

For Immediate Release

Contact: Janis Wong, media relations
The Kohala Center
jwong@kohalacenter.org
direct: 808-325-1114, office: 808-887-6411

Fellowships for Native Hawaiian scholars

KAMUELA, Hawaii—December 29, 2008—The Mellon-Hawaii Doctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowship Program provides Native Hawaiian scholars the opportunity to complete their dissertations or to publish original research. Applications for the 2009-2010 fellowship program are being accepted by The Kohala Center.

The Mellon-Hawaii Doctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowship Program supports Native Hawaiian scholars who are early in their academic careers and others who are committed to the advancement of scholarship on Hawaiian cultural and natural environments, Hawaiian history, politics and society.

The program is supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and Kamehameha Schools. Postdoctoral fellowships of \$50,000 each and doctoral fellowships of \$40,000 each will be awarded to successful candidates for the academic year September 2009 through June 2010.

The program allows doctoral fellows to complete their dissertations before accepting their first academic posts, and postdoctoral fellows have the opportunity to publish original research early in their academic careers.

Native Hawaiian scholars who are Ph.D. candidates or who have earned a Ph.D. in any field in the arts and sciences are eligible to apply. Preference is given to those

- who demonstrate scholarly and leadership promise;
- whose research involves the Hawaiian natural or cultural environment, or Hawaiian history, politics, and society;
- who have had a history of service to the Hawaiian community and to society as a whole; and
- who reside in Hawaii or whose research requires extended periods of time in Hawaii.

Native Hawaiian scholars in any residential or external degree program of a fully accredited U.S.-based institution, or institutions abroad, are eligible.

Applications must be postmarked or hand-delivered by 5 p.m. Monday, February 23, 2009. Mail to The Kohala Center, Mellon-Hawaii Fellowship Program, P.O. Box 437462, Kamuela, Hawaii 96743. Hand-deliver to The Kohala Center, 65-1291A Kawaihae Road, Kamuela, Hawaii 96743.

For application information and forms, visit <http://www.kohalacenter.org/mellonapp.html>, e-mail info@kohalacenter.org or call The Kohala Center at 808-887-6411.

- more -

Contact: Janis Wong, media relations
The Kohala Center
jwong@kohalacenter.org
direct: 808-325-1114, office: 808-887-6411

The Kohala Center is assisted in selecting successful candidates for the Mellon-Hawaii Fellowship by Robert Lindsey Jr, Dr. Shawn Kana'iaupuni, Dr. Dennis Gonsalves, Dr. Pualani Kanahele, and Dr. James Kauahikaua.

This is the second year fellowships will be awarded. Doctoral Fellows for 2008-2009 are Noelani Arista, Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History at Brandeis University, and Nanette Nalani Sing, Ph.D. candidate in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in educational leadership/systems from Union Institute & University in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The postdoctoral fellowships were awarded in 2008-2009 to B. Kamanamaikalani Beamer, Ph.D. in geography from the University of Hawaii at Manoa; Sydney L. Iaukea, Ph.D. in political science from the University of Hawaii at Manoa; and Kathleen L. Kawelu, Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of California at Berkeley, May 2007.

David C. Engerman, associate professor of History at Brandeis University and advisor to Noelani Arista, said, "Even in its first year, the Mellon-Hawaii program has established its importance--no, centrality--to intellectual life on the islands."

The Kohala Center is an independent, not-for-profit center for research and education *about* and *for* the environment. By respectfully engaging Hawaii Island as the world's most vibrant classroom and laboratory for humanity, The Kohala Center builds teaching and research programs that enhance island environments, serve island communities, and advance the work of the academy. The Kohala Center operates in partnership with local, national, and international research and educational institutions. Among its current project partners are Hawaii Community College, the Edith Kanakaole Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Kamehameha Schools, the University of Hawaii, Brown University, Cornell University, the Redlands Institute, the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies at Yale University, the University of California at Santa Barbara, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. See www.kohalacenter.org.