Workshop: The 2nd Annual Meet to LEAP for ELL Education Forum
(Linked Educators Across the Pacific)
Monday, April 29, 1:00-3:15 p.m., Room 317B

- This down-to-earth discussion and presentation forum provides Hawaii and Pacific Island K-12 teachers the opportunity to share knowledge about their English language learners (ELLs) and literacy-improvement practices to build capacity for solutions. Learn about best practices, teaching strategies, and technology to enhance learning. The hosting ELL-ACE and NB-ELL Projects (Center on Disability Studies, COE, UHM) provide professional development (PD) courses focused on improving K-12 ELLs’ literacy skills in math, science, and language arts to teachers in Hawaii, American Samoa, and the Marshall Islands free of charge with U.S. D.O.E. grants.

Discussions:
Guided and facilitated by Mautumua Porotesano, Teacher Trainer and Special Education Ph.D. student, and Jennifer Holdway, Second Language Studies Ph.D. student and global explorer, discussions based on mock classroom scenarios immersing you in new learning environments and recreating the immigrant student experience will stimulate thoughts and emotions centered on these overarching questions: How does it feel to be an ELL student? What can teachers do to better understand and engage students? Examine your attitudes and teaching practices, including yourself as a role model for how your non-ELLs interact with ELLs, and determine what should be replaced or embraced. Identify misperceptions and missteps plus strategies and solutions to raise awareness and implement change.

Presentations:
1. Weranuj (Orr) Ariyasriwatana, Communication and Information Sciences Ph.D. student and “third culture kid,” will discuss Intercultural Communication in the educational context (cultural dimensions, Intercultural Microcultures, and sense of presence) to improve your interaction with ELL students by understanding them more fully. Be prepared for an enjoyable activity.
2. Emerson Lopez Odango, Linguistics Ph.D. student and former Peace Corp volunteer in FSM, explores the value of ethnomathematics to reach diverse students. Share your own ideas, experiences, and perspectives on incorporating the mathematical practices of “others” and our “selves.” Mathematical concepts from Melanesian, Polynesian, and Micronesian languages will spark discussion.

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