

For Immediate Release

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Native Hawaiian academic fellowship program accepting applications *Doctoral and postdoctoral scholars committed to advancement of Hawaiian knowledge encouraged to apply*

KAMUELA, Hawai‘i—January 8, 2013—The Mellon-Hawai‘i Doctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowship Program is now accepting applications for the 2013-14 academic year. More information and application materials are available online at <http://kohalacenter.org/mellon/about.html>. The application deadline is February 25.

Entering its sixth year, the Mellon-Hawai‘i fellowship program was established in 2008 for Native Hawaiian scholars early in their academic careers and others who are committed to the advancement of knowledge about the Hawaiian natural and cultural environment, Hawaiian history, politics, and society. The program is supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and Kamehameha Schools, and administered by The Kohala Center. The Kahiau Foundation joined in support in the academic years 2010-2011 and 2012-2013.

Applicants accepted to the program as doctoral fellows receive \$40,000 in support to complete their dissertations before accepting their first academic posts. Postdoctoral fellows receive \$50,000 in support to publish original research early in their academic careers. In addition, the program provides fellows with opportunities to prepare presentations of their research; network with community leaders, mentors, and previous fellows; and meet academic publishers who may be interested in their work.

“Each year, we are increasingly impressed with the caliber of the scholars applying to this program from Hawai‘i, the U.S. mainland, the Pacific, and even from Europe,” said Dr. Matthews Hamabata, executive director of The Kohala Center. “The Mellon-Hawai‘i Fellowship Program is recognized as a prestigious opportunity that supports and promotes exceptional, vital research being conducted by Hawai‘i’s emerging intellectual leaders. We are honored to support the development of new knowledge from Hawai‘i—for Hawai‘i and the world.”

The current cohort of fellows includes Marie Alohalani Brown, doctoral candidate in the department of English at University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (UH-Mānoa); Kaipo Perez III, doctoral candidate in zoology with a focus in marine ecology at UH-Mānoa; and postdoctoral fellow Dr. Katrina-Ann R. Kapā‘anaokalāokeola Oliveira, who earned her Ph.D. in geography from UH-Mānoa in 2006 and currently serves as an assistant professor at the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language at UH-Mānoa.

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“The sense of aloha and generosity of the people who comprise the Mellon-Hawai‘i *‘ohana* (family) reminds me that I am not alone in my academic pursuits, and that I have a network of support I can reach out to if and when needed,” Brown said. “All of the mentorship and support I receive through this program will be passed on to my students, and so I continue the mentorship and intellectual genealogy of those who have gone before me.”

Since its inception, 20 doctoral and postdoctoral scholars have been accepted to the program, with many subsequently receiving academic appointments or offers to have their manuscripts published. Some of the program’s alumni include:

- 2008–2009 postdoctoral fellow Kamanamaikalani Beamer, appointed as an assistant professor in the Hui ‘Āina Momona Program of the Hawai‘inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge and Richardson School of Law at UH-Mānoa;
- 2009–2010 postdoctoral fellow Ku‘ualoha Ho‘omanawanui, promoted by UH-Mānoa to the position of associate professor of English with tenure;
- 2010–2011 postdoctoral fellow Leilani Basham, promoted by UH-West O‘ahu to the position of associate professor with tenure in the Hawaiian-Pacific Studies Program;
- 2008–2009 postdoctoral fellow Sydney Iaukea, who published her book, *The Queen and I: A Story of Dispossession and Reconnections in Hawai‘i*, with the University of California Press;
- 2011–2012 postdoctoral fellow ‘ŌiwiHawai‘iokalani Parker Jones, whose manuscript, *Hawaiian Phonology and Morphology*, is currently under review at Oxford University Press;

Award notifications will be made by April 19. For more information about the fellowship program or to apply, visit <http://kohalacenter.org/mellon/about.html> or contact Cortney Hoffman at choffman@kohalacenter.org or (808) 887-6411.

About The Kohala Center

The Kohala Center (<http://www.kohalacenter.org>) is an independent, community-based center for research, education, and conservation. The Center was established in direct response to the request of island residents to create greater educational and employment opportunities by enhancing—and celebrating—Hawai‘i’s spectacular natural and cultural landscapes.