AMPLIFYING OUR VOICES IN UNITY & ACTION

April 26, 2023
Pre-conference
The Marriott Oakland City Center
Oakland, CA

April 27–28, 2023
Conference
To our 2023 Conference Partners

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- Guidance, Advocacy for Success
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- APIA Scholars
- California Community College Registry
- California State University, Chancellor’s Office
- Focal Points Design – Custom Jewelry and Accessories by Linda Handy
- Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP)
- Michael R. Lai
- Mt. San Antonio College
- Rancho Santiago Community College District
- San Francisco State University

- Los Angeles Community College District
- Mt. San Antonio College
- Rancho Santiago Community College District
- The Asian American Foundation (TAAF)
- University of California, Office of the President
- University of California, Riverside

- Long Beach City College
- North Orange Community College District
- San Francisco State University
- Equity Avengers
- Evergreen Valley College
- Irvine Valley College
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- Santa Rosa Junior College
- South Orange Community College District
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- The Asian American Foundation (TAAF)
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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)
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’l Lokeni, MSW, Counselor, El Camino College, Long Beach City College, Santa Monica College
  - Karla B. Thomas, MPH, Deputy Director, Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC)

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
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**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 Shimokazi, CEO, Strategic Education Services
- Dr. Audrey Yamagata Noji, Vice President of Student Services, Mount San Antonio College
FRIDAY APRIL 28, 2023

7:00 a.m.  Registration, Continental Breakfast and Networking

GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, 1ST FLOOR

8:15 a.m.  Opening Performance

WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR

8:25 a.m.  Welcome, Acknowledgements and Recognitions

WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.  Opening Keynote

WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  Plenary Panel

WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR

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

11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.  Luncheon & Awards

WEST HALL, 1ST FLOOR

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  Concurrent Sessions – Group F
## CONCURRENT SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

### A1 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. This panel will highlight findings on the State of Higher Education for Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups across California. It will explore the contributing factors that lead to disparities and potential solutions. This session will bring together professional staff and students to offer personal insights into the contributing factors that lead to these disparities and potential solutions.

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

**Target Audience:** Undergraduate/Graduate Students, Senior-Level Professionals

### A2 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. 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, Graduate Student, University of Hawaii Manoa

**Target Audience:** Student Groups, Pacific Islander Students

### A3 A Seat at the Table: Challenging the Academic Trajectory of Pacific Islanders

**Target Audience:** Undergraduate/Graduate Students

This session will highlight the transformative experiences of the ASPIRE Peer Mentorship Program, an AANAPISI grant initiative at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. 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:**
- Rohit Maharaj, Business Services Assistant Director & Basic Needs Operations Manager, UCLA
- Perzianee Devoux, Student, President, Pacific Islands’ Student Programs Office
- Nai Lai, Student, Program Coordinator, UCLA Community Programs Office

**Target Audience:** Undergraduate/Graduate Students, Senior-Level Professionals

## Closing Reception

**Dates:**
- **Thursday April 27, 2023**

**Times:**
- **10:45 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.**
Presenters:
- Lani Pati, M.Ed., Student Programming Coordinator, Salt Lake Community College
- Christina Souknarong, M.Ed., Student Civic Engagement Coordinator, Salt Lake Community College
- Karen Antano-Tompkins, M.A., English Professor and APASS (Asian Pacific American Student Success) Faculty Co-Coordinator, Los Angeles Harbor College
- Christine 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

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, Opata and Associates, Fresno Metro Ministry
- Francine Bradaous Opata, Ed.D., Company Executive, Opata and Associates, LLC

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:
- 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 Alocar, AAPIC Peer Mentor, California State University, Fresno AANAPISI Initiative
- Maika Lee, AAPIC Peer Mentor, California State University, Fresno AANAPISI Initiative
THURSDAY APRIL 27, 2023  TIME 1:30 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.

B1 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 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
- Deepay 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
- Chantly Thompson, ELEVATE AAPI Counselor, Irvine Valley College
- Harrison Shin, ELEVATE AAPI Coordinator, Irvine Valley College

B3 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 overworked? This session will discuss the history of self-care, the impact of racism, 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. Hiranaka-Juteau, Ed.D., Professor, Fresno State
- Francine Bradoust Opupa, Ed.D., Company Executive Officer, Opupa and Associates, LLC
- Vicki Taylor, Ed.D., Deputy Director, Fresno Metro Ministry and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Consultant, Opupa and Associates, Fresno Metro Ministry

B4 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 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
- Demetwone Tosa-Lotaile Gogue, M.A., Doctoral Student, UCLA
- Kristine Espinoza, M.A., Doctoral Student, UNLV

B6 CSU’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
**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
- Natasha Cesan-Davis, Ph.D., Assistant Dean of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at the School of Education and Information Studies, UCLA

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**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
- Sirla 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

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**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 practice. This presentation will discuss the pivotal role of narratives and storytelling in empowering students and educators to own their stories, connect to their heritage, and engage in the critical work of advancing equity and justice. Participants will explore the power of personal narratives in creating impactful internal and community partnerships to further enrich students' social and emotional well-being, cultural identity and sense of belonging.

**Presenters:**
- Benjamin T. Nakamura, M.A., Curriculum & Instruction, Regional Director of Culturally Responsive Teaching & Equity for ASPIRE Schools, Lecturer, San Diego City College
- Kirin A. Macapugay, MSW, Professor, Program Director, San Diego City College
- Eric Ramones, Ed.D., Associate Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, West Valley Mission CCD

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**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 with several key support and 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

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**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 on the historic program and its impact. The panel will feature representatives from Middlesex Community College and the California Community Colleges Chancellor Office, discussing how the program has been implemented and its outcomes. The panel will also include representatives from California State University, discussing the impact of the program at the university level. The session will conclude with a discussion on the future of the program and how it will continue to support the success of AANHI 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
- Delcie Perez, Ed.D., Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Equity and Belonging for the California State University
- Cihan 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)
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 networks 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 and positionality and help participants identify their own inhibitions in leadership pursuit.

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

C2 GRAND BALLROOM AB, 1ST FLOOR

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

C3 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. Presenters 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 Pheneeger, 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 Tan, M.D., M.S., Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, UC Davis Health
- Robbie Lyn “Robbie” Tresnado, Chief Administrative Officer, Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, University of California, Davis

C5 GRAND BALLROOM GH, 1ST 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
- Darry Nicole Davis, Resident Director, University of California, Riverside
- Jamie Ly, Resident Director, University of California, Riverside

C6 GRAND BALLROOM 1/2, 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) Nakamotö, Ed.D., Dean, Social Sciences, Chabot College

C7 GRAND BALLROOM 3/4, 2ND FLOOR
Beyond Cutting Fruit: Exploring Practices of Transformational Love for Collective Care, Well-Being, Justice and Joy
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 Canacho, M.A., People and Culture Business Partner, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Rancho Santiago community College District (RSCCD)

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 trauma 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.
Presenter:
- 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, Santa Cruz
- Brian Huynh, Kapwa Alum, University of California, Los Angeles
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:  
- Kathleen 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

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  
- Shimel Her Saychou, M.A., Director, California State University, Fresno  
- Gaonoucci Belle Vang, Student Success Project Coordinator, California State University, Fresno  
- AANAPISI Initiative

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

Transforming from a Racial Middle to Racial Centered Warrior
Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals
Sociologist Eileen O’Brien 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’Brien 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 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 Irey, Ph.D., Vice President of Instruction, South Seattle College

More than Buzz Words: Grounded Practices in Empowering Students to Find Their Own 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 Marsh, 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 Geronomo, Summer Programs Manager, University of California, San Diego

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.**

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**E1**  
**“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  
- Chloé 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

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**E2**  
**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

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**E3**  
**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  
- Hosnia Sadat Ahadi, Ed.D., Counseling Faculty, Palomar College

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**E4**  
**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 458% between 2016 and 2022. For low-income APIA students, the 4-year graduation rate increased 795%. 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

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**E5**  
**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, Rudy & Romero  
- Soka Song, Vice President of Human Resources, Mt. San Antonio Community College

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**E6**  
**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 Ruloda, 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
transfer student enrollment pathways, and transfer student transition to careers.

we are implementing community responsive strategies in the areas of student belonging and community, (AAS) department, and SMCCCD colleges: Cañada College, College of San Mateo, and Skyline College and how student needs through collaboration between the SFSU College of Ethnic Studies and Asian American Studies that moves them forward as they continue and complete their undergraduate studies. This panel will address OP Initiative strives to create a community where students feel a sense of belonging and hope for the future.

Grounded in Ethnic Studies founding principles of Access, Relevance, and Community; this new AANAPISI CO- Target Audience: New Professionals

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 SF State 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
- Christine Su, Ph.D., Coordinator, AANAPISI Grant, College of San Mateo
- Liza Erpelo, Ed.D., Coordinator, Kababayen Learning Community & Professor, English Department, Skyline College
- Mary Ho, Ed.D., Director Post-secondary Success and the University Center, Cañada College

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

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
- Rovera Tamaneng, Ed.D., President, San Jose City College
- Henry Yang, Chancellor, Yosemite Community College District

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

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

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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
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 Aquiure, LSW, MPH, Program Assistant, University of Illinois Chicago, Asian American Resource and Cultural Center
- Anna Flamini, 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 Oliviera, Undergraduate Student, AAMP Teaching Fellow, University of Illinois Chicago, Asian American Mentor Program
- Aanya Soad, Graduate Student, AAMP Teaching Fellow, University of Illinois Chicago, Asian American Mentor Program
- Andrew Aumavae, Professional Quarterback Coach, Quarterback Influence (QBI)
- Dawn Lee (she/they), Ph.D., Owner, Consultant, and Coach, Abundant Strategies Collective

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:
- Kaelaani Demapan, M.A., Director of Project Promotion Retention Opportunities and Advancement (AANAPISI Grant), Northern Marianas College
- Mylyssa 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
- Jenara Bai, Undergraduate student, School of Business, Northern Marianas College
organizations have turned to collaboration, a shift away from quantity and more quality of has been a shift in what “productivity” looks like within their own college organizations and the pandemic. Individual interviews were conducted with interns speaking about how there multispatial collective healing, and liberatory practices, and community building through Studies at UC Davis and its virtual internship program’s engagement in critical ethnic studies, Participants will learn about a research study centering on the Bulosan Center of Filipinx Vogel, to learn how you can increase your mental and emotional health by liberating your messages of sexual negativity. In this candid and hilarious talk, join sex educator Dr. Sara are left struggling to connect with their sexuality due to racism, exotification, and cultural 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 less likely to connect with their sexuality due to racism, exotification, 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. 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 quoate 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-Magbudal, 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 Macalihais, Organizational Coordinator, Pin@y Educational Partnerships (PEP)
- Arlene Daus-Magbudal, 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

G1

EAST 2 HALL, 1ST FLOOR

FRIDAY APRIL 28, 2023

TIME 2:45 p.m. — 3:45 p.m.

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 less likely to connect with their sexuality due to racism, exotification, 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

Pamilya 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 centered on the Bulosan Center for 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 Japanda, 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 Princep, History Ph.D. Student, University of California, Riverside & Transfer Admissions Advisor, Notre Dame de Namur University

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

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

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 Suafa'a, Ph.D., Assistant Director of Teacher Education, Claremont Graduate University
Culturally relevant and Indigenous-based instruction can be utilized to address some of these issues. That strengthening cultural identity may mitigate these disparities, this presentation describes how.

Genocidal colonialism in the Pacific created a wake that nearly destroyed cultures and pushed Indigenous populations of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) – especially with their mental health and academic outcomes. Since studies have shown that exist for the Indigenous populations of the CNMI, this presentation explores how cultural identity may mitigate these disparities, this presentation describes how.

Target Audience: Mid-Level Professionals

Asian American Parenting as Changemaking

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

FRIDAY APRIL 28, 2023 TIME 4:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.

Chinatown Rising: Badass Asian Americans in the Civil Rights Movement

Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students

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.

PANELISTS:
- Beylul Solomon, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Northern Marianas College
- Phitsamay S. Uy, Ed.D., Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts-Lowell
- Dawn Lee (she/her/hers), Ph.D., Owner, Consultant, Coach, and Podcaster, Abundant Strategies Collective and Co-host of From Here Podcast
- Brianna Nicole Virabouth, Undergraduate Student, Stanford University
- Mae Lee, Ph.D., Professor, De Anza College

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:
- Gayvik 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
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

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

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 Hua Nguyen, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Education, New York University

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

From First-Generation Student to Career Professional: Navigating the Transition
Target Audience: Undergraduate/Graduate Students
Transitoning 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 Caldwellaria, M.Ed, Interim Director, Student Government Advising, University of California, Berkeley
- Danielle Go, M.Ed, Academic & Career Specialist, University of Southern California

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 Pilipino 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 Luang, 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
**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

**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 AAPI voices. Podcasting has grown exponentially and most listeners are below the age of 34. Only 4% of podcast listeners identify as AAPI. It is critical that AAPI 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

**Friday April 28, 2023 — Morning**

**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:**
- Janney Javier, Coordinator for Student Leadership Development, California College of the Arts

**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.

**Presenters:**
- Nina Maskowitz, 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.

**Presenters:**
- Amber Alatorre, M.A., Associate Professor of Counseling, San Diego Mesa College
- Jennifer A. Derilo, MFA, Associate Professor of English, San Diego Mesa College
Cal Rajin Taiko

Founded in 2005 by Tom Hata and Andrew Rowland, Cal Rajin 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 physical skills, songs, and prepare for performances. Outside of practice hours, Cal Taiko also develops 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 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, Ilana, and Andres, as well as their dog Legolas.

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.

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 Department 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 1999 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 wardenship Education for Asian Pacific Americans Award, NAACP Santa Clara County Chapter Diversity Award and Harvard Club of San Francisco Distinguished Alumni Award.

Curtis Chin

This October, Chin’s memoir, “Everything I Learned I Learned in a Courthouse Next Door” 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 AFB/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, The New York Times, 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.

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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.
Dr. Michael V. Drake is the 21st president of the University of California, known for his leadership in expanding educational access and student success. His presidency has been marked by initiatives to increase equity, inclusion, and diversity on campus. President Drake has been a strong advocate for diversity, equity, and belonging, and he has championed efforts to support underserved communities. He received his A.B. from Stanford University and his M.D. and residency training from UCSF. He subsequently spent more than 25 years at the UCSF School of Medicine, ultimately as the Dean of Student Affairs. His career has been at the forefront of academic and medical advancements, including a focus on public health and community engagement.

Mike Fong was elected to the 41st 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 San Gabriel Valley, including Rosemead, South 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 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. He also held a number of public and private sector positions, including serving as the Chief of Staff for Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa of Los Angeles.

Stephanie J. Fujii, Ph.D. is a passively 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 as the president of Arapahoe Community College (ACC) in Littleton, Colorado. Prior to moving to administration, she was tenure faculty, division chair, and faculty senate president. Past administrative experience include service as a system/district level director leading and facilitating instructional support services between ten colleges, a college instructional effectiveness 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 employee award from the Phoenix chapter of the Asian Corporate & Entrepreneur Leaders (ACE); 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 Coliseum Council Hispanic Council (NCCHC), and National Black American Affairs (NColBAA). She is currently the president-elect to NAPIC (an affiliate council of the American Association of Community Colleges), ACC 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 Equity. She is from the University of Nevada, Reno. She has a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership & Policy Studies from Arizona State University.
Kevin Nadal, Ph.D.

Dr. Kevin Nadal is a Distinguished Professor of Psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Graduate Center at the City University of New York. Here, he 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, 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-born 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, AMA), Microaggressions and the Transgender (2014, 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 Wilksbury Award from the Western Society of Criminology, and the Thought Leader Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Char Perlas, Ph.D.

Dr. Char Perlas is a Filipino-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 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 California 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 (Siskiyou) in July of 2019 as the vice president of academic affairs where she contributed to equity efforts through her leadership with the Enrollment Management, Governance Pathways and Social Justice Equity Diversity Induction (SJEI) 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 Siskiyou 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.

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 to his return to the West Valley-Mission community college district, 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. He is a graduate of San Jose State University with a Master in Public Administration. Since 2010, he has also taught as an adjunct lecturer in the Master in Public Administration program at San Jose State University. Dr. Ramones holds a bachelor’s 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.

Dale Shimasaki, Ph.D.

Dr. Shimasaki currently serves on the Board of the Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus Institute and is a member of the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program Advisory Committee. He served as the founding President of Asian and Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APACHE) for five years. Dale is married to Ann Nguyen and has a daughter and a son. The family live in Sacramento.
Dr. Andrea “Andi” Fejeran Sims is an Associate Professor of Native Hawai‘i and Pacific Islands Studies at El Camino College. Andi was a first-generation low-income college student who was a first-generation low-income college student who grew up in Inland Empire, California, and is a proud product of the Pacific diaspora, her Pacific Islanders, Tongan and Samoan born to the homes of 5 children born to the homes of 5 children. Andi is deeply committed in building a community-centered knowledge, Indigenous voices, culturally informed efforts, and Indigenous pedagogy. In the community, Andi serves on the Development Committee of M.A.L.O., a non-profit organization based in Ontario, California. She serves Tongan and NHRP communities. Andi 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. Andi 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, Andi serves as the Development Director for M.A.L.O., a non-profit organization based in Ontario, California. Andi is a co-founder of Pasifika Education and Research Coalition for Empowerment (PERCE), a coalition of Pasifika non-profit organizations led by NHRP community leaders. Andi is a doctoral student at Claremont Graduate University in Cultural Studies. Andi is a lead researcher for Pasifika Education and Research Coalition for Empowerment (PERCE), a coalition of Pasifika non-profit organizations led by NHRP community leaders. Andi is a doctoral student at Claremont Graduate University in Cultural Studies. Andi is a lead researcher for Pasifika Education and Research Coalition for Empowerment (PERCE), a coalition of Pasifika non-profit organizations led by NHRP community leaders.

Dr. Finausina Tovo is a Professor of Educational Leadership at California State University, Fullerton. Dr. Tovo is a recipient of the 2017 California State University, Fullerton Outstanding Professor award and the 2016 California State University, Fullerton Distinguished Alumna award. Dr. Tovo has served as the President of the National Association of Hispanic Research in Education (NARIE) and the National Conference on Research (NACRE). Dr. Tovo’s research focuses on student retention, persistence, and graduation rates for Native Hawai‘i and Pacific Islander college students, and the complex dynamics of college retention. Dr. Tovo’s research has been published in various peer-reviewed journals and presented at national and international conferences. Dr. Tovo’s research 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 (TARA), American Education Research Association (AERA), and Tongan American Scholars Network (APASA). For over a decade, Dr. Finausina Tovo has collaborated with her colleagues to increase the access, retention and success for AANHHI students and employees at the College of San Mateo. As the co-founder of the First Generation Serving 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 disaggregating, and college retention. Dr. Tovo’s pivotal contribution to first generation serving centers and college research highlights the social-political, social-historical, and social-educational experiences of Native Hawai‘i and Pacific Islander college students and their families as they engage with higher education institutions. Outside of academia, Dr. Tovo volunteers in organizing NHPR community events, fundraising for Tonga’s disaster relief, and coordinating a global research network that aims to connect 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 (TARA), American Education Research Association (AERA), Asian Pacific Islander American Scholars Network (APASA) and the Tonga Relief Support of America (TRSA). Karla Thomas is the oldest child to her Samoan mother and Aymara father. The family moved from Slim, Southern California to San Bernardino, California on Samoan Pasefika. Karla is the Deputy Director of Empowering Pacific Islander Communities. Karla grew up as a researcher 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-founder of the Pacific Islander Empowerment 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.

Audrey Yamagata-Noji, Ph.D. has recently retired as Vice President of Student Services at 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. Audrey Yamagata-Noji is serving as President of the Board of Trustees for 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 her co-coordinate Henry Gee, Audrey directs the annual Leadership Development Program in Higher Education – a partnership effort between APAHE and LEAP and the Tonga Relief Support of America (TRSA).
A heartfelt thanks to the following individuals who have dedicated their time to provide you with this year’s APAHE conference!

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. Allene Guo Cranes, 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 Ideto, Vice Provost for Student Success, University of Hawaii at Mānoa
12. Takao 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 Lui, 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. Navin 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 Yamani, Acting Director of Student Outreach and Recruitment, Evergreen Valley College
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Faculty, Staff and Administrative Careers
At 4CD, we value and respect our diverse community of students and employees. We are committed to hiring and developing a diverse staff that understands that cultural diversity in the academic environment promotes academic excellence; fosters cultural, racial and human understanding; provides positive role models for students; and creates an inclusive and supportive educational work environment. We support and honor all the work of the APAHE. 4CD encourages you to consider joining our team!

To learn more visit www.4cd.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

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 Duran, Vice President
Griselda 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
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 Strength.

www.berkeleycitycollege.edu
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.

Our Vision
California Community Colleges as the global model for community-based public higher education with an unparalleled commitment to access, equity and achievement.

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
Applications Open!
LEAP Advance 2023

July 12-15, 2023

Program:
Workshops, Alumni,
Dinner, Speakers,
and more!

Cost:
$2000 for four days of
meals and program
tuition (lodging and
airfare is paid by the
participant)

Location:
Kellogg West
Conference
Center and Hotel
in Pomona, CA

FOR MORE INFORMATION
leap.org/advance

For questions, contact
Eledy Vargas Gonzales at
evargas@leap.org

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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

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.
A diverse community where social justice is the mission

- One of the Top 5 Colleges in the West for Diversity — Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Rankings, 2021
- Home to the nation’s first College of Ethnic Studies
- Bachelor’s degrees in 72 majors, master’s degrees in 62 majors, doctorates in Educational Leadership and Physical Therapy
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- Member of the California State University, the nation’s largest four-year higher education system
- Located in one of the world’s most vibrant, cosmopolitan cities along public transit

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Join Santa Rosa Junior College’s Community and Thrive in Beautiful Sonoma County!

Located in the magnificent Northern California Wine Country, we offer excellent opportunities for equity-minded employees who are committed to providing educational opportunities for our diverse student population and contributing towards cultivating an accessible, open, barrier-free, sustainable environment for students, employees, and the community. Nearly 2,800 individuals work full or part-time at SRJC, making it one of the largest employers in Sonoma County. In 2023, we plan to hire 16 Contract Faculty and our next Superintendent/President.

Santa Rosa Junior College is continuously seeking qualified candidates for employment. Please go to [www.schooljobs.com/careers/santarosajc](http://www.schooljobs.com/careers/santarosajc) to apply for openings.
UC Finance and UC Graduate, Undergraduate, and Equity Affairs at the UC Office of the President are Proud Sponsors of the 2023 Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education Conference
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.