The topic Chairs at the PACRIM 2014 Early Childhood Strand are looking for presentation proposals pertaining to the following topic areas:

**Neonatal Nurses Caring for Babies**

Neonatal Nurses strive to support the relationship-based, developmental care of baby and Caregivers by creating innovative solutions with strong partnerships, support informed choices to improve the lives of our littlest children, and provide care leading to positive outcomes for healthier communities. Malama o Na Keiki ([http://malamaonakeiki.org/](http://malamaonakeiki.org/)) and its’ “Founders’ Circle” of cultural and professional advisors are co-coordinating the 2014 Neonatal Nurses Conference within the Early Childhood Strand at PACRIM. Cultural principles, Spirit of Aloha and diversity help to bridge grass roots efforts within local communities with professional practices in institutions, corporations and organizations. The vision is to expand neonatal outreach beyond the nurses, to include professional team members, community organizations, laypersons, parents, caregivers, grandparents, early childhood educators, and the whole of the “ohana”, that is the family, in the broadest sense of the village that raises and cares for babies, infants, and young children.
Proposals are welcomed on the following topics:

- Neonatal nursing: student nurse to expert mentoring; technical expertise; self care; inspiring “how” we do in the NICU affects decreased early intervention needs; APRN; Transport; Pathophysiology; family centered care; Innovative solutions
- Perinatal Critical Care Decisions in Fetal-Neonatal: Ethical medicine, Facebook, You Tube, Twitter, etc – unpermitted photos or info on Social media, Public Relations, Parent participation, Photography in critical situations, Hospice/Palliative Care
- International best evidence-based practices in the NICU
- Hospital to Home transitioning
- Millennium goals for Maternal, Newborn and Child Survival
- Improving Team Communication: TeamSTEPPS and other methods
- Holistic nurturing through music therapy, infant massage, and other alternative care
- Intuitive nursing
- Infant morbidity and mortality
- Perinatal medicine, services and support
- Health Policy Advocacy in Perinatal, especially for the neonate
- Reducing neonatal stress for healthier long term outcomes
- Breastmilk and Kangaroo Care: Donor banks, Breastfeeding from NICU to home care, security and bonding
• New therapies for reducing brain injury in the high risk babies
• NICU Transport Care of baby and family separated from their communities - lessening the trauma, transfers between units
• Veteran Parents integrated into hospital and community team approach
• Initiatives for Screening and Assessment
• Neonatal Trilogy - : 1) premature babies with low birth weight 2) full-term babies born with acute conditions 3) babies born with congenital anomalies

**Early Intervention**
Early intervention services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays, biological risk, or environmental risk are evidence-based as the most cost-effective method of preventing childhood disabilities, reducing the devastating impact of disabilities, and assisting parents to support the optimal development of their child. With the dismal picture on poverty in America and around the world, and its consequences for babies and children, we need to harness the energy of all stakeholders – individuals, families, communities, organizations, and government – to build an inclusive society which supports the well-being of our babies. This topic area will focus on a holistic approach to baby’s and toddlers’ wellbeing within a
social, cultural, political and economic context. Proposals are welcomed on the following topics:

- Policy issues relative to the support of early intervention services.
- Engagement of parents to become effective lifelong advocates for their child.
- Successful methods of outreach to parents of infants and toddlers to make them aware of their legal rights under Federal legislation and/or the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC, in particular Article 23).
- Issues related to attachment – the interaction between the mother and infant that provides the framework for optimal child development.
- How parents can utilize play as an enriching learning experience for their children with special needs.
- Latest research on brain development and how quality early learning experiences impact adult health status.
- Cutting-edge early intervention practices that show promise for improving outcomes.
- How early literacy can optimally be infused into early intervention efforts.
- Early interventions to promote optimal emotional and behavioral health.
- How newborn hearing screening is making a difference.
Early Childhood Care, Education, and Preschool Special Education

Addressing the countless range of issues facing young children from three to five years of age with disabilities and their families, and advocating for their full inclusion in their communities worldwide can be a daunting task. By applying international lessons learned to work taking place at the local, regional, national, and international levels, awareness and education are dispersed, children’s rights are protected, and a global perspective in the delivery of training, resources and assistance for families, educators and caregivers becomes part of the service delivery paradigm. Submissions pertaining to the following topics are encouraged:

- Promoting diverse cultural learning, and school readiness
- Intervention techniques, methodology, tools, curriculum, or environments that are best-practice based on empirical evidence
- Establishing best-practices: What works for some populations may not for others, thus we welcome findings from diverse populations and cultures.
- The values, tools, settings, and contexts of a given people (i.e. intervention for native and indigenous populations that were developed with or from within the population itself.)
- Research, advocacy, and resource sharing toward satisfying the early childhood education charge of both the Convention on the Rights of Persons with
Disabilities (CRPD) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC, and in particular Article 23: Children with disabilities shall have equal rights, shall not be separated from their parents against their will, except when the authorities determine that this is in the child’s best interests, and in no case shall be separated from their parents on the basis of a disability of either the child or the parents.

- Early assessment, intervention, and inclusion for our young children with disabilities at local, regional, national, and international levels
- How the nature of routine interactions in natural environments shapes a child’s development, school readiness, and cultural learning outcomes
- How longstanding international strategies to increase male nurturing and responsibility for children helps equalize the balance of power between family members and shifts resource allocation (time and money) in favor of women’s and children’s health, development, and education.
- Determining disability categories in very young children: How soon and under what conditions is assessment appropriate?
- Infusing language and literary into educational programs: Preparing young children with special needs for future school success.
IMPORTANT NOTE: We welcome any proposals related to early childhood even if you feel like it may not fit into one of the key areas outlined above. Also, if you are not sure in what section your proposal should be, please do not hesitate to contact the topic chair for clarification. For any further information needed, please contact the topic chairs - Leilani Kūpahu-Marino, RN, (808) 352-0013; admin@malamaonakeiko.org or Donald Piburn, (808-636-7067 or piburn@hawaii.edu. We welcome proposals in any presentation format. Please see presentation formats on our webpage at: http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/presenters/formats. Please check the criteria for each format and ensure that you have the appropriate number of presenters for your chosen format. You may submit proposals online at: http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/submissions or send your proposals via email to prcall@hawaii.edu.

For general information on the conference, please contact Charmaine Crockett at cccrocke@hawaii.edu, (808) 956-7539.

For registration questions please contact the registration desk, phone (808) 956-8816, fax (808) 956-4437 or email prreg@hawaii.edu.