EXPLORATION: INTERSECTIONALITIES AND DIVERSITY Topic Area

The road to inclusion may be an intersection between different and converging identities, frameworks and practical applications but in many areas of daily living, including the workforce, the true nature and potential of diversity has not been realized. A zoom lends on single axis attributes of human beings has trumped a more complex view of human beings, one that focus on conventional delineations and, at times, silences other multiple identities. When we think of inclusion, we also tend to simplify; we need to engage in deep dialogues and create communities that are fluid, influenced by the rich understanding and practice of the multidimensionality of difference. Implicit demands for conformity in all areas of living, may suffocate true diversity, perpetuating silence, defense and more exclusion. We need to think differently if we want true diversity, equity and justice in the world.

Class, gender, race, disability, religion, and sexuality are aspects of identity that intersect with each other, forming undercurrents and strengthening systems of multiple discriminations. For marginalized peoples, these multiple forms of discrimination kill the mind, body and soul, where diversity remains a plucked word from the feel good tree.

This topic area wants to advance diversity through the framework of intersectionalities, difference and inclusion. We are interested in the following areas of discussion:

- Theories of how different types of discrimination and oppression interact with each other;
- How intersectionality can be used as a tool for advocacy, analysis and policy development;
- The ways in which diversity can be advanced through a framework of intersectionality;
- Explorations of power and inequality especially as it relates to persons with disabilities;
- Advances in the disability field as it relates to intersectionality;
- Approaches to intersectionality in equality and diversity research and practice;
- Leadership for increasingly diverse settings;
- Diversity practice in higher education;
- How complexity and diversity is being explored in corporate and non profit sectors including civil society as a whole;
- New trends in the workforce as it relates to diversity and inclusivity of all identities, including disability;
- The intersections of indigeneity/native peoples/indigenous peoples and disability;
- Scholarship and application on human diversity and the meaning of difference.
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.