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Education

December 2014	Ph.D.	English, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa.
		Specializations: Hawai‘i-related Literature from the Hawaiian Kingdom and Territorial Eras, Translation (Theory and Practice), Folklore Studies, and Indigenous Theories and Methodologies.
		Dissertation: “Facing the Spear of Change: The Life and Legacy of Ioane Kaniakama Papa ‘Ī‘ī.” Chair: Craig Howes. ‘Ī‘ī was an important figure in 19th-century Hawai‘i; his life narrative provides the context for a deeper understanding of Hawaiian history, culture, and religion.
August 2010	M.A.	Hawaiian Language, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
June 2007	B.A.	Anthropology, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, with distinction
June 2007	B.A.	Hawaiian Language, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, with distinction

Research Interests

Nineteenth- and twentieth-century Hawai‘i history and literature (belief-narratives, life-writing, historical treatises) in Hawaiian or English, the politics of translation; settler politics and race-based rhetoric regarding Hawaiians; Indigenous theories and methods for the study of culture, literature, and religion; Hawaiian and other Polynesian religions; North American and Pacific Indigenous life-writing, belief narratives, and fiction.

Languages

English: advanced proficiency

Hawaiian: advanced proficiency

Italian: advanced proficiency

French: advanced reading proficiency

Translation

In addition to the translation work I do for my scholarly publications, I regularly translate Hawaiian-language materials from nineteenth- and twentieth-century Hawaiian newspapers and other primary Hawaiian-language sources for my classes for reading materials for my students.

August 2020

I am the President, Editor-in-Chief, and Executive Translator for Mo‘o Momona Press, which I established to provide an Indigenous-run publishing venue for my English translations of Hawaiian mo‘olelo, and for other Indigenous scholars seeking an scholarly alternative to university presses.

July–November 2011

Translator under Dr. M. Puakea Nogelmeier for the HUIINA (Hui Unuhi I Nā ‘Atikala) project, which entailed translating a selection of nineteenth-century Hawaiian-language newspapers just before and after the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom in 1893.

June 2011

John Clark used an excerpt from my translation of ‘Ī‘ī’s account of Puna‘aikoa‘e in his *Hawaiian Surfing: Traditions from the Past*. ‘Ī‘ī was once a kahu (guardian/attendant) for Kihawahine, one of

Kamehameha I's powerful war deities. 'Ī'ī tells this story to account for the appearance of two images representing the female deities Kihawahine and Haumea. These images were used in closing rites of the larger complex of ceremonies performed to dedicate a luakini (a religious structure related to war and politics).

November 2008

Translator under Dr. M. Puakea Nogelmeier for the Awaiaulu Hawaiian Literature Project, which entailed translating articles from nineteenth-century Hawaiian-language newspapers.

Professional Positions

August 2013–Present

Associate Professor Religion Department, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Nine-month instructional faculty includes teaching, research, and service. Specialist in Hawaiian religion.

November 2020–Present

Affiliate Faculty for Women's Studies, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

August 2019

I received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor.

August 2015–Present

Affiliate Faculty for Indigenous Politics, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Professional Publications

Books

2023–2024

The Hawaiian Studies Manual of Style: Guidelines for Working with Hawaiian-Language Resources. University of Hawai'i Press.

2022

Ka Po'e Mo'ō: Hawaiian Reptilian Water Deities.

University of Hawai‘i Press.

October 2019

A Penguin Book of Mermaids. Coeditor with Cristina Bacchilega. Penguin Classics.

May 2016

Facing the Spears of Change: The Life and Legacy of John Papa ‘Ī‘ī. University of Hawai‘i Press.

Journal Articles

Forthcoming,
Spring 2022

“Mana-festing on the Slopes of a Sacred Mountain: the Resurgence of Ho‘omana at Mauna Kea.” *American Religion* 3.2 (Spring 2022).

Forthcoming,
Spring 2021

“Ua Lawa Mākou i ka Pōhaku, i ka ‘Ai Kamaha‘o o ka ‘Āina: A Decolonial Approach to the Study of Hawaiian Religion.” Special Issue: “Critical Understandings of Religion in Higher Education. Eds., Sachi Edwards, J. T. Snipes, and Lisa Davidson for *Educational Studies*.

August 2016

“Mauna Kea: Ho‘omana Hawai‘i and Protecting the Sacred.” Special Issue: *Indigenous Knowledge, Spiritualities, and Science*, Ed. Robin M. Wright, for *The Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture* 10.2 (August 2016): 155–169.

August 2014

“Mourning the Land: *Kanikau* in *Noho Hewa: The Wrongful Occupation of Hawai‘i*.” *American Indian Quarterly* 38.3 (Summer 2014): 374–395.

Book Chapters

April 2019

“The Politics and Poetics of Märchen in Hawaiian-Language Newspapers.” *The Fairy Tale World*. Ed. Andrew Teverson. Routledge.

Book Entries

Forthcoming, 2022

“Do Hawaiian religious practices have any political significance?” *Indigenous Religious Traditions in 5 Minutes*. Ed. Natalie Avalos and Molly Bassett. Equinox Press.

Forthcoming, 2022

“What are ancestor spirits and what role do they play in Hawaiian religious life?” *Indigenous Religious Traditions in 5 Minutes*. Ed. Natalie Avalos and Molly Bassett. Equinox Press.

Foreword

March 2019

The Past Before Us: Mo‘okū‘auhau as Methodology. Ed. Nālani Wilson-Hokowhitu. University of Hawai‘i Press.

Magazines

Forthcoming,
Fall 2021

“Embodiment of Water’s Life-Giving and Death-Dealing Qualities: Hawaiian Reptilian Water Deities.” *Cunning Folk*.

Book Reviews

September 2016

Review of *Voices of Fire: Reweaving the Literary Lei of Pele and Hi‘iaka* by ku‘ualoha ho‘omanawanui (2014) for *The Contemporary Pacific: A Journal of Island Affairs* 28.2 (2016): 502–505.

Professional Honors

Book Award

Ka Palapala Po‘okela Biennial Award 2016–2017. *Facing the Spears of Change: The Life and Legacy of John Papa ‘Ī‘ī* was awarded the Best Book for

the Hawaiian Language, Culture, and History Category.

Doctoral Fellowships

Mellon-Hawai'i Doctoral Fellow: September 2012–June 2013.

DoRa 5 Grant Doctoral Fellowship: May 2013 – June 2013. European Fellowship: Folklore Department at Tartu University, Estonia. Tartu sponsor: Dr. Ulö Valk. UH Mānoa sponsors: Dr. Cristina Bacchilega and Dr. Craig Howes.

Professional Merit

Nominated for an Excellence in Teaching Award for 2016–2017 and for 2018–2019.

Refereed Paper Presentations

International

2018

Panel Accepted and Presented: International Society for Folk Narrative Research Conference in Ragusa, Italy. Paper: “The Fairy Tale in Hawai'i—Märchen in Hawaiian-Language Journalism, 1834–1946.” Panel: “Cultural Exchange and Canonicity: Rethinking the Fairy Tale Canon through Regions of Intense Cultural Exchange.” Chair and Convener: Andrew Teverson, Kingston University. Panelists: Marie Alohalani Brown, Ulrich Marzolph, Donald Haase, and Cristina Bacchilega. Dr. Teverson read my paper. (June 12-16)

2015

Panel Accepted: “The Poetics and Traditional Genres of Kanaka Maoli (Hawaiian) Strategies for Recording and Celebrating Lives: Process and Issues in Researching, Interpreting, and Recording the Lives of Nineteenth- and Twentieth-century Kānaka Maoli.” Panel: “Process and Issues in Researching, Interpreting, and Recording the Lives

of Nineteenth- and Twentieth-century Kānaka Maoli (Hawaiians).” International Auto/Biography Association (IABA): “Locating Lives: The Inaugural Conference for the Asia-Pacific Chapter” in Adelaide, Australia. (December 1–4, 2015)

2013

Paper Accepted and Presented: “Othering, Silencing, and Discourse of Sufficiency: Fragmenting the Life and Contributions of John Papa ‘Ī‘ī.” Panel: “Reading Native Intellectuals, Hawai‘i and Ojibwe.” Native American & Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) in Saskatchewan, Canada. (June 13–15)

Paper Accepted: “Fishwives, Queens, and the Not-So- Happily-Ever-After: Reflection on a Nineteenth- Century Hawaiian-Language Translation of ‘The Fisherman and His Wife.’” International Society for Folklore Narrative Research (ISFNR). (June 25– 30)

2012

Paper Accepted and Presented: “Here be Dragons: Supernatural Encounters with Mo‘o Deities in Legendary Hawai‘i.” 6th Nordic-Celtic- Baltic Folklore Symposium “Supernatural Places” in Tartu, Estonia. (June 4–7)

National

2018

Paper Accepted: Native American & Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) in Los Angeles (May 14–19): “Question, Coopt, and Replace: Settler Shapeshifting Tactics to Undermine Protectors’ Religious Claims in the Mauna Kea Contested Case.” Panel: “S/Citing the Sacred in Law.” Panel: Presider: Angela Riley, U.C.L.A. Law School. Panelists: Kristen Carpenter, Marie Alohalani Brown, Michael D. McNally, and Greg Johnson.

2014

Paper Accepted and Presented: “*Kanikau* in *Noho*

Hewa: The Wrongful Occupation of Hawai'i."

Modern Language Association (MLA) in Chicago
Panel: "Native American Memoir in the West:
Historical Trauma and Healing." Panel co-
sponsored by the Association for the study of
American Indian Literatures (ASAIL) and the
Western Literature Association (WLA). (January
2014)

2012

Paper Accepted and Presented: "Ka Po'e Mo'o."
Presented twice: once in English and once in
Hawaiian. 'Aha Wahine Kuhinapapa Conference,
O'ahu, Hawai'i. (August 17–18)

Paper Accepted and Presented: "Politics of
Translation in 19th-Century Hawai'i: Fairy Tales
Are Not Just Bedtime Stories." First Annual
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Indigenous Studies
Student Conference – Ola Nā Iwi: Indigenous
Continuity. (April 12-14)

2011

Paper Accepted and Presented: Native American
Literature Symposium (NALS): "Water, Seduction
and Mana Wahine: Mo'o Deities Revisited."

Paper Accepted: Rocky Mountain Modern
Language Association (RMMLA): "Searching for
the Fragments of Ioane Papa 'Ī'Ī's Autobiographical
Voice."

2010

Paper Accepted and Presented: "Puna'aikoa'e:
Mo'o in Tradition and in Translation—What do
mo'o have to do with the politics of translation,
genre, and silencing the Hawaiian voice?" Pacific
Ancient and Modern Language Association
(PAMLA).

Invited Papers and Lectures

International

- 2019 Speaker on Hawaiian Indigenous Knowledge, Thought, and Spirituality. Chanie Wenjack School for Indigenous Studies at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario, Canada. (September 28–October 4)
- 2012 “Ka Po‘e Mo‘o: Hawaiian Reptilian Water Deities.” Folklore Department, University of Tartu, Estonia. (June 14)

National

- 2020 “Mana-festing on the Slopes of a Sacred Mountain: the Resurgence of Ho‘omana at Mauna Kea.” Institute for Advanced Study, University of Minnesota. (Sept. 17)
- 2018 “Ethnocentricity and Religious Bias—The Politics and Poetics of Märchen in Hawaiian Newspapers.” Department of Religion, Indiana University. (October 23)
- “Hawaiian Understandings of Death and the Afterlife.” Class Lecture for the Department of Religion, Indiana University. (October 22)
- 2017 **Keynote:** Mo‘o—Connections and Successions: A Hawaiian Librarianship Symposium. Keynote title: Mo‘o, Mo‘okū‘auhau, and Mo‘olelo as Models for Theorizing about Intellectual Production and Repositories of Knowledge.” (October 20).
- “Ho‘omana Hawai‘i and Ka Po‘e Mo‘o.” This talk on Hawaiian Religion and Hawaiian reptilian water

deities was for the Hawai‘i Aloha ‘Āina Education Series, organized by Kaho‘okahi Kanuha, for the community of Kona, Hawai‘i Island. (August 11)

2016

Lecture on John Papa ‘Ī‘ī for King Kamehameha V Judiciary History Center. (October 26)

Lecture on John Papa ‘Ī‘ī for the “Talk Story in the Library” series for the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo (October 21).

Lecture on the life of John Papa ‘Ī‘ī for Hawaiian Historical Society. (October 13)

Lecture on the life of John Papa ‘Ī‘ī for the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa English Department Brown Bag. (October 7)

“What is Mana?” for the Maui Arts and Cultural Center and the Hawai‘i Council for the Humanities. Kumu hula and educator Hōkūlani Holt-Padilla, who facilitated the discussion, invited me to participate in this panel, along with Rev. Kealahou Clifford Alike, pastor of Keawala‘i Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Maui, and Dr. Kamana‘opono Crabbe, CEO Office of Hawaiian Affairs. (March 20)

2015

“Facing the Spears of Change: The Life and Legacy of John Papa ‘Ī‘ī” for the Center for Biographical Research’s Brown Bag Biography Series at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. (November 19)

“The Roots Run Deep: Ho‘omana Hawai‘i and Protecting the Sacred” for the Indigenous Politics Brown Bag Lectures at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. (October 30)

Panelist for conference “Creating Futures Rooted in Wonder: Bridges between Indigenous, Science

Fiction, and Fairy Tale Studies” at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. (September 16–19)

2012

“Facing the Spears of Change: The Life and Legacy of John Papa ‘Ī‘Ī” for the Kohala Center for Mellon-Hawai‘i at the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort, Hawai‘i. (November 12)

“What is a Mo‘olelo?” for the ‘Aha Mo‘olelo Symposium, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. (October 18, 19)

“Othering, Silencing, and Discourse of Sufficiency: The Life and Legacy of John Papa ‘Ī‘Ī” for the ‘Aha Mo‘olelo Symposium, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. (October 18, 19)

Respondent for Dr. Chadwick Allen’s presentation of his book: *Trans-Indigenous Methodologies for Global Native Literary Studies* for the ‘Aha Mo‘olelo Symposium, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. (October 18, 19)

“Ka Po‘e Mo‘o: Hawaiian Reptilian Water Deities” for the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa English Department Colloquium. (March 22)

“Ka Po‘e Mo‘o Akua: Hawaiian Reptilian Water Deities” for the Kohala Center for the Puana Ka ‘Ike Series. (February 24)

“Ka Po‘e Mo‘o Akua: Hawaiian Reptilian Water Deities” for the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo for the Eia Hawai‘i Series. (February 23)

2011

“Kino Lau—Shifting Shapes and Legendary Lizard Deities” for the Pacific Series Lectures for the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, Hawai‘i. (August 2011)

Professional Service

Conference organization

Core member of the local host committee under the leadership of Dr. Hokulani Aikau for the Native American and Indigenous Studies conference at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, May 18–21, 2016.

Academic Journal Service

American Quarterly Editorial Board Member: three-year appointment (2017–2020). I took a hiatus during my sabbatical, and thus my appointment extends to Summer 2021.

External Advisory Committee Member for *Revista de Dioses y Hombres: Estudios sobre Religiones y Mitología / Journal of Gods and Men: Studies on Religions and Mythology*. (October 2018)

Peer Review

University of Hawai‘i Press. (2020)

Hūlili: Multidisciplinary Research on Hawaiian Well-Being. (2012, 2015)

Guest Lecturer

University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

Dr. Craig Howes invited me to lecture on my research and scholarship for his class on Hawaiian Literature in English (ENG 773), which introduces students to the non-fiction texts of the past one-hundred-and-fifty years and to the theory and scholarship that has contributed to making these texts, whether in translation or in Hawaiian, accessible and relevant in new and important ways. English Department, September 13, 2018.

Dr. Ku‘ualoha Ho‘omanawanui invited me to lecture on Hawaiian aesthetics as literary theory for her class “Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian) Ka Piko Palapala Hawai‘i: Foundations of Hawaiian Literature Seminar” (ENG 773), English Department, August 29, 2017.

Dr. Brandy Nālani McDougall invited me to discuss my book *Facing the Spears of Change: The Life and Legacy of John Papa ʻĪʻī* for her class on Indigenous Identity (AMST 620), American Studies Department, September 12, 2016.

Dr. Noenoe Silva invited me to discuss my book *Facing the Spears of Change: The Life and Legacy of John Papa ʻĪʻī* for her class on politics in Hawaiian news, (HAW 445 Na Politika Ma Ka Nuhou Hawaii), Indigenous Politics Department, April 27, 2016.

Dr. Georganne Nordstrom invited me to discuss indigenous methodologies and my experiences doing archival research for my book *Facing the Spears of Change: The Life and Legacy of John Papa ʻĪʻī* for her class on Research Methodologies in Composition and Rhetoric (ENG 705), English Department, February 16, 2016.

Dr. Forrest Young invited me to lecture on the continuity and dynamism of Hoʻomana Hawaiʻi and efforts to protect Mauna a Wākea for his Indigenous Politics section (POLS 304), Political Science Department, January 19, 2016.

Dr. Amanda Christie invited me to lecture on my article about Anne Keala Kelly's documentary Noho Hewa: The Wrongful Occupation of Hawaiʻi for her Pacific Literature section (ENG 272), English Department, on July 17, 2015.

Dr. Cristina Bacchilega invited me to lecture on Pele (volcanic deity) narratives for her Folklore and Oral Tradition section (ENG 380), English Department, March 17, 2015.

Dr. Daniel Harris-McCoy invited me to lecture on the Kumulipo (an important cosmogonic chant with more than 2,100 lines) for his World Myth section (LLEA 151), Languages and Literature of Europe and the Americas, December 1, 2014.

Dr. Cristina Bacchilega invited me to lecture on Hawaiian ghost stories for her Folklore and Oral Tradition section (ENG 380), English Department, May 19, 2013.

Department Service

Fall 2019–Present

Department Promotion Committee Chair

Spring 2019

Acting Chair

Spring 2016–Spring 2019

Undergraduate Chair

Spring 2014–Spring 2019

Curriculum Chair

Community Service

For the past decade (2011 to present), I have offered my services as a photographer to the ‘Ōiwi community to document our events and causes—whether political marches, religious gatherings, protests, conferences, demonstrations, testimonies, poetry readings, or celebrations—taking thousands of photos and distributing them for free through social media networks, and to scholars who request them for their publications or classroom instruction.

On occasion, I offer my research and translation services free of charge to Hawaiian projects that further the wellbeing of our community.

I have offered expert testimony on Hawaiian religious practices for the Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation (April 2016, August 2017).

The Culture Education team at the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum Education Department invited me to meet with them on June 4, 2014 regarding my expertise on mo‘o deities to ask for my feedback on a screenplay they were writing named *Kū Ā Mo‘o* in conjunction with the Honolulu Theatre for Youth. The play opened on October 17, 2014.

International University Collaboration

I participated in the Mount Royal University Indigenous Hawai‘i Field School in June 2018, which was organized by Dr. Renae Watchman (Mount Royal University, Canada) and Dr. Robert Innes (University of Saskatchewan, Canada).

I lectured on Hawaiian religion to thirty visiting students from Taisho University (Tokyo, Japan) on February 18, 2015.

Honor Societies

Member of the selection committee for candidates for the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Phi Beta Kappa Chapter on one occasion, and twice offered a welcoming chant in Hawaiian for the induction ceremony.

Professional Development

Workshops on Hawaiian Religion

Edith Kanaka‘ole Foundation Papakū Makawalu workshop on the god Kū: Jan. 25–26, 2014.

Edith Kanaka‘ole Foundation Papakū Makawalu workshop on the god Māui: Feb. 16–17, 2013.

Edith Kanaka‘ole Foundation Papakū Makawalu workshop for Mellon-Hawai‘i Fellows on the god Hina: July 20, 2012.

Edith Kanaka‘ole Foundation Papakū Makawalu workshop on the god Lono: Feb.18–19, 2012.

Edith Kanaka‘ole Foundation Ki‘i Makawalu workshop Hawaiian understanding of the environment: Nov. 11–13, 2011.

Edith Kanaka‘ole Foundation Papakū Makawalu workshop on the god Haumea: Feb. 11–13, 2011.

Classes Taught

August 2013–Spring 2021

REL 205 Understanding Hawaiian Religion
I teach this foundational course every semester.

REL 300 The Study of Religion

Fall 2017

Fall 2016

REL 390 Hawaiian Gods

Fall 2014

Spring 2013

REL 492 Polynesian Religions

Spring 2017: Writing-Intensive (WI) and Hawai‘i-Asia-Pacific (HAP) focuses.

Spring 2016: WI and HAP focuses

REL 495 Seminar in Religion

Fall 2020: Water deities

Fall 2018: Mo‘o deities

Fall 2015: Deities–forms/functions

Spring 2015: Mo‘o deities

Fall 2014: Mo‘o deities

REL 663C Topics in Hawaiian Religion

Spring 2021: Religion-related topics in Ho‘oulumāhiehie’s epic account of Ha‘inākolo

Fall 2019: Hawaiian Understandings of the Sacred

Spring 2015: Survey of Hawaiian Religion

Fall 2015: Ho‘omana & Protecting the Sacred

REL 663B Topics in Polynesian Religions

Spring 2018: Mana

REL 625 Applied Methods in the Study of Religion

Fall 2016

January–May 2020

Sabbatical.