

RESUME

Margarita Leyson Hopkins

[Redacted contact information]

Education

<u>School</u>	<u>Major Field(s)</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Degree</u>
St. Joseph College	Accounting	[Redacted]	B.S.
Xavier University	Ag. Economics		M.S.
Auburn University	Ag. Econ. & Fisheries		-
Oregon St. Univ.	Ag. Economics		

All coursework for a Ph.D. from OSU was completed but my family and I moved to Hawaii before I could complete the research.

Specialized Training

Advanced Facilitation Workshop, Seattle, Washington, [Redacted]  
Agriculture Leadership Foundation Training, [Redacted]

Professional Experience

**Lecturer, College of Business and Economics, University of Hawaii at Hilo, Hilo, Hawaii.** [Redacted] to 2016 (but not every semester). Taught undergraduate courses in Economics, microeconomics, macroeconomics and the Hawaiian economy.

**Lecturer, College of Agriculture, Forestry & Natural Resources Management, University of Hawaii at Hilo, Hilo, Hawaii.** [Redacted] to 2017. Taught undergraduate courses in Farm Management and Agricultural Economics.

**Agriculture Disaster Assistance Coordinator** - A 90 days hire, started September 2, 2014 to November 30, 2014. Assist in the coordination of recovery efforts for the agriculture industry negatively affected by Hurricane Iselle, i.e. direct outreach to claimants and develop agriculture post-disaster preparedness initiative plan.

**Professional Experience (continued)**

**Economic Development Specialist, Department of Research and Development, County of Hawaii**, Hilo, Hawaii, USA. May [REDACTED] to December [REDACTED], December 2000 to June 2012. Duties have included:

- Preparation and update of County agricultural development plan;
- Evaluation and funding of agricultural research, education and marketing projects;
- Revision of agricultural sections in the Hawaii County tax code and General Plan;
- Development of a branded promotional program for Big Island products;
- Coordination and facilitation of dialog between agricultural commodity groups, government and private entities;
- Establishment of a County-based agriculture conservation program in cooperation with Big Island RC&D and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service;

**Director of Research and Development, County of Hawaii**, Hilo, Hawaii, USA. January to December 2000. I was responsible for the management and supervision of the Department and all of its employees, contractors, and grantees. The Department's areas of emphasis were economic development including enterprise zones, agriculture, aquaculture and forestry, enhancement of tourism, film, energy conservation within County government, and provision of information services to other County Departments. With a change in administration after the 2000 election, I returned to my Economic Development Specialist position (see above)

**Marketing Specialist/Economist, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research**, Salmiya, Kuwait. September [REDACTED]. Conducted research on the economics of the Kuwait fishing fleet and the feasibility of aquaculture in Kuwait. Particular emphasis was given to development of markets for aquaculture products.

**Assistant Professor, Department of Agri-Management, Central Luzon State University**, Nueva Ecija, Philippines. April to November [REDACTED]. Taught undergraduate courses in agricultural marketing.

**Staff Associate, International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management**, MCC P.O. Box 1501, Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines. February [REDACTED] to December [REDACTED]. Conducted research on the economics of integrated livestock-fish systems.

**Research Associate, Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures, Auburn University**, Auburn, Alabama. January [REDACTED] to August [REDACTED]. Designed and conducted research projects on the marketing of aquaculture products, trained international students and Peace Corps volunteers in the economics of aquaculture, and assisted in the supervision of graduate student research on fisheries and aquaculture economics. Developed the first markets for cultured tilapia in the U.S.A.

### **Professional Experience (continued)**

**Agricultural Economist, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources**, Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines. April to August [REDACTED]. Designed and conducted a survey of marketing practices of fishermen, fish dealers, processors and fishpond operators. Supervised the activities of five interviewers.

**Language Instructor - Peace Corps Philippines.** [REDACTED]. Taught Cebuano Language to U.S. Peace Corps Volunteers.

### **Public/Community Service**

Board Member - Agribusiness Development Corporation - October 2014 - present

East HI Liaison – Diocesan Planning & Building Commission – Feb 2013 – present

Member – Pacific West Area Institutional Biosafety Committee – March 2013 - present

Member – Big Island Resource Conservation & Development Council, 2000 – present

Member – Language Access Advisory Council – June 2012 – October 2015

Vice Chair - St. Joseph School Board, January 2010 - December 2014

Member – Hawaii Forest Stewardship Advisory Committee, 2004 – 2012

Public Member, Real Estate Appraisers Advisory Committee, [REDACTED]

Public Member, Board of Examiners in Optometry, [REDACTED]

Board Member, American Lung Association of Hawaii, [REDACTED]

Member, Hawaii Sea Grant Advisory Committee, 1999 - 2004

Representative, Hawaii Central Committee, Democratic Party – 2004-2006

Secretary - St. Joseph Parish Finance Committee, 2004- 2007

Treasurer – St. Joseph School Parent and Teachers Guild – 2006-2007

Steward – HGEA BU 13, Hawaii County R&D, 2005 - 2012

President, Congress of Visayan Organizations, 2005-2009

President, Filipino Chamber of Commerce, Big Island Chapter, 2000 - 2002

Board of Governors, Congress of Visayan Organizations, [REDACTED]

President, Big Island Filipino Community Council, 1999 - 2000

1st Vice President, Big Island Filipino Community Council, [REDACTED]

President, Hilo Visayan Club, [REDACTED], 2000 - 2004, 2016 - present

Referee and coach, American Youth Soccer Organization, [REDACTED] - 2008

### **Publications and Reports**

Author or co-author of six papers in international journals and symposia proceedings, two book chapters, four miscellaneous published articles and four unpublished technical reports.

### **Awards**

UH-Hilo & HCC Filipino Advisory Committee - 2009 Outstanding Community Leaders Award

United Filipino Council of Hawaii 2008 Progress Award – Government Service

Congress of Visayan Organizations 2004 Lapu-Lapu Award - Community Service

Hawaii Export Nursery Association – 2007 Hall of Fame

Hawaii Florists & Shippers Association – Service Award

Hawaii Papaya Industry Association - 2013 HPIA Honoree

### **Language Proficiencies**

English - excellent written and verbal abilities

Cebuano Visayan (a Philippines dialect) - native language

Tagalog (Philippines national language) - excellent written and verbal abilities

Spanish - good written and verbal comprehension

**Citizenship:** USA

Other information available upon request.