at the trainable level. We are presenting our shift through an interactive workshop and aim to equip professionals with the knowledge base underlying our change in terminology, and ultimately hope that others can recognize and replicate similar efforts in their spaces.

**Presenters:**

- Hathiya Chea, M.A., Coordinator of Asian Pacific American Resource Center, Cal State University, Fullerton



**B7****JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4, 2ND FLOOR****Culture, Climate and Conflict: The Art of Having Critical Conversations, Building Coalition and Belonging, and Challenging the Status Quo****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Is it possible to do it all? Improve culture and climate, demonstrate positive outcomes, manage interpersonal and organizational conflict and politics, hold space and emotion for others, manage up, influence across, and navigate our own positionality, identity, and well-being. Should we do it all? Managing conflict and creating a culture of belonging have become expected responsibilities for higher education professionals and often fall upon leaders of color. In this interactive workshop, participants will assess their conflict style, learn strategies and resources to manage conflict and build coalition, and leverage identity, positionality and organizational context to transform culture and climate.

**Presenters:**

- Tracy Pascua Dea, Ph.D., Academic Climate Program Director, University of California, Berkeley
- Natacha Cesar-Davis, Ph.D., Assistant Dean of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at the School of Education and Information Studies, UCLA

**B8****ROOM 208, 2ND FLOOR****API Representation Matters: Unifying and Collaborating to Uplift Asian Pacific American Voices****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

This session will feature system leaders discussing the imperative of workforce diversity and the impact of Asian Pacific American representation (faculty, staff and administrative) on student success and equity. Participants will learn about high impact practices, tools, resources, and guidance essential to connecting equal employment opportunities to the actions needed to address systemic inequities around hiring, retention and support for faculty and staff of color. This session will also inspire and motivate campus leaders to be courageous and lead change in equity-focused hiring and retention practices to support the cultivation of anti-racist teaching and learning environments.

**Presenters:**

- Abdimalik Buul, Ed.D., Visiting Executive of Educational Excellence and Equal Employment Opportunity Programs, California Community Colleges Chancellor Office
- Siria Martinez, Ph.D., Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Equity and Success, California Community Colleges Chancellor Office
- Eric Ramones, Ed.D., Associate Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, West Valley Mission CCD

**B9****ROOM 210/211, 2ND FLOOR****Owning Our Stories: The Critical Role of Narratives and Storytelling in Higher Education****Target Audience: New Professionals**

As AANHPI and Desi communities, storytelling as educational tools and tradition-bearing is a common thread amongst our cultures. Speakers will draw from counter-storytelling (Solórzano & Yosso, 2002), a tenet of critical race theory to ground how stories can be used to intentionally invite students in centering their own narratives and to illuminate perspectives that resist whiteness as the norm. The overarching goal of the session is to have a tool which empowers under-represented students, especially those from “invisible” communities, to recognize and appreciate their unique identities, cultures, and strengths to increase their sense of belonging on our campuses and communities.

**PRESENTERS:**

- Kirin A. Macapugay, MSW, Professor, Program Director, San Diego City College
- Benjamin T. Nakamura, M.A. Curriculum & Instruction, Regional Director of Culturally Responsive Teaching & Equity for ASPIRE Schools, Lecturer, San Diego City College

**B10****CALIFORNIA ROOM, 3RD FLOOR****Leveraging Community Partnerships to Enhance Student Success and Community Empowerment****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

In September 2022, Middlesex Community College was awarded a second five-year, \$1.7 million grant from the Department of Education for Asian American, Native American, Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) program to expand academic and student support that focuses on increasing access and removing barriers for Asian American students. MCC has established extensive connections both with several key support/engagement areas within the college and many Asian American community-based organizations and cultural institutions in Lowell. This presentation will highlight how creating impactful internal and community partnerships can serve to further enrich students’ social and emotional well-being, cultural identity and sense of belonging.

**Presenters:**

- Philip Sisson, M.A., President of Middlesex Community College, Middlesex Community College of Massachusetts
- Virak Uy, M.A., Director of Asian American Student Advancement Program, Middlesex Community College of Massachusetts
- Noreen McGinness Olson, M.A., Assistant Dean of Student Success, Middlesex Community College of Massachusetts

**Group C****THURSDAY APRIL 27, 2023****TIME 2:45 p.m. — 3:45 p.m.****C1****EAST 2 HALL, 1ST FLOOR****Blazing the Trail: California’s First AANHPI Student Achievement Program****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

California made history on June 30, 2022, when its Governor and State Legislature committed ongoing funding to establish and implement the California Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Student Achievement Programs (SAP) to the California Community Colleges and California State University system. This session, facilitated by CAPIAA, will start with a panel discussion with those responsible for the design and implementation of this historic program. Following the panel discussion, the “table will turn,” and the community will be able to voice questions and engage in discussion of how this historic program will meet the needs of AANHPI students.

**Presenters:**

- Rebecca Ruan-O’Shaughnessy, Vice Chancellor of Equitable Student Experience, Learning & Impact for the California Community Colleges
- Iris Aguilar, Executive Director of Equity & Community Impact for the Foundation for the California Community Colleges
- Dilcie Perez, Ed.D., Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Equity and Belonging for the California State University
- Cirian Villavicencio, Ed.D., State Commissioner for the California Commission on Asian & Pacific Islander American Affairs (CAPIAA)
- Kirin Amiling Macapugay, MSW, State Commissioner for the California Commission on Asian & Pacific Islander American Affairs (CAPIAA)

**C2 GRAND BALLROOM AB, 1ST FLOOR****APIDA Circles - Intimate and Honest Conversations for Growth with Fellow APIDA Leaders****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

There are multitudes of challenges that uniquely confront APIDA leaders in higher education. This panel will highlight the importance and impact of APIDA network for empowerment, identity formation, and professional growth based on their own experiences and will also simulate the Circle experience in a fishbowl format for the participants' observation. This will help participants gain insights on APIDA leadership challenges, observe courageous conversations, connect to their own needs, and learn new leadership practices and skills. We hope to normalize the APIDA leadership journey challenges and positionality and help participants identify their own inhibitions in leadership pursuit.

**Presenters:**

- Ding-Jo H. Currie, Ph.D., Distinguished Faculty, California State University, Fullerton, Director, Leadership Institute for Tomorrow
- Wyman Fong, M.S., Vice Chancellor, Human Resources, Chabot-Las Positas Community College District
- Stephanie J. Fujii, Ph.D., President, Arapahoe Community College
- Rowena Tomaneng, Ed.D., President, San Jose City College

**C4 GRAND BALLROOM F, 1ST FLOOR****Reaching Beyond the Institution: Engaging AA&PI Students through Community Responsive Outreach, Support, and Programming****Target Audience: New Professionals**

This panel explores the way Asian American & Pacific Islander Student Services at San Francisco State University employs cultural and community responsive education and critical leadership praxis to support the needs of AA&PI students within our campus and beyond. Our office collaborates with the Asian American Studies department, AA&PI centered student organizations, and the office of Outreach and Recruitment to recruit, retain, and inspire AA&PI students to pursue college and serve their communities. This bridge between academic and student services sectors of campus allows us to institutionalize innovative practices to support students to get to and through the four-year university and beyond.

**Presenters:**

- Maharaj "Raju" Desai, Ph.D., Outreach Specialist, AA&PI Student Services, San Francisco State University
- Shannon Deloso, M.A., Student Success Coordinator, AA&PI Student Services, San Francisco State University
- Arlene Daus-Magbual, Ed.D., Assistant Professor, Asian American Studies, San Francisco State University

**C3 GRAND BALLROOM C, 1ST FLOOR****Korean American Stories of Resilience Against Inequity and Discrimination****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

It is essential to have a well-balanced curriculum that represents the success stories and challenges faced by diverse groups. Nevertheless, the stories of struggles, triumphs, and contributions to the U.S. by Korean Americans are not available to teachers. To exclude Korean American Studies is to dismiss a significant part of California's history and experiences of AAPI. Presenters will share AAPI Ethnic Studies Model Curricula, including Korean American Ethnic Studies (KAES) curriculum that was approved by the state, and supplementary K-16 teaching resources. They will also engage in a critical dialogue on how to connect the KAES curriculum with other Ethnic Studies curricula.

**Presenters:**

- Grace Cho, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Secondary Education, Cal State University, Fullerton
- T.C. Kim, President, Korean American Studies Education Foundation, Community organization

**C5 GRAND BALLROOM GH, 1ST FLOOR****Agents of Change: Asian Pacific American Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Professionals at UC Davis****Target Audience: New Professionals**

This panel of Asian Pacific American diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) professionals at UC Davis will share experiences and discuss ways their cultural and racial identities inform advancing DEI in higher education. Panelists will share their career trajectory into DEI work, discuss overcoming DEI challenges in higher education, and provide insight into the knowledge and skills necessary for emerging DEI practitioners. Attendees will have the opportunity for Q&A.

**Presenters:**

- Christopher Nguyen Pheneger, M.A., Diversity and Inclusion Educator and Specialist, University of California, Davis
- Charlene Green, Psy.D., Assistant Dean of Admissions, Outreach, and Diversity, UC Davis School of Medicine
- Mikael Villalobos, Ed.D., Associate Vice Chancellor for Campus Community Relations, University of California, Davis
- Hendry Ton, M.D., M.S., Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, UC Davis Health
- RobbieLyn "Robbie" Tesnado, Chief Administrative Officer, Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, University of California, Davis

**C6 JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2, 2ND FLOOR****Navigating the Model Minority at UC Riverside's Residential Life: Through the Perspectives of Entry Level and Mid-Level Housing Professionals****Target Audience: New Professionals**

This workshop explores the Asian Pacific Islander residential life professionals at the University of California, Riverside, how they engage and participate with our communities, the effects of the model minority stereotype, and the importance of representation and advocacy at UC Riverside. Participants will learn more about the experiences of the different levels of professionals in housing and residential life, the various challenges and triumphs of being an API professional, and why representation matters within the departments of Housing and Residential Life but also institution wide.

**Presenters:**

- Kevin Nguyen Chastain, Ed.D., Associate Director for Residential Life, University of California, Riverside
- Myra Cheah, M.A., Resident Director, University of California, Riverside
- Darcy Nicole Davis, Resident Director, University of California, Riverside
- Jamie Ly, Resident Director, University of California, Riverside

**C7 JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4, 2ND FLOOR****Towards a Racial Equity Bias: Mitigating the Adverse Impacts of Implicit Bias in Recruitment & Hiring Practices in Higher Education****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

This workshop examines the role and impact of implicit bias in recruitment and hiring practices. Participants will learn about tools to uncover these biases and strategies for mitigating the adverse effects of bias to create more diverse, inclusive, and equitable organizations. The presenter will incorporate experiences and lessons learned from research and training provided in both K-12 and higher education settings. The presentation provides a foundation in theory and research to guide the various strategies and interventions offered. There will be opportunities for participants to actively engage in exercises and pair-share activities to discuss and apply the workshop content to their own institutions.

**Presenter:**

- Robert (Bobby) Nakamoto, Ed.D., Dean, Social Sciences, Chabot College

**C8****ROOM 208, 2ND FLOOR****Beyond Cutting Fruit: Exploring Practices of Transformational Love for Collective Care, Well-Being, Justice and Joy****Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**

Practices of love in our families and communities often include cutting fruit, sharing food, and providing material support. This workshop honors these acts of love and extends to practices of transformational love, which we define as a choice to extend oneself to nurture one's own or another's spiritual growth for individual and collective transformation (Hooks, 2000; Peck, 1978; Freire, 1970). This interactive workshop will introduce practices and pedagogies of transformational love. Participants will explore transformational love-centered practices to support APIAs in higher education by nurturing our mental health, our commitments to justice and solidarity, and our collective joy.

**Presenters:**

- Melissa Ann Canlas, Ed.D., Assistant Professor, International and Multicultural Ed, University of San Francisco
- GraceAnn Cadiz, M.A., Doctoral Student, International and Multicultural Ed, University of San Francisco

**C9****ROOM 210/211, 2ND FLOOR****Rancho Academy: A Unique Approach to Diversifying Community College Faculty****Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**

This presentation will focus on the Rancho Academy mentorship program and the manner in which it participates in inclusive hiring practices, that results in the diversification of faculty in a California Community College District. The audience can expect the use of visual aids and district data to support the positive impact that this program holds in Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD). Additionally, there will be a focus on the AANHPI population, and the presenter will explain strategies utilized to increase Rancho Academy applications for this specific group.

**Presenter:**

- Emelyne Camacho, M.A., People and Culture Business Partner, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Rancho Santiago community College District (RSCCD)

**C10****CALIFORNIA ROOM, 3RD FLOOR****From Little Representation to a Leadership Position at the Table: Strategies for Establishing an Institutionalized Asian American and Pacific Islander Presence on Campus****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Asian American students represent a significant percentage of the student population of many college campuses and Pacific Islander students are often one of the most overlooked, disproportionately impacted student groups. This was the story at Chabot College where there were no programs or services that spoke to the Asian American or Pacific Islander experiences. Today, Chabot College is an AANAPISI grantee and now has its first Asian American and Pacific Islander learning community, MOVEMENT. Learn about the key steps and moments that paved the way for institutionalized support at our college and how to challenge your campus's efforts to the next level.

**Presenters:**

- Michael Robert Lai, M.S., Counselor/Instructor/Coordinator, Chabot College
- Anamarie Navarro, APIEA Classified Professional Tri-Chair, Chabot College
- Andrew Leung, Learning Connection Classified Professional, Chabot College
- Alan David, M.A., Outreach Specialist, Chabot College
- Arnold Paguio, M.A., Director of Student Life, Chabot College

**Group D****THURSDAY APRIL 27, 2023****TIME 4:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.****D1****EAST 2 HALL, 1ST FLOOR****“I’m Here...Now What?”: An Informal Guide for Next Steps of Engagement After APAHE****Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**

You're at APAHE and surrounded by folk just like you! But what comes next? What should you be taking advantage of while here? How can you stay informed and involved after this experience is over? Come discuss different opportunities and options to make sure you are represented and part of the conversation- both at your institution and across higher education. Learn different ways to get engaged and how to bring the revolution to your daily life

**Presenter:**

- Marianne Wolfe, M.S., Counselor, ELEVATE AAPI Director, Co-Coordinator of PUENTE Program, Irvine Valley College
- Edwin Tiongson, M.A., Communication Studies Faculty; Coordinator for Forensics/Speech and Debate, Irvine Valley College
- Chanthy Thompson, ELEVATE AAPI Counselor, Irvine Valley College
- Harrison Shin, ELEVATE AAPI Coordinator, Irvine Valley College

**D2****GRAND BALLROOM AB, 1ST FLOOR****Teaching Asian American Studies in Co-Curricular Programming****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Not all students can be Asian American Studies (AAS) majors; but all students will benefit from AAS content. The SDSU APIDA Center is committed to teaching APIDA histories and narratives via social media, campus/community partnerships, and co-curricular programming. Participants will gain resources, ideas, professional tips, etc.

**Presenter:**

- Virginia Loh-Hagan, Ed.D., Director, APIDA Center + AANAPISI Affairs, San Diego State University

**D3****GRAND BALLROOM C, 1ST FLOOR****Keep the Fire Burning: How an API Learning Community Sparked an API Student Club****Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**

We are at an inflection point when academic burnout, anti-Asian hate, and intergenerational traumas are weighing heavy on our students-API scholars need spaces where they are seen, heard, held. At San Diego Mesa College, the Asian Pacific Diversity (APD) Club is that safe and brave space for peers and allies on campus. In this student panel presentation, we will share how we manifested an inclusive community where we can promote awareness, learning, support, and appreciation for our Asian American and Pacific Islander cultures and allies, especially at a time when anxieties are high and the burnout is real.

**Presenters:**

- Jennifer A. Derilo, M.F.A., English and Creative Writing, Associate Professor of English, San Diego Mesa College
- Andrew Arevalo, Kapwa Liaison, San Diego Mesa College
- Vivian Ton, Kapwa Alumna, University of California, Santa Cruz
- Kaileykielle Hoga, Kapwa Alumna, University of California, San Diego
- Brian Huynh, Kapwa Alum, University of California, Los Angeles

**D4****GRAND BALLROOM F, 1ST FLOOR****Connections, Collaboration, Community: The Entrepreneurial Journey****Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**

Under a California appropriations grant, the North Orange County Community College District (NOCCCD) is launching the first Center for Entrepreneurship (CFE), one of only three out of 116 community colleges in California. The Center supports the region's innovation ecosystem and emphasizes the growing focus on social entrepreneurship, offering a dedicated space for ideation and business development with hands-on workshops, specialized trainings, mentor matching, and access to engaged entrepreneurial experts to help get new ideas off the ground. Please join us in learning more about and connecting with this emerging, new initiative, strategically built on a framework of sustainability, service to the economic vitality of our communities, and supporting individuals taking an idea to possibility.

**Presenters:**

- Cathleen Greiner, Ph.D., Director, Center for Entrepreneurship, North Orange County Community College District
- Cherry Li-Bugg, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Technology, North Orange County Community College District

**D5****GRAND BALLROOM GH, 1ST FLOOR****United We Can Do More: The Role of Asian Faculty and Staff Associations in Building Institutional Capacity to Support Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities****Target Audience: New Professionals**

The role of faculty and staff associations is insufficiently understood, yet they are critical sites for exploring interdisciplinary coalition-building for advancing Asian American and Pacific Islander causes. This panel of Asian Faculty and Staff Association members at Fresno State describes the vital role that faculty and staff associations can play to build institutional capacity to support Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities at Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISI).

**Presenters:**

- Varaxy Yi, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, California State University, Fresno
- Shimele Her Saychou, M.A., Director, California State University, Fresno
- Gaonoucci Belle Vang, Student Success Project Coordinator, California State University, Fresno AANAPISI Initiative

**D6****JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2, 2ND FLOOR****Advocacy Matters: Asian Participation in Higher Education Unions****Target Audience: New Professionals**

Diversity without empowerment is just variety. Inclusion without empowerment is just an invitation. Too often, we hear the diversity-inclusion battle cry and grow complacent once we see an Asian face or two representing our community in the crowd. Asians, however, remain the least represented in on-campus unions. Are we a community that has grown complacent by accepting token representation, or are we truly interested in a future where Asians are empowered to lead and participate? Join our forum to learn more about how Asians can participate in unions and amplify our voices.

**Presenters:**

- Tony Yang, Ph.D., Public Policy Analyst, University of California Office of the President
- Susan Uyemura, Ed.D., Risk Management Administrative Analyst, California State University, Fullerton

**D7****JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4, 2ND FLOOR****Transforming from a Racial Middle to Racial Centered Warrior****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Sociologist Eileen O'Brian coined the term, "Racial Middle" to describe the past racial dynamics about Asian Americans in the U.S. Her description still applies to the current racial dynamics. Dr. O'Brian describes the "racial middle" as forced identity to be become either black or white.

In this interactive workshop, participants will examine what it means to transform themselves from the racial middle to toward a racial-centered warrior using anti-bias and anti-racism lenses. During the workshop, a facilitator might ask participants to move around the classroom (however, it is not required). Be ready to open up and have fun!

**Presenter:**

- Sayumi Irely, Ph.D., Vice President of Instruction, South Seattle College

**D8****ROOM 208, 2ND FLOOR****More than Buzz Words: Grounded Practices in Empowering Students to Find Their Voice, Own Their Stories, and Follow Their Compass for College and Beyond****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

How do we actually empower students to find their voices and own their stories? Well, that depends on a myriad of things: your institution, your student populations, your campus contexts. In this presentation, we will go over practices that you can adapt to empower students to find value in their lived experiences and put themselves at the center of their academic and professional journeys. This is the anti-check-box approach to helping first-generation college students in navigating pathways within and beyond college.

**Presenters:**

- Maggie Thach Morshed, MFA, Humanities Lead of Academic Resources Communities at OASIS, University of California, San Diego
- Brian Crie, M.A., Program and Operations Coordinator for APIMEDA Programs and Services, University of California, San Diego
- Emme Domingo, M.A., Academic Resources Community Supervisor, University of California, San Diego
- Maribel Geronimo, Summer Programs Manager, University of California, San Diego

**D9****ROOM 210/211, 2ND FLOOR****Empowering Student Social Justice Leaders with Culturally Affirming Pedagogy****Target Audience: New Professionals**

Educating about social justice is a beginning. Teaching students how to advocate, to impact their communities begins with believing in themselves.

This session will explore specific tools and pedagogies utilized by two educators, one an indigenous person, the other a descendant of Japanese-Americans interned during WWII. Macapugay and Nakamura have taught in juvenile court schools, K-12 schools, community colleges, and universities, while centering social justice. Tools including narratives and asset maps may be used with students to help forge a stronger sense of identity, gain an appreciation of their and others' cultures, and reframe deficit-based models for community work.

**Presenters:**

- Kirin A. Macapugay, MSW, Associate Professor, Program Director, San Diego City College
- Benjamin T. Nakamura, M.S., Regional Director of Culturally Responsive Teaching & Equity for ASPIRE Schools, Adjunct Professor, San Diego City College

# Group E

FRIDAY APRIL 28, 2023

TIME 10:45 a.m. — 11:45 p.m.

E1

EAST 2 HALL, 1ST FLOOR

## “To A Willing Heart, All Things Are Possible”: Cultivating Community and Amplifying the Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Voice Where It Is Missing

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

For higher education institutions that do not have a large campus population that identifies as AANHPI, finding and developing a community that meets the unique needs of this diverse group is daunting. Participants attending this workshop will engage in meaningful dialogue on creating, enhancing, and, if not already there, institutionalizing an AANHPI community at their respective campuses. They will also learn how to create and leverage collaborative partnerships both in the community and on their campus to enhance the AANHPI voice. Finally, participants will strategize ideas on how to combat microaggressions and racism on their campuses.

**Presenters:**

- Jimmy Grabow, M.S., Faculty Chair - Counseling, San Bernardino Community College District
- Chloe De Los Reyes, M.A., Faculty - English, San Bernardino Community College District
- Bethany Tasaka, M.A., Faculty - Mathematics, San Bernardino Community College District
- Soutsakhone Xayaphanthong, M.A., Faculty - Counseling, San Bernardino Community College District

E2

GRAND BALLROOM AB, 1ST FLOOR

## Talk Story and Relationship Building: Culturally Inclusive Career Services for Pacific Islander Students in Higher Education

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

How do we come together to increase the declining retention, graduation, and employment rates of Pacific Islanders? What steps can we take to ensure that campus communities reflect and celebrate the identity, values, beliefs, customs, and culture of the PI community? How can we as practitioners incorporate our identities, backgrounds, and experiences in our work to engage in relationship building via talk story and effectively serve PI students? This presentation, which is based on qualitative research, provides theoretical frameworks, methods, approaches, and implications for higher education practitioners to unite and support PI college students via culturally inclusive career services.

**Presenter:**

- Roshni D. Lal, Ph.D., Assistant Director of Alumni Career Services, West Coast, Syracuse University

E3

GRAND BALLROOM C, 1ST FLOOR

## Advancing Equity through the Vision and Voices of Afghan Students in the California Community Colleges

**Target Audience: New Professionals**

In this panel, three educators and practitioners in the California Community College (CCC) system share their research and praxis work that continue to elevate Afghan students in higher education. Attendees engage in critical consciousness to develop understanding about the experiences of Afghan students in CCC. Attendees gain knowledge of the support and advocacy needed for Afghan students to thrive in CCC.

**Presenters:**

- Afifa Zaman, M.S., Counseling Faculty, Mira Costa College
- Kate Hey, Ed.D., English Language Learner Faculty, Modesto Junior College
- Hossna Sadat Ahadi, Ed.D., Counseling Faculty, Palomar College

E4

GRAND BALLROOM F, 1ST FLOOR

## Full Circle Project: New Strategies for Closing Equity Gaps for Asian American and Pacific Islander Students

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

The Full Circle Project (FCP) at California State University, Sacramento is a comprehensive academic support program funded by the U.S. Department of Education AANAPISI grant. FCP, in combination with institutional strategies, shows the overall 4-year graduation rate for Asian and Pacific Islander American (APIA) students increased 436% between 2016 and 2022. For low-income APIA students, the 4-year graduation rate increased 755%. This workshop focuses on the strategies that worked, as well as new forthcoming strategies such as predictive analytics, early alert systems and intrusive advising of FCP in partnership with the Office of Institutional Research, Effectiveness and Planning (OIREP).

**Presenters:**

- Timothy Fong, Ph.D., Professor of Ethnic Studies & Principal Investigator, Full Circle Project, California State University, Sacramento
- Hnou Lee, M.S., Advising & Outreach Coordinator, Full Circle Project, California State University, Sacramento

E5

GRAND BALLROOM GH, 1ST FLOOR

## Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) in Employee Evaluations

**Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

California is preparing to adopt regulations that will require its community colleges to incorporate Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility competencies and criteria into employee evaluations, and into tenure review processes. While the regulations are specific to California, the practical and policy issues around the use of such criteria are not. This session addresses the policy debates around the regulations, including arguments about free speech and collective bargaining, as well as practical implications around implementation.

**Presenters:**

- Aaron O'Donnell, J.D., Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo
- Soka Song, Vice President of Human Resources, Mt. San Antonio Community College

E6

JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2, 2ND FLOOR

## Centering the AAPI Community within Disability Rights

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Disability scholar practitioners analyze disability programs and support services for Asian Pacific Islander (API) students within the California Community College (CCC) system. Our motivation for this research derives from a culmination of our positions and experiences as a Faculty, Administrative and Classified member. We have witnessed the discrepancies among experiences of disabled API students at various CCCs. We give this presentation as professionals in the field who serve disabled students and professionals working with the disabled identity and as students trying to disrupt and dream disability support programs.

**Presenters:**

- Gail Ann Rulloda, M.A., DSPS Counselor and LD Specialist, Napa Valley College
- San T. Lu, M.A., Alternate Media Specialist, Napa Valley College
- Connie Gutierrez, Ed.D., Director of Disability Support Programs and Services, Rio Hondo College

**E7****JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4, 2ND FLOOR****What's in a Name: Problematizing Calling Ourselves by Any Other Names****Target Audience: New Professionals**

Our names are integral to who we are. How do we, as educators, navigate the mispronunciations and misspellings, and the changes we make to our names? In this presentation, Tsetsen Anuurad and Mary Q. Tran - Mongolian and Vietnamese professionals - discuss what it means to honor given and chosen names as an integral and intersectional part of the AANHPI educator identity. Audience members will reflect on how honoring names can address systemic barriers such as the perpetual foreigner stereotype or the Model Minority Myth, and how we can honor our names in the work that we do.

**Presenters:**

- Mary Q. Tran, B.A., M.Ed Candidate, Program Coordinator for the Center for Asian Pacific Islander Student Empowerment, San Jose State University
- Tsetsen Anuurad, M.A., Peer Support Program Specialist, Shoreline Community College

**E8****ROOM 208, 2ND FLOOR****California Community College New Legislation and Deal Promoting Student Success & Equity****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

California has a world embracing multi-cultural student body comprised of Californians of different ages and backgrounds. This presentation will include a discussion of new legislation and how it is designed to support student success. Specifically, the presentation will discuss AB 1232, which will add an exception to the requirement for payment of California Community College nonresident tuition for specified students enrolled in a credit English as a second language course. The panel will also address AB 1705 which establishes equitable placement for students in English and math courses based upon their high school transcript.

**Presenters:**

- Meredith E. Brown, J.D., Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, Retired Trustee, Peralta Community College District
- Rowena Tomaneng, Ed.D., President, San Jose City College
- Henry Yong, Chancellor, Yosemite Community College District

**E9****ROOM 210/211, 2ND FLOOR****Access, Relevance, Community (ARC): Ethnic Studies transfer pathways between SF State and San Mateo County Community College District****Target Audience: New Professionals**

Grounded in Ethnic Studies founding principles of Access, Relevance, and Community; this new AANAPISI CO-OP Initiative strives to create a community where students feel a sense of belonging and hope for the future that moves them forward as they continue and complete their undergraduate studies. This panel will address student needs through collaboration between the SFSU College of Ethnic Studies and Asian American Studies (AAS) department, and SMCCCD colleges: Cañada College, College of San Mateo, and Skyline College and how we are implementing community responsive strategies in the areas of student belonging and community, transfer student enrollment pathways, and transfer student transition to careers.

**Presenters:**

- Arlene Daus-Magbual, Ed.D., Assistant Professor, San Francisco State University
- Grace Yoo, Ph.D., Professor, San Francisco State University
- Christine Su, Ph.D., Coordinator, AANAPISI Grant, College of San Mateo
- Liza Erpelo, Ed.D., Coordinator, Kababayan Learning Community & Professor, English Department, Skyline College
- Mary Ho, Ed.D., Director Post-secondary Success and the University Center, Cañada College

**E10****CALIFORNIA ROOM, 3RD FLOOR****Our Voices Are Your Voices: Calling All UC Staff to Unite for Action****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Calling all UC AAPI Staff and UC AAPI Staff Organizations to come together to discuss areas of advocacy and organizing pertaining to UC staff development opportunities. Presenters will share their success in strategic planning, how they leveraged opportunities to increase Employee Resource Group budgets, and the roles of identifying executive sponsors. We will discuss what it means to be AAPI at UC and how that has influenced our experiences. We will also have time for discussion on areas of collaboration and opportunities for professional development, celebrate our accomplishments and look for opportunities for further collaboration.

**Presenters:**

- Tony Yang, Ph.D., Project Policy Analyst, University of California Office of the President
- Barbara Hui, Ph.D., Software Developer, University of California Office of the President

**Group F****FRIDAY APRIL 28, 2023****TIME 1:30 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.****F1****EAST 2 HALL, 1ST FLOOR****History of APAHE From an OG Perspective****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Experience the rich history of 30+ years of APAHE with a panel of founding members. From a small meeting of Asian American educators coming together to today at the largest APAHE conference in history, APAHE has been changing the face of higher education. The APAHE "OG's" will share about all the triumphs, trials, and tribulations in this organization's work to advocate for Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities through public policy, leadership development for AANHPI educators, and creating spaces for community building and sharing best practices for over three decades.

**Presenters:**

- Frank Chong, Ed.D., President/Superintendent, Santa Rosa Junior College, APAHE Vice President
- Pat Hayashi, Ph.D., Artist, Community Activist, former Associate President of the University of California System, APAHE Emeritus Board
- Dale Shimasaki, Ph.D., CEO Strategic Education Services, APAHE Emeritus Board
- Audrey Yamagata-Noji, Ph.D., Vice President Emeritus, Mt. San Antonio College, APAHE Emeritus Board

**F2****GRAND BALLROOM AB, 1ST FLOOR****Continuing to Build and Enhance APIDA Community at Your Institution****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Much of our efforts are spent providing students with a great experience, and rightfully so. However, do we put enough effort into ensuring a great experience, a voice and presence, and advocacy for ourselves as employees, especially, our APIDA professionals? Join us for a discussion on how APIDA employee associations can help our campus communities thrive. We will also focus on the DEIA efforts that many of our institutions are working on and how our employee associations can help with the cause. As the main point for this session is to build community, there will be encouragement and opportunity for attendees to network.

**Presenters:**

- Takeo Kubo, M.A., Director, Financial Aid & Scholarship Programs, San Jose City College
- Erick Aragon, M.S., Counselor/Instructor, DeAnza College
- Brandon Yanari, M.A., Acting Director, Student Outreach & Recruitment, Evergreen Valley College

**F3****GRAND BALLROOM C, 1ST FLOOR****“But What About My Growth?”: Developing a Professional Development Plan for Asian American Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Practitioners****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

In higher education, DEIB positions have been in existence for decades and are also among the most difficult to retain. While these DEIB professionals provide development opportunities to organizations, who is responsible for their professional development? What are the needs of Asian Americans (AA) DEIB practitioners in particular? This workshop explores the role of professional development in the retention of AA DEIB professionals. We will discuss critical skills and experiences for AA DEIB professionals (including combating racial battle fatigue, deepening DEIB knowledge, facilitation and mediation skills) for persistence. Participants will begin work on a professional development plan to complete on their own.

**Presenter:**

- Dawn Lee (she/they), Ph.D., Owner, Consultant, and Coach, Abundant Strategies Collective

**F4****GRAND BALLROOM F, 1ST FLOOR****Throwing To Save Our Lives: How the Plight of the Polynesian Quarterback Informs AANHPI College Persistence and Completion****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

AANHPIs have been present in high school, college, and professional football since the mid-1970's but few of those athletes have played the quarterback position which is described as requiring intelligence, decision-making skills, and leadership. This presentation tells the story of a group of AANHPIs from Hawaii using their quarterbacking positions to disrupt systems of oppression, racism, and inequality that exist in schools. Key takeaways include the importance of holistic development, community, and the role of the household in academic persistence and college completion. It also emphasizes the dire consequences for AANHPI student-athletes who are unable to experience college completion.

**Presenters:**

- Samara Suafo'a, Ph.D., Assistant Director of Teacher Education & Athletic Consultant, Claremont Graduate University & Quarterback Influence (QBI) Consultant
- Andrew Aumavae, Professional Quarterback Coach, Quarterback Influence (QBI)

**F5****GRAND BALLROOM GH, 1ST FLOOR****Empowering Student Educators: Peer Mentors as Teaching Fellows in the Asian American Mentor Program at the University of Illinois Chicago****Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**

Staff and student teaching fellows will present on how incorporating peer mentors as teaching fellows in the Asian American Mentor Program at the University of Illinois Chicago has been a powerful method of engaging incoming and transfer students using an intergenerational Asian American lens. Teaching Fellows understand where students are in their social, cultural, and academic journey and use that expertise toward curriculum development, presentations, and use pedagogical approaches that best connect with their peers. Teaching Fellows also gain experience in teaching, share education ownership of content, and delve deeper into Asian American issues.

**Presenters:**

- Celeste Aguirre, LSW, MPH, Program Assistant, University of Illinois Chicago, Asian American Resource and Cultural Center
- Ainna Flaminia, BSN, RN, Graduate Assistant, University of Illinois Chicago, Asian American Resource and Cultural Center
- Matthew Carreon, Undergraduate Student, AAMP Teaching Fellow, University of Illinois Chicago, Asian American Mentor Program
- Michael Oliveros, Undergraduate Student, AAMP Teaching Fellow, University of Illinois Chicago, Asian American Mentor Program
- Aanya Sood, Undergraduate Student, AAMP Teaching Fellow, University of Illinois Chicago, Asian American Mentor Program

**F6****JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2, 2ND FLOOR****Art Used to Cope with Intersectional, API, and LGBTQIA+ Challenges Presented/ Performed in Artistic Perspective****Target Audience: New Professionals**

Aristotle once said, "Art aims to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance." API and LGBTQIA+ youth with the intersectionality of homophobia are subject to a unique type of oppression. Cultural norms create a false idea of the acceptable standards of being of a particular race or background. The internalization of this dynamic breaks down the essence of what makes their differences exceptionally brilliant; an emotional story, a distinct perspective, and the power to heal themselves and those around them while building confidence, character, and the tools for their success. Experience one man's journey of acceptance and empowerment utilizing his coping mechanisms in a performance-based approach to storytelling combining characterization and contemporary hip-hop dance.

**Presenter:**

- Ernesto Nery, Senior Associate Director, Student Eligibility and Verification, University of Southern California

**F7****JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4, 2ND FLOOR****Sailing Beyond the Horizon: Enhancing Resources to Serve Indigenous Populations in Higher Education****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

This workshop will feature staff members and student navigators of Northern Marianas College's AANAPISI Program(s), the Project Promotion Retention Opportunities and Advancement (PROA) and Proa Pathway Partnership. Presenters will highlight ongoing initiatives carried out by Project PROA and community partnerships in order to increase retention, graduation, and transfer rates of the indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian populations in the Pacific Islands. As an advocate for the promotion of Pacific Islanders in higher education, our goal is to share culturally relevant best practices with participants and partners to further enhance collective efforts to increase the voices and opportunities for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders around the country, most especially first-generation students who have never left their home island.

**Presenters:**

- Kaelani Demapan, M.A., Director of Project Promotion Retention Opportunities and Advancement (AANAPISI Grant), Northern Marianas College
- Malysa Castro, Student Support Counselor of Proa Pathway Partnership (AANAPISI Cooperative Grant), Northern Marianas College
- Johnson Atalig, Counselor, Project Promotion Retention Opportunities Advancement (AANAPISI Grant), Northern Marianas College
- Kristine Deleon Guerrero, Undergraduate student, School of Nursing, Northern Marianas College
- Jenara Bai, Undergraduate student, School of Business, Northern Marianas College

**F8****ROOM 208, 2ND FLOOR****Caring For Our Own: Addressing Mental Health Challenges for AAPI Women in Higher Ed and Beyond****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

Join us for a lively discussion analyzing the social and cultural expectations, and related pressures, affecting AAPI college students, particularly women, and the resulting impact on their mental health. This presentation will tackle the specific challenges and stereotypes affecting AAPI women's mental health, address the associated cultural stigma and lack of culturally competent care or perceived systemic failures, and prepare attendees on how to overcome the barriers in increasing access to mental health services to support student success and reduce attrition in higher ed institutions.

**Presenters:**

- Elizabeth Rho-Ng, J.D., Esq., Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud, and Romo
- Sue Chan, M.S., Ohlone College Trustee, Ohlone College
- Jacqueline D. Hang, J.D., Esq., Senior Associate, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud and Romo
- Junn O. Paulino, J.D., Esq., Senior Associate, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

F9

ROOM 210/211, 2ND FLOOR

### Acknowledge, Critique, Transform: Pin@y Educational Partnerships' Community Action Praxis

**Target Audience:** Undergraduate/Graduate Students

"If you want to know what we are, WE ARE REVOLUTION!" The birth of Pin@y Educational Partnerships (PEP) was a calling by our ancestors to fulfill Carlos Bulosan's quote of revolution to radically serve our community. This panel will demonstrate Pin@y Educational Partnerships (PEP) involvement in activism and organizing that fosters an intergenerational movement of radical teachers, scholars, leaders, and healers in creating Ethnic Studies curriculum and pedagogy and shaping policy and politics. We will introduce Community Action Praxis (CAP) as a framework and will provide examples of community collaboration and action in the classroom and beyond.

**Presenters:**

- Roderick Daus-Magbual, Ed.D., Ethnic Studies Professor, Skyline College, Executive Director, Pin@y Educational Partnerships (PEP)
- Verma Zapanta, M.S., Assistant Director, Pin@y Educational Partnerships (PEP)
- Rosario Macalihalas, Organizational Coordinator, Pin@y Educational Partnerships (PEP)
- Arlene Daus-Magbual, Ed.D., Assistant Professor, San Francisco State University; Organizational Director, Pin@y Educational Partnerships (PEP)
- Lauren Daus, M.S., Doctoral Student, UCLA Urban Education Program; PEP Alumni

## Group G

FRIDAY APRIL 28, 2023

TIME 2:45 p.m. — 3:45 p.m.

G1

EAST 2 HALL, 1ST FLOOR

### The Orgasm Gap: Time to Malama Yourself in Wellness

**Target Audience:** Mid-Level Professionals

Wellness programs for employees often focus on healthy eating and movement. However, they often miss a huge opportunity to address some of their employees' deepest wellness concerns- their sexual health and wellness. This is important for the AANHPI community who are left struggling to connect with their sexuality due to racism, exoticification, and cultural messages of sexual negativity. In this candid and hilarious talk, join sex educator Dr. Sara Vogel, to learn how you can increase your mental and emotional health by liberating your thoughts around your sexuality and start adding joy, pleasure, and curiosity to your sex lives.

**Presenter:**

- Sara Vogel, Ed.D., Title IX Coordinator, Hawaii Community College

G2

GRAND BALLROOM AB, 1ST FLOOR

### Family through the Pandemic: Lessons of Liberation, Resistance, & Healing within the Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies

**Target Audience:** Undergraduate/Graduate Students

Participants will learn about a research study centering on the Bulosan Center of Filipinx Studies at UC Davis and its virtual internship program's engagement in critical ethnic studies, multispatial collective healing, and liberatory practices, and community building through the pandemic. Individual interviews were conducted with interns speaking about how there has been a shift in what "productivity" looks like within their own college organizations and the recentering of mental health and wellness. Findings showed that many of the student organizations have turned to collaboration, a shift away from quantity and more quality of programming, and a centering of individual and collective wellness and capacities.

**Presenters:**

- Wayne Jopanda, Associate Director, Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies & Ph.D. Candidate, University of California, Davis
- Annelle Maranan Garcia (they/them), MA Student, San Francisco State University
- Abby Gayle Principe, History Ph.D. Student, University of California, Riverside & Transfer Admissions Advisor, Notre Dame de Namur University

G3

GRAND BALLROOM C, 1ST FLOOR

### Project Resilience: Connecting Students to Paid Transformative Internships in the AANHPI Community

**Target Audience:** Mid-Level Professionals

The Project Resilience Internship Program connects current AANHPI undergraduate students to paid internships with AANHPI organizations. Through collaborative partnerships with organizations and utilizing a placement model, students were guaranteed an internship, gained professional experience, and positively impacted their communities. Students learned about the diverse contexts and approaches to social transformation that our communities engage in. During this workshop participants will engage in conversations on how to: cultivate authentic, mutually beneficial relationships with community partners; implement high-impact practices that engage traditionally underrepresented students; break down silos and collaborate across roles and divisions; and brainstorm strategies to evaluate student success and learning.

**Presenters:**

- Michelle Chang, M.S., Career Readiness & Internship Programs, California State University, Long Beach
- May Lin, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, California State University, Long Beach

G4

GRAND BALLROOM F, 1ST FLOOR

### Teach Me How to Swim Because You Already Taught Me How to Sink: Honoring Space & Place to Reimagine School for Students of Oceania

**Target Audience:** Mid-Level Professionals

The Ocean is ancestral space where AANHPIs find connection and community. Using the Ocean as a metaphor for the classroom, this presentation posits the importance of honoring the role of space and place in the educational experiences of AANHPIs. Focal points underscore the need for pedagogy, methodology, and praxis that draws on the cultural and linguistic Funds of Knowledge of AANHPIs to support their joyful persistence through school. Key takeaways include high-impact teaching practices that can be used specifically to disrupt curricula to help increase the engagement of AANHPI students and their meaningful participation in and with systems of schooling.

**Presenter:**

- Samara Suafo'a, Ph.D., Assistant Director of Teacher Education, Claremont Graduate University

G5

GRAND BALLROOM GH, 1ST FLOOR

### AANHPI Coalition through the Arts: Building AANHPI Students Leadership Between Non-profits and Higher Education

**Target Audience:** New Professionals

The four panelists--an AANAPISI faculty member, an AANAPISI educational opportunity program advisor, a Pacific Island Ethnic Art museum director, and a non-profit program manager for Cambodian communities--will share strategies to build coalitions within and across AANHPI groups through the arts. In particular, this panel will showcase exemplary collaborations among non-profit organizations, AANHPI art communities, and higher education that help AANHPI students build leadership through service learning and internships. The panelists will also address mental health issues of AANHPI professionals and how AANHPI artistic practices will serve as a powerful counter to racist logics inherent to art and education more broadly.

**Presenters:**

- Min Gu, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, California State University Long Beach
- Sayon Syprasoeuth, M.A., Program Manager, United Cambodian Community
- Fran Lujan, M.A., Museum Director, Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum
- Art Medina, Access and Retention Advisor, Educational Opportunity Program, California State University Long Beach



**G6****JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2, 2ND FLOOR****Asian American Parenting as Changemaking****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

This panel centers the voices of Asian Americans who work in the field of higher education and are raising children with social justice commitments. Parenting is a part of our identities and lives as Asian Americans that also show up in the ways we work and support our communities. Parenting, especially as Asian Americans, can be a "third space" for everyday acts of resistance to dominant oppressive structures including, teaching children ancestral language, celebrating family traditions and cultures that stand in opposition to dominant cultures, and raising a generation of anti-racist, anti-sexist people. This discussion invites participants to be in conversation about what it means to consciously parent as an Asian American with social justice commitments.

**Presenters:**

- Dawn Lee (she/they), Ph.D., Owner, Consultant, Coach, and Podcaster, Abundant Strategies Collective and Co-host of From Here Podcast
- Mae Lee, Ph.D., Professor, De Anza College

**G7****JUNIOR BALLROOM 3/4, 2ND FLOOR****“Gin Kao Lao Bao – Have You Eaten?”: Lao Food Movement and the Identity Development of Lao Community****Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**

Lao food has been an integral part of culture and development for the Lao community. Food is more than something that is consumed to fulfill hunger. For many Lao parents, it is an expression of love. Scholars have found that food provides a physical connection to individuals and their heritage culture and local communities. By discussing the growing Lao Food Movement in the United States, this workshop examines how food has shaped the identity of Lao diaspora and how this practice is similar for many AAPI young people. Participants will examine their own culture and relationship to food.

**Presenters:**

- Phitsamay S. Uy, Ed.D., Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts-Lowell
- Brianna Nicole Virabouth, Undergraduate Student, Stanford University

**G8****ROOM 208, 2ND FLOOR****Culturally Relevant and Indigenous-Based Education to Improve Academic Performance and Mental Health Outcomes for Chamorro and Refaluwasch Youth****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

Genocidal colonialism in the Pacific created a wake that nearly destroyed cultures and pushed Indigenous peoples to the brink of extinction. This presentation provides data on the many disparities that exist for the Indigenous populations of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) – especially with their mental health and academic outcomes. Since studies have shown that strengthening cultural identity may mitigate these disparities, this presentation describes how culturally relevant and Indigenous-based instruction can be utilized to address some of these issues.

**Presenter:**

- Beylul Solomon, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Northern Marianas College

**G9****ROOM 210/211, 2ND FLOOR****Strengthening the Presence and Bolstering Visibility of the API (Asian & Pacific Islander) Population at a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI)****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

Racial and socioeconomic equity transformation in higher education at Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) requires strategy and support. Reedley College's Asian & Pacific Islander Faculty & Staff Association (APIFSA) seeks to ensure student success for Asian & Pacific Islander (API) students by embracing diversity, fostering relationships, and cultivating inclusivity while engaging in structured dialogue to amplify API voices. APIFSA is dedicated to celebrating the rich cultures of the API diaspora and strives to build capacity to further educational success. The workshop includes an interactive presentation and discussion to guide participants in creating an employee affinity group using Social Identity Theory (SIT).

**Presenters:**

- Sarah Maokosy, Ph.D., Coordinator, Title V (2019), Reedley College
- Sue Vang, M.S., Counselor, Career Development - Title V (2020), Reedley College

**Group H****FRIDAY APRIL 28, 2023****TIME 4:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.****H1****EAST 2 HALL, 1ST FLOOR****Chinatown Rising: Badass Asian Americans in the Civil Rights Movement****Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**

Join co-director and producer of the award-winning documentary film CHINATOWN RISING as he shares powerful excerpts of the film and speaks on how Asian American activism during the 1960s and 70's relates to the challenges of today's climate of AAPI Hate and immigration challenges. Participants will leave the session having witnessed vivid examples of solidarity between Asian Americans and African Americans, intergenerational community organizing, and social justice activism for better education by a long-neglected and isolated immigrant community.

**Presenter:**

- Josh Chuck, Film Director and Producer, Chinatown Rising

**H2****GRAND BALLROOM AB, 1ST FLOOR****Growing Our Own: AANAPISI Student Employment as Preparation for Careers in Asian American Communities****Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**

This presentation will share the experiences of students and alumni from two AANAPISI programs (the University of Massachusetts Boston and University of Massachusetts Lowell) and will examine how employment opportunities offered through these programs bridge racial /cultural identity development and professional development. These offices combine experiential learning, opportunities to build self-efficacy, and mentorship from the staff, allowing students to validate their cultural and racial identities and discover the value of creating intentional community connections. Students gain confidence and skills to persist and succeed post-graduation in Asian American community work. Firsthand narratives of students who experienced this model will be shared.

**Presenters:**

- Satyak Som, Student Advancement Specialist, Asian American Center for Excellence and Engagement (AACEE), University of Massachusetts Lowell
- Karen Chi, Associate Director, University of Massachusetts Boston AANAPISI Program

**H3****GRAND BALLROOM C, 1ST FLOOR****Collective Mentorship****Target Audience: New Professionals**

Mentorship is known in our social discourse, but there is no formalization of what it actually is, and how to go about it. In this space, we will discuss integrating collectivism into the mentor/mentee relationship, what to look for in a mentor/femtor/themtor, how to create meaningful and sustainable mentorship relationships, and how to maximize your experience in mentorships. Join us as our team will unpack the meaning and importance of mentorship. Our presentation comes from a lens of the Asian cultural value of collectivism, which the heart of it is closely related to relationship building and community.

**Presenters:**

- Jessica Chang, M. Ed, Diversity Officer for Student Engagement, San Diego State University
- Manmeet Kaur, AAPI(phany) Intern and Counseling Program Student, San Diego State University
- Kelly Zhao, AAPI(phany) Intern and Counseling Program Student, San Diego State University
- Hoang Nguyen, AAPI(phany) Intern and Student, San Diego State University

**H4****GRAND BALLROOM F, 1ST FLOOR****Inafa'maolek: Agents of Change through Respect and Collaborative Stewardship****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

Using the theoretical framework of historical agency over victimhood, leaders from Northern Marianas College will share how the College has responded to recent disasters—catastrophic storms, economic and political turbulence, and the COVID-19 pandemic—by embracing the spirit of “inafa'maolek”, an indigenous Chamorro term that refers to the process of making things better through harmony. Presenters will argue that in addition to embracing the agency that inafa'maolek represents, they will also offer inafa'maolek's embedded values of mutual respect and collaborative stewardship as a solution to many of the world's problems.

**Presenters:**

- Galvin Deleon Guerrero, Ed.D., President, Northern Marianas College
- Kaelani Marie Demapan, M.A., Project PROA Director, Northern Marianas College
- Frankie Eliptico, M.A., Vice President for Administration and Advancement, Northern Marianas College

**H5****GRAND BALLROOM GH, 1ST FLOOR****The Asian American Foundation: Accelerating Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies in Higher Education****Target Audience: Senior-Level Professionals**

Sponsored by The Asian American Foundation (TAAF) and featuring its Education and Narrative Change Program Officer and a member of its Academic Advisory Committee, this workshop's aim is to introduce TAAF and present goals to expand Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies in higher education and solicit feedback to help shape such a strategy. Emphasis will be on the most effective way for TAAF to unlock resources, including through the AANAPISI program, to create new courses, hire more faculty, and either create or strengthen Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies academic units.

**Presenters:**

- Terry K Park, Ph.D., Education and Narrative Change Program Officer, The Asian American Foundation
- Mike Hoa Nguyen, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Education, New York University

**H6****JUNIOR BALLROOM 1/2, 2ND FLOOR****Bridge Between Content Creator and API Leader in Higher Education****Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**

Social media is important for content creators like Tammy Moua making a positive impact on her community. She amplifies her voice as an influencer aiming to help the Hmong community heal and grow from cultural trauma and advocates for a progressive community. As a first-generation college student, leader, and professional in higher education pursuing Sociology, and SCC's API Center team lead funded by AANAPISI, she continues to prove her passion in supporting the API community. Tammy will share how her experience inspires her work as a content creator and how it is used to uplift the Hmong community.

**Presenters:**

- Valerie Chueh, Student Support Supervisor, Engagement and Completion, Sacramento City College
- Tammy Moua, Student, Sacramento City College

**H7****JUNIOR BALLROOM 3-4, 2ND FLOOR****From First-Generation Student to Career Professional: Navigating the Transition****Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**

Transitioning from being a student to being a full-time working professional is often not as easy as it seems, especially for communities from marginalized backgrounds. From battling imposter syndrome, new workplace environments, and advocating for yourself, this transition can be difficult. This workshop aims to share two lived experiences of recent graduate students as they adjusted to navigating diverse challenges in the workspace that often come up, but are not often talked about.

**Presenters:**

- **Mickael Candelaria, M.Ed**, Interim Director, Student Government Advising, University of California, Berkeley
- **Danelle Go, M.Ed**, Academic & Career Specialist, University of Southern California

**H8****ROOM 208, 2ND FLOOR****Towards an APIDA Sense of Belonging in Higher Education: Co-Constructing Spaces of Belonging with APIDA Centered Student Groups****Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**

This workshop chronicles the collective movement of student-led groups centered on APIDA identities working towards nurturing a sense of belonging. Presenters will share their journey in two distinct studies utilizing community-based participatory action research. The first study centers the experience of building a culturally affirming APIDA student organization from the ground up at a community college. The second study explores group counseling as a platform for culturally sustaining identity formation and strengthening interpersonal relationships within a Pilipinx American student organization. Both studies are grounded in APIDA lived experience wisdom to navigate challenges, locate possibilities, and co-construct spaces of belonging.

**Presenters:**

- Alex Luong, Assistant Director of Master's Programs, University of Southern California School of Engineering
- Magnolia Benitez, Assistant Director of Graduate and Postdoctoral Education, University of Southern California School of Pharmacy

# POSTER DESCRIPTIONS

## THURSDAY APRIL 27, 2023 — MORNING

P1

GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR

### Digital Optics of a Counternarrative: An Arts-Based Examination Championing Filipino/a/x American Community College Student Resilience in the Inland Empire

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**  
This poster focuses on a photovoice study in collaboration with nine Filipino American (FilAm) community college students and illustrates the findings from this study by examining three critical areas related to this population: (a) Identity formation through narratives and (counter) narratives (b) trauma and resilience and (c) Sense of belonging inside and outside of academia through documentary photography and written narratives. Conference attendees will understand how FilAm community college students in the Inland Empire have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and what systems of support community colleges can create to help these students within the context of the pandemic.

**Presenter:**  
· Rangel Zarate, Assistant Professor of English, California State University, San Bernardino

P2

GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR

### Leveraging Data to Examine and Understand the Experiences of AANHPI Students: Findings from the APIA Scholars Annual Survey

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**  
In 2022, APIA Scholars launched its first Annual Survey to 4,990 scholarship applicants and recipients to better understand the experiences of AANHPI students throughout their college-to-career journeys. This poster will present findings from the survey and offer insights into the challenges and experiences of students in the following areas: College Access, College Persistence and Belonging, and the College-to-Career Transition. Participants will discuss areas of opportunity to support students and the importance of using data as a tool to build understanding of AANHPI students and promote their success in higher education.

**Presenters:**  
· Isabelle Belleza, Research & Policy Associate, APIA Scholars  
· Siyue (Lena) Wang, Ph.D. Student, University of California, Los Angeles

P4

GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR

### Racism and Filipino American Student Leadership

**Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students**  
The purpose of this study is an attempt to capture an experiential essence of Filipino American student leaders in higher education, through a Critical Race Theory and Asian Critical Theory lens, so the findings can begin to inform previous, current, and future Filipino American student leaders in recognizing systemic, relational, and internal practices and behaviors that perpetuate colonialism, oppression, and

racialization. This presentation will introduce the review of literature and research for my study surrounding the historical experiences of Filipino Americans, experiences of Filipino American college students, and the experiences of Asian American college student leaders.

**Presenter:**  
· Janrey Javier, Coordinator for Student Leadership Development, California College of the Arts

## FRIDAY APRIL 28, 2023 — MORNING

P5

GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR

### What Are You?: Identity and Community-Based Experiences of Asian/Black Multiracial Undergraduate Students

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**  
The canon of multiracial research is burgeoning, yet largely remains centralized around those with white and non-white parentage. This presentation summarizes the findings of a study conducted to focus on non-white mixed-race individuals: undergraduate students with Black and Asian parentage. The poster format will focus on what themes of experience arose for the interviewees in relation to their identity formation and community-building experiences, both in the classroom and outside of it on college campuses. As such, this poster will affirm the institutional and social gaps that exist in supporting multiracial minority students, and the needs they need met going forward.

**Presenter:**  
· Nina Moskowitz, M.A., Learning Specialist, University of California, Berkeley

P6

GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR

### We Are Our Stories: How Kapwa Inspires and Amplifies Cross-Community Solidarity Through Counter Narratives

**Target Audience: New Professionals**  
Despite the many similarities between each other, minority groups in higher education can split across arbitrary boundaries. This poster demonstrates how counter-storytelling can be used to legitimize the struggles of AANHPI people and allow for deeper understanding across cultural groups. Our undergraduate presenters share how they have benefitted from participating in Kapwa, an AANHPI-focused learning community at San Diego Mesa College, and address how similar programs can be set up at other institutions. Both in and outside of the AANHPI community, sharing counter narratives with others is a powerful way to improve campus relations and uplift underrepresented groups.

**Presenter:**  
· Amber Alatorre, M.A., Associate Professor of Counseling, San Diego Mesa College  
· Jennifer A. Derilo, MFA, Associate Professor of English, San Diego Mesa College

## THURSDAY APRIL 27, 2023 — AFTERNOON

P3

GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR

### Grab the Mic! It's Time to Liberate Our Students Through Podcasting

**Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals**  
"Stories have to be told or they die, and when they die, we can't remember who we are or why we're here?" – Sue Monk Kidd. Podcasting is a perfect medium for amplifying and unifying AAPHI voices. Podcasting has grown exponentially and most listeners are below the age of 34. Only 4% of podcast listeners identify as AAPHI. It is critical that AAPHI folks

tell their stories. If you are curious about using podcasting as an educational tool, join podcast host and sex educator Dr. Sara Vogel to learn how to get started with podcasting at your college or university.

**Presenter:**  
· Sara Vogel, Ed.D., Title IX Coordinator, Hawaii Community College

# SPEAKERS

## Rob Bonta



On April 23, 2021, Rob Bonta was sworn in as the 34th Attorney General of the State of California, the first person of Filipino descent

and the second Asian-American to occupy the position. Attorney General Bonta's passion for justice and fairness was instilled in him by his parents, who served on the frontlines of some of America's most important social justice movements. It's why he decided to become a lawyer — to help right historic wrongs and fight for people who have been harmed. He worked his way through college and graduated with honors from Yale University and attended Yale Law School. Attorney General Bonta has led statewide fights

for racial, economic, and environmental justice and worked to further the rights of immigrant families, renters, and working Californians. He previously worked as a Deputy City Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco, where he represented the City and County and its employees, and fought to protect Californians from exploitation and racial profiling. He went on to pursue elected office in Alameda County, first as an Alameda Council Member and later as an Assembly member representing Oakland, Alameda, and

San Leandro. In the State Assembly, Attorney General Bonta enacted nation-leading reforms to inject more justice and fairness into government and institutions. As the People's Attorney, he sees seeking accountability from those who abuse their power and harm others as one of the most important functions of the job. He is married to Mia Bonta, and they are the proud parents of three children Reina, Iliana, and Andres, as well as their dog Legolas.

## Cal Rajiin Taiko

Founded in 2005 by Tom Hata and Andrew Rowland, Cal Rajiin Taiko has been a part of the UC Berkeley community as its only taiko, or Japanese drumming, team. Our group is highly committed to practicing the art of taiko and sharing the culture of taiko with the community. With roughly twenty members, Cal Taiko meets two to three times a week on campus to practice musical drills, songs, and prepare for performances. Outside of practice hours, Cal Taiko also writes its own repertoire and builds its own equipment. Whether it be practicing at night around campus or performing at events such as the Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) conference, Cal Taiko is excited to have become a regular part of campus activities and enjoys sharing the energy of taiko with the students of Cal.



## Curtis Chin



This October, Chin's memoir, "Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant" will be published by Little, Brown

and Company. The book is about growing up Asian American in the Black and white city of Detroit and coming out in his working-class immigrant community, as well as being a first-generation college student at the University of Michigan. Graduating with a degree in creative writing, Chin has written for CNN, Bon Appetit, and the Boston Globe, as well as for shows on network television. Chin has received fellowships from ABC/Disney Television, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and the National Endowment

for the Arts. He has won awards from the National Association for Multicultural Education, the National Association for Ethnic Studies, the American Librarians Association, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, and served as a Visiting Scholar at New York University. Chin has screened his films with over 600 entities in sixteen countries including the White House, Lincoln Center, Amnesty International, SXSWedu, and the Government of Norway. Past media include CNN, MSNBC, and public radio, as well as the

Economist, the Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times, USA Today, and Huffington Post. As an organizer, Chin co-founded the Asian American Writers' Workshop, the premiere non-profit dedicated to promoting Asian American writers. He has also worked as the Director of Outreach for the Democratic National Committee and served on Barack Obama's Asian American Leadership Committee during his 2008 Presidential Campaign.

## Frank Chong, Ed.D.

Dr. Frank Chong is closing out a long and storied career in higher education, scheduled to retire as superintendent/president for Santa Rosa Junior College this spring. Prior to joining Santa Rosa Junior College as superintendent/president in January 2012, Dr. Chong served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Colleges at the United States Department of Education in Washington, D.C. Among his key responsibilities at the Dept. of Education were shaping President Barack Obama's community college agenda, providing leadership in the development of the trade adjustment assistance act, and developing policies related to the president's college completion goal. Chong also helped convene four regional community college summits. From 2006 to 2009, he was president of Laney College in Oakland,

and served as president of Mission College in Santa Clara from 2003 to 2006. Chong was dean of student affairs at San Francisco City College from 1993 to 2003. He served as special assistant to Willie Brown, speaker of the California Assembly, from 1987 to 1991, and in that position created legislation in higher education, mental health, small and minority business affairs and local government. Chong also developed a consortium of more than 50 San Francisco youth organizations to share resources. Chong was a member of the San Francisco Children and Families Commission and San Francisco Human Rights Commission, and was elected to the San Francisco Board of Education in 1998. He is an experienced administrator of non-profit organizations, and worked in Oakland as director of special services

for the Asian Community Mental Health Services and executive director of Asian Manpower Services. Chong has participated on numerous higher education boards, including the American Council on Education Commission on Advancement of Racial and Ethnic Equity. He is a former president and founding member of the national advocacy organization Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education. Chong has a bachelor of arts degree from UC Berkeley in social welfare and Asian American Studies, and a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University. He also completed the Educational Management program at Harvard's Graduate School of Education, and earned his doctorate in educational administration, leadership and technology from Dowling College in



Oakdale, New York. Chong has received numerous honors including the Leadership Education for Asian Pacific Americans Award, NAACP Santa Clara County Chapter Diversity Award and Harvard Club of San Francisco Distinguished Alumni Award.

## Michael V. Drake, M.D.



Dr. Michael V. Drake is the 21st president of the University of California's system of 10 campuses, six academic health centers, three nationally affiliated labs, more than 290,000 students and 230,000

faculty and staff. President Drake also holds faculty appointments at the UCSF School of Medicine as a professor of ophthalmology and at the UC Riverside School of Medicine as a professor of medicine. President Drake served as the 15th president of The Ohio State University (OSU) from 2014 through June 2020. Prior to his six years at OSU, his entire academic career had been at the University of California, including nine years as chancellor of UC Irvine (2005–2014) and five years as UC systemwide vice president for health affairs (2000–2005). President Drake received his A.B. from Stanford University and his

M.D. and residency training from UCSF. He subsequently spent more than 25 years on the faculty of the UCSF School of Medicine, ultimately as the Steven P. Shearing Professor of Ophthalmology and senior associate dean. President Drake has been a strong advocate for diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging efforts at the university. In particular, he championed an effort to reimagine campus safety and policing at the University of California, leading to a clear set of guiding principles including community and service-driven safety, holistic and inclusive response models, improved data collection

and transparency, and clear accountability and independent oversight. President Drake's interests outside higher education and health sciences include art and music. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Broad Museum of Art in Los Angeles, California, and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio. He lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with his wife, Brenda. They have two adult sons and four grandchildren.

## Dyrell Foster, Ed.D.

Dr. Foster was selected as the next President of Las Positas College and began in February, 2020. He has been an administrator in the California Community College system for over 20 years. He is a student-centered leader, with a proven track record of advancing educational access, equity, student retention and success. He is collaborative in his approach to implementing institutional practices, behaviors, and policies that provide a positive climate on campus and effectively addresses the diverse needs of students. As President of Las Positas College, Dr. Foster is committed to providing strong leadership

with a high degree of integrity, passion, and commitment to fully serving our students in a growing and supportive community. Dr. Foster is passionate about cultivating effective partnerships and promoting innovative approaches to enhancing student success outcomes for the students at Las Positas College. Previously, Dr. Foster served as the Vice President of Student Services at Moreno Valley College; Dean of Student Affairs at Rio Hondo College; Associate Dean of Counseling and Director of Student Life at Mt. San Antonio College; Director of Student Life at Evergreen Valley College; and Activities

Coordinator at San Jose State University. In addition, Dr. Foster has served as a part-time lecturer in the College of Education at both, California State University, Long Beach and California State University, Fullerton. Being the first in his family to attend college, Dr. Foster received his Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Southern California, his Master of Science in Counseling: Student Development in Higher Education from California State University, Long Beach, and his Bachelor of Science in Applied Behavioral Science from the University of California, Davis, where



he served as co-captain of the UC Davis Aggies football team. He and his wife, Tami, have two young children, Maylea and Daylen.

## Mike Fong



Mike Fong was elected to the 49th District of the California State Assembly in February 2022, where he is honored to represent Alhambra, Arcadia, El

Monte, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, South Pasadena, Temple City, as well as the unincorporated areas of South San Gabriel, North El Monte, and East Pasadena.

Mike is the Chair of the Assembly Higher Education Committee and serves on the Appropriations; Banking and Finance; Budget; Budget Subcommittee #2 on Education Finance; and Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet Media Committees. He also serves as the Assembly Vice Chair of

the Asian American and Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus. His priorities include expanding access to quality higher education, protecting the environment, ensuring public safety, creating jobs, and addressing homelessness.

Prior to his election to the Assembly, Mike served as a Trustee of the Los Angeles Community College District. There, he pushed forward policies that increased student success, improved educational access and quality, and expanded workforce education

and high-growth sector training programs at nine community colleges serving over 250,000 students across Los Angeles and surrounding cities.

## Stephanie J. Fujii, Ph.D.



Stephanie J. Fujii, Ph.D. is a passionate, outcomes-oriented, community college leader with over 30 years higher education experience in student services, instruction, and workforce/career and

technical education. She has worked at community colleges in OR, NV, and AZ before coming to CO in July 2021 to serve as the president of Arapahoe Community College (ACC) in Littleton, Colorado. Prior to moving to administration, she was tenured faculty, division chair, and faculty senate president. Past administrative experience include service as a system/district level director leading and facilitating instructional support services and programs between ten colleges, a college instructional workforce dean, and a vice president of academic affairs. Her advocacy and work in

API communities includes work with the Maricopa Community College's Asian Pacific Islander employee group (AZ) and serving as a keynote speaker for their 2020 student leadership conference; receipt of the outstanding mentor award from the Phoenix chapter of the Asian Corporate & Entrepreneur Leaders (ACEL); involvement in national APIDA Circles (planning & being a panelist); and being part of the planning committees for workshops hosted by National Asian Pacific Islander Council (NAPIC), National Community College Hispanic Council (NCCHC), and National Council on Black American

Affairs (NCBAA). She is currently the president-elect to NAPIC (an affiliate council of the American Association of Community Colleges, AACC) and a member of AACC's commission on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. Stephanie has a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and a Master of Arts in Counseling & Educational Psychology. Both degrees are from the University of Nevada, Reno. She has a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership & Policy Studies from Arizona State University.

## Kare'l Lokeni



Kare'l Lokeni, from the Samoa villages of Apia & Afega on her mother's side and Fagalii & Satapuala

on her father's side. Her first sunrise began in the independent state of Samoa and then continued to the US where her parents immigrated to Carson, California under the calling of church ministry. Following in her father's footsteps as an educator, she is a Counselor at several community colleges in Los Angeles (El Camino College, Long Beach City College, Santa Monica College) and has experience with equity programming and student support services for disproportionately impacted student

populations, specifically Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander. She navigated higher education beginning at the community college obtaining her Associate of Arts in General Studies at El Camino College, Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology at University California Los Angeles, and Master's in Social Work at Columbia University. Understanding the community college system's role in NHPI higher education navigation, her professional intent focuses on serving community within community colleges.

She was awarded the 2021 NASPA Community College Professional Award and as a first-gen, Samoan, BIPOC, the accomplishments go together with the work of the community and students past, present, and future.

## Char Perlas, Ph.D.



Dr. Char Perlas is a Filipina-American raised by immigrant parents who emphasized the importance of a higher education. As a product of the California Community College system, her

efforts have focused on creating the optimal learning environment for disproportionately impacted students. She holds a Ph.D. in Education with an emphasis in Leadership in Higher Education from Capella University, a Master of Public Administration from CSU East Bay, a Master of Science in Counseling from CSU Sacramento and a Bachelor of Art in Psychology from Fresno State University. Experience Dr. Perlas has 24 years of professional experience in the California Community College system, serving in roles as tenured faculty, program manager, accreditation lead and

administrator. Dr. Perlas joined College of the Siskiyous (Siskiyous) in July of 2019 as the vice president of academic affairs where she contributed to equity efforts through her leadership with the Enrollment Management, Guided Pathways and Social Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion (SJEDI) committees. In February of 2021, Dr. Perlas was appointed interim superintendent/president and on July 1, 2022 was named the permanent superintendent/president. She is the first Asian American woman to hold the superintendent/president position at Siskiyous and the third female superintendent/

president since the College's inception in 1957. Dr. Perlas's previous positions include interim vice president of student services at Cañada College, dean of science and math at Chabot College, dean of workforce development, applied sciences and math at College of Alameda and the following positions at Mission College: Director/faculty counselor of the MESA (Math Engineering Science Achievement) Program, division chair of student services, department chair of counseling, and student learning outcomes coordinator.

## Evan Low

Evan Low has represented Silicon Valley residents in the California State Assembly since 2014. He first held elected office as a Councilmember for the City of Campbell, where he went on to make history in 2010 as the youngest openly LGBTQ+ mayor in the country. Assembly member Low now serves as the Chair of the Asian &

Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus. In 2015, he launched the California Legislative Technology & Innovation Caucus, whose members include a bi-partisan group of Assembly members and Senators. During his time as an elected official, Assembly member Low has authored numerous laws that have increased government

transparency, advanced equality, reformed the criminal justice system, helped small businesses, and encouraged job growth. He is a graduate of San Jose State University and Harvard University's Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program.



## Eric Ramones, Ed.D.

Dr. Ramones currently serves as the Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources for the West Valley-Mission Community College District. Prior, he was Associate Vice President, Human Resources and Labor Relations for the Gavilan Joint Community College District, in Gilroy, California for nearly a

decade. Prior to Gavilan College, Dr. Ramones served the community of San Jose for six years as the Human Resources Manager and Internal Affairs Officer of the San Jose Fire Department. Since 2010, he has also taught as an adjunct lecturer in the Master's in Public Administration program at San Jose State

University. Dr. Ramones holds a bachelor of arts in sociology with a psychology minor from Loyola Marymount University, a master of public administration from San Jose State University, and a doctor of education in organizational leadership, from Brandman University.



## Kevin Nadal, Ph.D.



Dr. Kevin Leo Yabut Nadal is a Distinguished Professor of Psychology at both John Jay College

of Criminal Justice and Graduate Center at the City University of New York. Here received his doctorate in counseling psychology from Columbia University in New York City and is one of the leading researchers in understanding the impacts of microaggressions, or subtle forms of discrimination, on the mental and physical health of people of color; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people; and other marginalized groups. He has published over 100 works on multicultural

issues in the fields of psychology and education. A California-bred New Yorker, he was named one of People Magazine's hottest bachelors in 2006 and one of NBC's Pride 30 in 2018. He is the author of ten books including Filipino American Psychology (2011, Wiley); That's So Gay: Microaggressions and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community (2013, APA); Microaggressions and Traumatic Stress (2018, APA); and Queering Law and Order (2020, Lexington). He has delivered hundreds

of lectures across the United States, including the White House and the U.S. Capitol. He has won numerous awards, including the American Psychological Association 2017 Early Career Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest; the 2019 Richard Tewksbury Award from the Western Society of Criminology, and the Thought Leadership Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

## Dale Shimasaki, Ph.D.



Dale Shimasaki, Ph.D., is Chief Executive Officer of Strategic Education Services (SES), a Sacramento-based government relations and policy consulting firm. He has more than 30 years of direct experience with

public education; the Legislature; and state-, federal-, and district-level budget issues. Dr. Shimasaki, who holds a doctorate in Education Administration, has wide, practical experience that translates into an energetic, results-based work ethic. The breadth of Dr. Shimasaki's experience is wide – he served as principal consultant for the Assembly Budget Committee and chief consultant for Educational Policy and Finance for then-assembly speaker Willie L. Brown Jr. He was the director of research and a top lobbyist for City College of San Francisco and was the executive

director of the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, a federal board appointed by the President to educate the public on the lessons learned from the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. Dr. Shimasaki has devoted his expertise to academia, having taught at the University of California at Berkeley, San Francisco State University and City College of San Francisco. The Congressional Budget Office, the Urban Institute, and the Chancellor's Budget and Program Review Committee at the University of California have all retained Dr. Shimasaki as an advisor or consultant.

Dr. Shimasaki currently serves on the Board of the Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus Institute and is a member of the California Civil Liberties Education Program Advisory Committee. He served as the founding President of Asian and Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) for five years. Dale is married to Ann Nguyen and has a son, Lance and a daughter, Kimora. The family live in Sacramento.

## Andi Sims, Ed.D.

Dr. Andrea “Andi” Fejeran Sims, hagan Guahān, hagan Concepción Ignacio, taotao Piti, taotao clan carabao and a daughter of the Pacific diaspora, is a proud product of the California community college system with twenty years of experience in higher education. She serves as Director, Student Life at Mt. San Antonio College, completed her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Cal State

Fullerton, earned both her Master of Counseling in Student Development and her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Cal State Long Beach, and obtained her Associate of Arts in General Studies from Irvine Valley College. As an Indigenous Pacific woman, Andi navigates through life intersecting her multiple identities as wife, mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, auntie, niece, mentor, mentee, and educator with

a grounded commitment to building collaborative relationships, investing in the development of others, and enhancing her communities. Her research centers on Indigenous epistemology (knowledge), ontology (being), axiology (values) and the leadership philosophies, behaviors and aspirations of Indigenous Pacific women in higher education.



## Karla Thomas



Karla Thomas is the oldest daughter to her Samoan mother and Aymara father, who came to the U.S. from Vatia, American Samoa and Quime, Bolivia. She was raised in San Bernardino, California on Serrano and Tongva land. Karla is the Deputy Director of Empowering Pacific Islander Communities, overseeing its Research pillar and has a public health background. Prior to

joining EPIC, Karla was co-founder and Policy Director of the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) Data Policy Lab at UCLA’s Center for Health Policy Research. She is also a local organizer and co-founded the Pasifika Inland Empire Coalition for Empowerment, which serves Pasifika families living in San Bernardino and Riverside counties. Karla is passionate about

serving her community as an advocate in all spaces she enters.

## ‘Asena Taione-Filihia

‘Asena Taione Filihia is 4th of 5 children born to the parents from the Island Kingdom of Tonga. ‘Asena was a first-generation low-income college student who began her college career at a community college and took the transfer pathway to a four-year degree. Finding a passion for college access, her Pacific Islander identity, and working in student affairs, ‘Asena co-founded the first Native and Pacific Islander Summer Intensive Transfer Experience at UCLA’s Center for Community College Partnerships (CCCP) focused on Indigenous identity among community college students. ‘Asena currently serves as the Assistant Director of the Asian American Resource Center at Pomona College.

Professionally, she serves as an academic and student organizational advisor, as well as served as an instructor for Asian American Studies programs at Pitzer College. ‘Asena is deeply committed in transforming system-wide efforts to best serve underrepresented communities while also building long lasting relationships that center community-centered knowledge, indigenous voices, culturally informed efforts, and indigenous pedagogy. In the community, ‘Asena serves as the Development Director for M.A.L.O., a non-profit organization based in Ontario, California both serving Tongan and NHPI community in the Inland Valley. As a part of

M.A.L.O., she is also a lead in the coalition of Tonga Relief Support of America (TRSA). ‘Asena is also a co-founder of Pasefika Inland Empire Coalition for Empowerment (PIECE), a coalition of Pasefika non-profit organizations led by NHPI community leaders the Inland Valley. ‘Asena is a current doctoral student at Claremont Graduate University in Cultural Studies. ‘Asena graduated from UCLA with a Masters of Education in Student Affairs. She also holds a bachelor’s of Arts in Communication Studies from Cal State Northridge and an Associates of Arts in Liberal Arts. Her current research interests include Pacific Island Studies, Native/American Studies, Indigenous epistemologies,



Indigenous Ontologies, Indigenous Education, Indigenous community-building, Indigenous Diaspora Studies, and Decolonial practices and pedagogies.

## Finausina Tovo, Ed.D.

For over a decade, Dr. Finausina Tovo has committed her profession, research and publications to increase the access, retention and success for AANHPI students and employees at the College of San Mateo. As the co-creator of the first NHPI centered Learning Community in California Community colleges, Dr. Tovo implemented a culturally responsive cohort-style academic program that has been adopted at three additional community college campuses in

California (Mira Costa CC, El Camino CC, and Long Beach CC) as a vital piece of understanding the complex dynamics of first-generation college students, data disaggregation and college retention. Dr. Tovo’s pivotal contribution to first generation college students’ research highlights the socio-political, socio-historical, and socio-spiritual experiences of Native Hawaiian Pacific Islanders and their families as they engage with higher education institutions. Outside

of academia, Dr. Tovo volunteers in organizing NHPI community events, fundraising for Tonga’s disaster relief, and coordinating a global research network that aims to advance Tongan American graduate students and Tongan early-mid career practitioners. Dr. Tovo is a proud member of the California School Employee Association (CSEA), Tonga Research Association (TRA), American Education Research Association (AERA), Asian Pacific Islander American Scholars Network (APIA),



and the Tonga Relief Support of America (TRSA).

## Sheng Thao



Sheng Thao is one of the Bay Area’s boldest and most effective progressive leaders. After graduating from UC Berkeley in 2014, Sheng joined the office of Oakland’s Councilmember At-Large. In 2019 she was elected D4 Councilmember, becoming the first Hmong-American woman Councilmember in California history. Sheng was soon voted into leadership as the

Council President Pro Tem and Chair of the Rules and Committee. Sheng Thao worked to tackle some of the city’s biggest issues including poverty, homelessness, violent crime, and climate change. Sheng received the 2021 Powerful Women of the Bay Award, and has been honored by the Alameda Labor Council. In 2022, Sheng Thao continued to make history by becoming

the first Hmong-American elected to the Office of the Mayor of a major city. She was officially sworn in as Oakland’s Mayor in January of this year.

## Audrey Yamagata-Noji, Ph.D.



Audrey Yamagata-Noji has recently retired as Vice President of Student Services, Mt. San Antonio College. Audrey received a Ph.D. in education from Claremont Graduate University, and a master’s degree in counseling and bachelor’s degree in psychology from California State University, Long Beach. She is a licensed marriage, family and child therapist.

Additionally, Dr. Yamagata-Noji is serving as President of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ana Unified School District. First elected in 1987, Audrey served for three consecutive terms on the School Board through 2000. In November 2002, Dr. Yamagata-Noji was elected to the School Board for a fourth term. In addition to her involvement with APAHE, Dr. Yamagata-Noji is a

trainer for Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc (LEAP). Together with co-coordinator Henry Gee, Audrey directs the annual Leadership Development Program in Higher Education – a partnership effort between APAHE and LEAP.

# CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

A heartfelt thanks to the following individuals who have dedicated their time to provide you with this year's APAHE conference!

## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE TRI CHAIRS

### Roger Moy

- Budget Analyst, Division of Student Affairs
- Chair, Asian Pacific American Systemwide Alliance (APASA)
- University of California, Davis

### Arnold Paguio

- APAHE Board of Directors
- Director of Student Life and AANAPISI Project Director
- Chabot College

### Dr. Kevin Nguyen Chastain

- Associate Director for Residential Life
- University of California, Riverside

## THE TEAM

1. Dr. Naomi Abesamis, Director of Student Life and Leadership, Fullerton College
2. Abe Ali, Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, Kern Community College District
3. Erick Aragon, Counselor/Instructor, Outreach & Relations with Schools, De Anza College
4. Yvonne Wu Craig, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement, Chabot College
5. Dr. Ailene Cua Crakes, Dean of Student Development, San Diego Mesa College
6. Dr. Tracy Pascua Dea, Academic Climate Program Director, University of California Berkeley
7. Dr. Christopher Dela Rosa, Vice President, Administrative and Technology Services, Ohlone College
8. Brian Goo, Director of Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, Chabot College
9. Tomoko Ha, Founder/Principal, TKO Consulting
10. Richard Ho, Assistant Director of Admissions and Recruitment, Rutgers University
11. Dr. Lori Ideta, Vice Provost for Student Success, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
12. Takeo Kubo, Director of Financial Aid, San Jose City College
13. Johnny Lai, Marketing and Communications Specialist, Cal Poly Pomona
14. Stacy Lee, Student Services Program Specialist, Mt. San Antonio College
15. Dr. Siu Ming Luie, Associate Dean for Faculty, Clark University
16. Dr. Eric Moy, Undergraduate Advising Director, Stanford University
17. Dr. Bobby Nakamoto, Dean of Social Sciences, Chabot College
18. Dr. Patricia Neilson, Board Member, Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education
19. John Nguyen, Acting Dean of Enrollment Services, Berkeley City College
20. Kevin Nguyen, Records Evaluator, Cerritos College
21. Dr. Tammy Nguyen, Executive Director for Equity in Access, Weber State University
22. Dr. Newin Orante, Vice President of Student Services, Skyline College
23. Dr. Eric Ramones, Associate Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, West Valley-Mission Community College District
24. Elaine Reodica, Senior Director, Strategic Integrations, Foundation for California Community Colleges
25. Noki Seekao, Director of Student Life, California College of the Arts
26. Leland Simpliciano, AANAPISI Project Director, San Diego Mesa College
27. Dr. Jason Sumi, Professor, Counseling, Sierra College
28. Dr. Rowena Tomaneng, President, San Jose City College
29. Philip Tran, Business Instructor, College of San Mateo
30. Grace Toy, Sr. Vice President of Administration & CFO, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics
31. Dr. Justin Woodard, Ethnic Studies Lecturer, San Francisco State University
32. Dr. Audrey Yamagata-Noji, Vice President Emeritus, Mt. San Antonio College
33. Brandon Yanari, Acting Director of Student Outreach and Recruitment, Evergreen Valley College

## NOTES

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If you are interested in making a contribution to our mission, we welcome you to explore the employment opportunities at College of Marin, where we provide competitive compensation and benefit packages, and opportunities for professional development.

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# Congratulations

Evergreen Valley College is proud to support APAHE's decades-long work amplifying the need for unity & action to enhance the educational & career opportunities of Asian & Pacific Americans in higher education.

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Southwestern College is proud to stand in unity and action with **Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education APAHE.**

**AMPLIFYING OUR VOICES IN UNITY AND ACTION.**

**Southwestern Community College District Governing Board**  
 Roberto Alcantar, President | Don Dumas, Vice President  
 Griselda A. Delgado, Member | Robert Moreno, Member | Corina Soto, Member  
 Jose M. Perez, Student Trustee, June 2022–May 2023  
 Dr. Mark Sanchez, Superintendent/President

**www.swccd.edu**



"My APIA identity has empowered me in achieving my goal of being one of the first American Samoan Aerospace Engineers in the industry. As an American Samoan growing up in Hawaii I took a bold step in majoring in Mechanical Engineering at UH Manoa... My cultural identity, family, and APIA Scholars community have supplied me with the support to keep moving with my dream. I hope to put my people and family name on the map once I achieve my goal."

**- Misimatoka Unutoa**  
*2020-21 APIA Scholar*

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**As an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI), Berkeley City College is committed to:**

Recognizing health and wellness as a critical component to equitable student outcomes in earning degrees, certificates, and transfer.

Providing asset-based and diverse instruction and resources for the AAPI community.

Building a culturally responsive environment for the students we serve.

**Because a person's culture is a  
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**Leader by leader, student by student, we amplify our voices in unity and action to support access, equity and achievement for community college students throughout California.**

**Congratulations to APAHE for a remarkable 2023 conference.**

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The Community College League of California is proud to support APAHE. The League is dedicated to ensuring diversity at California's community colleges by advocating for equitable student outcomes and diverse faculty and staff.

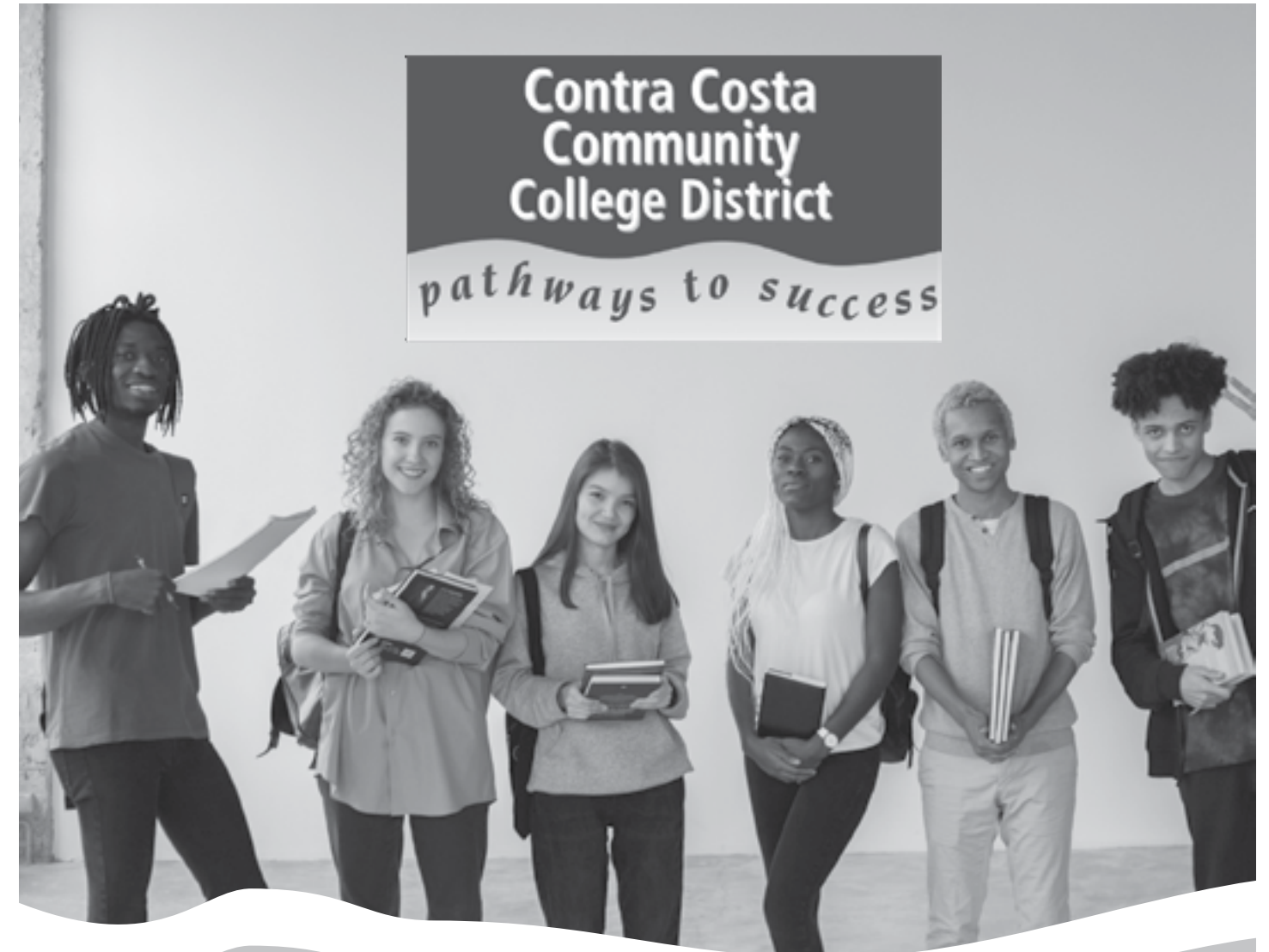
### **Our Mission**

As the professional membership association of the California Community College districts, the Community College League of California empowers California Community Colleges to transform the lives of our diverse students and strengthen communities statewide through advocacy, leadership development, district services, coalition building, and policy advancement.

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The Contra Costa Community College District (CCCCD) values diversity in the academic environment.

We welcome all people by manifesting a culture of inclusion and respect for all. We are supporters of APAHE. The District invites you to consider joining us as a valued member of our team.

Come visit our career opportunities website at <https://apptrkr.com/3912812> and click on "Career Opportunities" to learn more about our faculty, management and classified job openings. EOE

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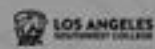
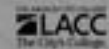
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## Long Beach City College is proud to be a sponsor of the 2023 APAHE Conference.

As an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution, LBCC is committed to serving our Asian Pacific Islander Desi students, faculty and classified staff through academics, support services and programs. We strongly support organizations like APAHE, that create safe and supportive spaces for our Asian Pacific Islander Desi colleagues and students to gather as a community, share best practices and find inspiration to continue their important work.

[www.LBCC.edu](http://www.LBCC.edu)



## NOCCCD is a proud sponsor of the 2023 APAHE National Conference!

The North Orange County Community College District (NOCCCD) is dedicated to fulfilling its mission for the success of its Asian and Pacific American students; supporting the hiring, retention, and advancement of Asian and Pacific American faculty and staff; and developing an interculturally proficient community that understands issues affecting Asian Pacific Americans.

A special thank you to Fullerton College Director, Student Life and Leadership, Dr. Naomi Q. Abesamis for serving as an APAHE Planning Committee Member and to the NOCCCD Asian Pacific Islander (API) Faculty and Staff Association for their leadership.



Asian Pacific Islander Faculty & Staff Association



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From left:

**Dr. Victor Tam**  
Dean, Science, Technology,  
Engineering & Mathematics

**Rima Dasgupta**  
Chair, Department of Behavioral Sciences,  
Sociology Faculty

**Jerry Thao**  
Counseling Faculty

The Sonoma County Junior College District does not discriminate on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, ethnic group identification, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic condition, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information or sexual orientation in any of its policies, procedures or practices; nor does the District discriminate against any employees or applicants for employment on the basis of their age. This non-discrimination policy covers admission, access and treatment in District programs and activities, including but not limited to academic admissions, financial aid, educational services and athletics, and application for District employment.

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A photograph of a diverse group of five students (three women and two men) smiling and looking towards the camera. They are outdoors, with trees in the background. The image is overlaid with a dark blue gradient that contains text and logos.

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The Asian American Foundation (TAAF) is proud to support Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE). We believe education is the key to fighting all forms of intolerance and hate.

Founded in 2021, TAAF was founded to serve the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in their pursuit of belonging and prosperity that is free from discrimination, slander, and violence.

TAAF aims to accelerate and expand efforts to teach AAPI studies as part of inclusive history in K-12 and higher education in all 50 states.

