

EMPLOYMENT

PRESIDENT and CEO, 2012 to Present

Effective Planning and Innovative Communication (EPIC), Inc. dba EPIC 'Ohana

Responsible for the management, leadership and direction of EPIC 'Ohana. Contracts include Ohana Conferencing, Youth Circles, Ohana Finding and Connections, Hawai'i Youth Opportunities Initiative (HI HOPES), Hawaii Youth Advisory Council, and Family Wrap Hawai'i Wraparound Services. Manage an annual budget of 5.6 million dollars, 95 full and part time employees in every county, and offices in Hilo and Honolulu. EPIC 'Ohana is the backbone organization for a network of more than 40 agencies including Lili'uokalani Trust and Kamehameha Schools to improve outcomes for native Hawaiian children in the child welfare system.

LECTURER, 2012 to 2014, 2019

William S. Richardson School of Law, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Instructor, Family Law, Children and the Law, Second Year Seminar, Higher Education Law, and Lawyering Skills

DIRECTOR OF CHILD WELFARE PROJECTS, 2005 to 2012

William S. Richardson School of Law, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Principal Investigator of Child Welfare and Family Court projects. Instructor for Lawyering Skills and Second Year Seminar. Projects include an evaluation of the Family Court Volunteer Guardian ad Litem program (CASA) with recommendations for improvement that are currently being implemented, judicial and attorney training programs, and supporting the Wrap Services initiative. Other projects include developing the Zero to Three Court, O'ahu Child Welfare Mediation Program, and staffing the commission to re-write the state child welfare statutes.

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR STUDENT SERVICES, 1999 to 2011

William S. Richardson School of Law, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Assistant Dean for Student Services 1999 to 2007, promoted to Associate Dean in 2007. Responsible for all aspects of student life including community building, admissions, registration, career services, academic assistance and personal and academic counseling. Supervise professional staff members including the

Registrar, Director of Part Time Programs, Director of Career Services, Financial Aid Officer and Student Services Specialists. Principal Investigator of Child Welfare and Family Court projects. Taught Administrative Law, Family Law, Children and the Law. Co-developed Child Welfare Clinic.

KIDS FIRST COORDINATOR, 1995 TO 1999
Family Court of the First Circuit, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Managed the divorce education program and custody dispute resolution and education related programs for the First Circuit Family Court serving the entire island of O'ahu. Co-founded the Kids First program as a volunteer coordinator in 1995 and served as volunteer coordinator until 1998.

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, 1997 TO 1999
William S. Richardson School of Law, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Instructor, Family Law Clinic

INSTRUCTOR, 1997 TO 1999
Kapi'olani Community College, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Instructor, Business Law

COORDINATOR, 1996 TO 2000; Project Manager, 2010- 2012
EPIC 'Ohana, Honolulu, Hawai'i

As a founder, board member and part time staff member, remained actively involved in 'Ohana Conferencing and the development of programs for EPIC 'Ohana. In 2010, assisted as an on-call staff member to oversee EPIC's role in a federal Family Connections grant.

RESEARCH ANALYST, 1997 TO 1998
Hawai'i State Judiciary, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Research and policy analysis at the Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution, a part of the Administrative Directors office of the Hawai'i State Judiciary.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, 1994 TO 1997
William S. Richardson School of Law, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Full Time non-tenure track position. Developed, administered and instructed the Family Law Clinic. Also taught Administrative Law, Legal Methods Seminar, Native Hawaiian Rights Clinic.

LAW CLERK, 1992 TO 1994
Family Court, First Circuit, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Served on the staff of the senior judge of family court, Frances Wong, as program

developer. Developed, implemented and administered a mediation program in child abuse and neglect cases and Kids First, a divorce education program.

OWNER, OFFICER, 1984 to 2000

School Kine Cookies, Inc., Honolulu, Hawai'i

PRIVATE PRACTICE, 1984 TO 1992

Waipahu, Hawai'i

ASSOCIATE, 1980 TO 1983

Oliver, Cuskaden and Lee, Honolulu, Hawai'i

EDUCATION

PH.D Education Policy

University of Hawai'i, College of Education

Dissertation: The Ulu Lehua Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law, Policy Context and Lived Experience, a Phenomenological Case Study.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ADMINISTRATION

Central Michigan University Hawai'i Campus, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Concentration in public administration. Thesis topic: An evaluation of the Child Welfare Mediation Program at the First Circuit Family Court.

JURIS DOCTOR

William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Member of the editorial staff of the first issue of the University of Hawai'i Law Review. Externship with Federal Judge Samuel P. King.

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington

Sociology and Psychology. Cum Laude with Honors in Sociology.

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Waipahu High School

OTHER RELEVANT TRAINING

Trauma Effective Leadership Certificate, University of Minnesota School of Social Work, 2019

Fellow, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, Georgetown University. Certificate in Multi-System Integration in Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare, 2014

Design Thinking for Innovative Problem Solving Darden Executive Education, University of Virginia, 2014

AWARDS

- Casey Excellence for Children Leadership Award, 2021
- William S. Richardson School of Law, Alumna of the Year, 2011
- Hawai'i Women Lawyers, Distinguished Service Award, 2007
- Adjunct Professor of the Year, William S. Richardson School of Law, 1999
- Rhoda Lewis Award for Community Service, Hawai'i Women Lawyers Foundation, 1998
- Niu Award, Hawai'i Lawyers Care, 1997 (on behalf of the William S. Richardson School of Law Family Law Clinic)
- Co-Recipient with Stephanie Rezens of the Golden Gavel Award, Hawai'i State Bar Association, 1995
- Niu Award, Hawai'i Lawyers Care, 1995

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Children's Trust Fund Statewide Coalition, 2019 to present
- Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution, Advisory Board, 2019 to present
- Volunteer Mediator, Mediation Center of the Pacific, 2017 to present
- Assistant Coach – William S. Richardson School of Law, Client Counseling Competition Team, 1996 to Present
- Officer and Board Member - EPIC 'Ohana Conferencing, 1998 to 2012
- Board Member, Membership Co-Chair, Hawai'i Women Lawyers, 2009 to 2016
- Board Member, Volunteer Legal Services, 2013 to 2016
- Corresponding Secretary, William S. Richardson School of Law Alumni Association, 2013 to 2015
- Member, Hawai'i State Bar Association Civic Education Committee, 2010 to 2012
- Governing Council Member, Project Ke Ala Hou, Department of Health, 2010 to 2013
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