FOUNDATION: ACCESS THE WORLD: TOOLS FOR INCLUSION Topic Area

To thrive in the world, human beings need to have access to all educational, cultural, social, and economic areas of life – otherwise they will remain on the margins and not be a central active force in participating fully in dimensions that give meaning to life. Unfortunately many of these arenas are created, maintained and sustained by conceptual and constructed views of ‘normalcy’ and able-bodied, thus creating and/or strengthening the many barriers toward achieving a quality of life due every human being regardless of their ability or disability.

What are the tools for inclusion? While they may vary across sector, the aim is for inclusion and access – whether it be in transportation, cultural events or in pursuing economic and social opportunities. This topic area examines the tools that are needed to ensure a barrier free environment for the hundreds of people in the world who are denied access simply because they may have a disability. In some respect, this area seeks out the ‘big picture’ replicable tool kits in various sectors and environments that give way to sustainable inclusive solutions to the numerous barriers human beings face.

We are seeking proposals in the following areas:

Tools for:
- Inclusive community engagement in museums and other cultural activities;
- Closing the financial inclusion gap for persons with disabilities;
- Increasing participation in decision-making arenas -political, economic, social, international development and aid and other processes that affect positively or negatively, people with disabilities;
- Supporting human self-determination to chart or co-create the journeys in their lives.

Tools that:
- Strengthen access in transportation; travel and leisure, fitness and health clubs, and freedoms to work and live freely in society;
- Foster digital inclusion and accessibility in all realms of the online world;
- Facilitate inclusion through access to technology and assistive technologies in the home, classroom and in the community;
- Increase leadership opportunities for those human beings on the margins;
- Enhance inclusive, barrier free teaching and learning in the classroom;
- Support access to people in housing, the built and urban environments;
- Provide access to social, economic and legal protections;
- Assess the success or failure of systems designed to include all human beings in various sectors and environments.

If you have a proposal that may not fit in to the above targets, we will welcome them as part of our discussion. We welcome proposals in any presentation format. We are especially looking for hands-on workshops.
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 more information about this topic area, please contact the Conference Team at 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 at (808) 956-8816, fax (808) 956-4437 or email prreg@hawaii.edu.