

# Aloha & Happy New Year!

The Center on Disability Studies at the University of Hawai'i cordially invites you to the 24th Annual Pacific Rim Conference on Disabilities on April 14th & 15th, 2008. Mark your calendars now and spread the word!

CDS is currently celebrating 20 years of academic and community excellence. By building on the overwhelmingly positive outcomes of previous Pacific Rim Conferences and harnessing the excitement of this special anniversary, Pac Rim 2008 will be a conference you won't want to miss.

With more than 24 countries, provinces and territories represented at the 2007 conference, Pac Rim 2008 will continue a long-standing tradition of assembling researchers, professionals, paraprofessionals, persons with disabilities, family members, students, community leaders and advocates to present on a variety of topics that directly affect everyone's lives.

Pac Rim continues to present opportunities to learn from one another, and share resources and ideas that support community inclusion, self-determination and the quality of life of all persons with disabilities and their families. This year, we are presenting over 190 presentations, posters and special workshops and have over ten featured speakers. We want your presence and participation!

Pac Rim 2008 will also feature numerous pre and post conference meetings, workshops and forums including International Forum 2008: Securing the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other pre and post conference events.

Now is the time for you and your colleagues to consider registering for the Pac Rim Conference. Please visit [www.pacrim.hawaii.edu](http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu) and click on "Registration" for complete details.

If you have attended previous Pac Rim Conferences, we look forward to seeing you again. If you have considered attending before but haven't, this is the year to experience one of the country's largest conference on disabilities.

Please contact the co-chairs about opportunities for you and your organization to Exhibit, Advertise, or Provide Sponsorship. Visit us at <http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu>, contact us at [prinfo@hawaii.edu](mailto:prinfo@hawaii.edu) or call 808-956-7539.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Mahalo,

Robert Stodden  
Director, CDS

Valerie Shearer  
Co-Chair

Charmaine Crockett  
Co-Chair

## Conference-Related Activities

In partnership with the William S. Richardson School of Law

### PacificRim International Forum 2008 Securing the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Many of the world's 600 million persons with disabilities face discrimination and mistreatment every day

Pre-Conference Event: Saturday & Sunday, April 12 & 13, 2008

With the recent passage and unprecedented global support of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, this is an opportune time to discuss the convention and its relevance in our diverse/local communities. The forum's intent is to foster learning about the Convention and facilitate new strategic thinking for the realization of rights for persons with disabilities.

The forum will consist of Noted Speakers, breakout sessions, discussion panels, and interactive workshops. Select speakers including experts with regional and UN experience, advocates and community leaders will present and participate in panels and lead discussions. The forum will also provide a space for dialogue and informal conversations. We invite you to host a dialogue session and to share your insights and expertise. The forum will be participant driven and focused around issues and needs of the attendees.

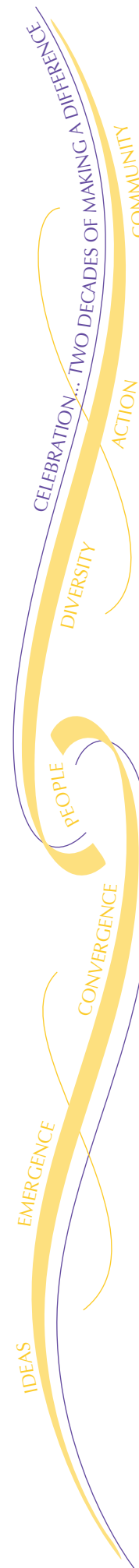
**Discussion Areas:** Implications of the Convention in the Asia-Pacific Region + Regional concerns surrounding implementation of the CRPD + Affecting real positive change for persons with disabilities + Using international norms to promote disability rights within communities and nations + Women and disabilities + Strategies for treaty ratification + Introduction to international human rights treaties + Writing non-governmental and community shadow reports + Reasonable accommodation in practice + Indigenous perspectives

**Information and registration:** Visit [www.pacrim.hawaii.edu](http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu) and click on the "International Forum" link (bottom left) or contact topic leaders: Robert Stodden at [stodden@hawaii.edu](mailto:stodden@hawaii.edu), Katharina Heyer at [heyer@hawaii.edu](mailto:heyer@hawaii.edu), Steve Brown at [sebrown@hawaii.edu](mailto:sebrown@hawaii.edu), or Charmaine Crockett at [ccrocke@hawaii.edu](mailto:ccrocke@hawaii.edu). Call 1-808-956-7539 or e-mail [prinfo@hawaii.edu](mailto:prinfo@hawaii.edu) for general Pac Rim information. Cost: \$100.

### Capacity Building Institute: Supporting Students with Disabilities for Success in Postsecondary Education

Post-Conference Event: Wednesday, April 16, 2008

**Purpose:** Provide professional development activities related to postsecondary education, for attendees across a range of skill levels and abilities. **Who should attend:** Persons associated with postsecondary education including instructional and support faculty, disability support personnel, high school personnel, administrators, persons with disabilities, and family members of persons with disabilities. **Agenda includes:** Universal Design for Learning & Instruction, Overview of Hidden Disabilities, Student Panel, Complimentary Lunch, Assistive Technology Lab & Hands on Exploration. **Registration:** Participants must be registered, \$25 fee. Mail Velina Sugiyama at Center on Disability Studies, 1776 University Ave UA 4-6, Honolulu, HI 96822. Phone 808-956-5688, fax 808-956-7878, email [velina@hawaii.edu](mailto:velina@hawaii.edu). Funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education.



Lois Ann Yamanaka, Author. Keynote Speaker for Pac Rim 2006.



April 14-15, 2008  
Sheraton Waikiki

## Celebration... Two Decades of Making a Difference

A premier venue for sharing diverse perspectives, stimulating new thinking and crafting workable solutions—locally, nationally and globally. Over 180 workshops, panels and presentations.



Kim Peek, inspiration for the movie *Rainman*. Keynote Speaker for Pac Rim 2007.



Greg Smith, Author. Keynote Speaker for Pac Rim 2007.

# Some Featured Speakers

**Jacquelyn Brand**, inspirational speaker and advocate, the founder and first Executive Director of the Center for Accessible Technology. **Caroline Casey**, 35, founder of the Aisling Foundation and O2 Ability Awards. **Dr. Hewitt B. Clark**, best known as "Rusty," is the Director of the National Center on Youth Transition for Behavioral Health Academy. Award nominated producer **Janet Cole** is the Executive Producer of *Freedom Machines*, a PBS Fall Special exploring the role of technology in transforming the lives of people with disabilities. **Elizabeth DePoy** is Professor and Coordinator of Interdisciplinary Education in Disability Studies at the University of Maine. **Dr. Stephen Gilson**, professor and author, is focused on violence, women, theory, social justice, disability policy. **Ron Hager** provides training and technical assistance to the P&A/CAP network on special education. **Jane Hudson** provides technical assistance and training to P&As regarding abuse and neglect and access issues. **Edward J. Kame'enui**, an international authority on learning problems and special education. **Don and Julianne King** are filmmakers whose recent film "Beautiful Son", a documentary about healing autism, will be aired on public television. **Manulani Aluli Meyer** is an author and Associate Professor of Education at the University of Hawaii-Hilo and founding member of Halau Wanana, a Hawaiian Center of Higher Learning. **Patricia A. Morrissey, PhD**, Commissioner, Administration on Developmental Disabilities, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. **Brenda Smith Myles** is a recognized expert on autism, Asperger Syndrome and special education. **Kay Nagata** has been involved in promoting "disability inclusive development" during her 24-year career with the United Nations. **Hill M. Walker, PhD**, author, is a Professor of Special Education, Co-Director of the Institute on Violence and Destructive Behavior, and Director of the Center on Human Development in the College of Education at the University of Oregon. **Patricia Wood**, author of newly published book, *LOTTERY*.

## Conference Themes

- ✦ Autism
- ✦ Empowering People with Disabilities: Independent Living
- ✦ Deaf Education
- ✦ Disability Studies: Envisioning our Future
- ✦ Employment: Building a New Workforce that is Inclusive and Innovative
- ✦ Family Supports
- ✦ Hidden Disabilities
- ✦ International Disability Rights
- ✦ Culturally Responsive Education
- ✦ Pacific Footprints of Change: Walking the Talk
- ✦ Teach to Reach All Learners
- ✦ Technologies for Realizing Potential and Building Community
- ✦ Transition to Adulthood

Learn more about these speakers, and over 180 presentations, workshops, and roundtables at [www.pacrim.hawaii.edu](http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu)

Pacific Rim Conference on Disabilities  
Center on Disabilities Studies  
College of Education, UH Manoa, UA 4-6  
1776 University Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822  
[www.pacrim.hawaii.edu](http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu) • [prinfo@hawaii.edu](mailto:prinfo@hawaii.edu)  
P 808.956.7539 • F 808.956.7878

## Special Events, Seminars & Workshops



**More special workshops to come!**  
Check out the latest at [www.pacrim.hawaii.edu](http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu)



**Writing Our Story:** A creative writing workshop with Patricia Wood How do we allow for greater understanding of disability culture and our lives?

Learn the techniques needed to get the story started. Learn how to develop plots and characters. Learn more about the business of getting published and what it takes! Lots of fun exercises!

## Protecting Students from Excessive and Improper Use of Restraint and Seclusion in Schools

This workshop will provide strategies and skills for reducing the excessive and improper use of restraint and seclusion in schools. Who Should Attend: Persons associated with primary and secondary education of students with disabilities, including parents, students, attorneys and advocates, teachers, aides, school administrators and federal and state officials.

## Emergency Preparedness and Persons with Disabilities:

NOAA, FEMA and state and local governments continue to partner to improve response to rapidly breaking extreme hazard events, such as fires, flooding, severe storms, earthquakes, hurricanes, and tsunamis. With each extreme hazard event, new best practices are put into place by responding agencies. This workshop will provide updates on collaborative efforts to improve readiness capability for persons with disabilities, and provide an open forum addressing deficiencies in notification and response to hazardous events by persons with disabilities.

**The Fashion Moves Show** is a fun and inspiring medium through which the organizers will share the great strides being made in adaptive clothing. The event will feature a range of artisans and clothing producers who will present clothing and accessories for the Home, the Office, the Outdoors and leisure activities. During the course of the conference, attendees will have opportunities to present new ideas and suggestions for clothing manufacturers and designers.

cds 20<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

**The Center on Disability Studies is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year! Come Join Us!**

Standard Registration  
Deadline:  
March 31, 2008

**April 14-15, 2008**  
Sheraton Waikiki Hotel  
Honolulu, Hawai'i

**Pacific Rim 2008**

[www.pacrim.hawaii.edu](http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu)



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