

Leslie Ka'iu Kimura
Curriculum Vitae



Professional Preparation

University of Hawai'i – Hilo

Current – ABD

Doctoral Candidate: Indigenous Language

2009

Master of Arts: Hawaiian Language and Literature

2000

Bachelor of Arts: Hawaiian Studies

Stanford University, Palo Alto

2006

First Nations' Futures Institute Certificate
Woods Institute for the Environment

University of Waikato, New Zealand

2000

International Indigenous Exchange Program

Kamehameha Schools – Kapālama

1996

High School Diploma

Professional Appointments

'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

2010 – *present* Executive Director. Provides visionary leadership and direction in implementing the mission of 'Imiloa; oversees all aspects of the science center's planetarium, exhibit hall, visitor services, marketing, development, educational outreach, and community, national and international partnerships. Advocates for the Center's mission that includes community engagement, and in particular, transformation of scientific engagement for community advancement.

2009

Interim Executive Director

2007-2009

Associate Director. Responsible for all visitor experiences as well as planetarium, educational, exhibit, cultural and cultural landscape programming; created partnership opportunities with local and community organizations, and national and international entities.

2007

Experience Coordinator. Set the vision for 'Imiloa as gifted by Senator Daniel K. Inouye; conducted outreach and concept sharing with other science centers nationally and internationally; assisted local astronomers and observatories with the integration of their work with the Native community through 'Imiloa.

- 2006 Hawaiian Curriculum Coordinator. Established educational programs and curriculum in support of the mission of 'Imiloa.
- 2001-2006 Hawaiian Content Research Specialist. Researched, wrote and developed exhibit content; worked with exhibit design firm and content experts to plan, design, and install 12,000 sq. ft. of exhibition gallery.
- 'Aha Pūnana Leo, Hilo, Hawai'i
2006 Public Relations Coordinator. Coordinated Hawaiian language messaging and campaigns to support the development and use of Hawaiian language in various sectors (government, tourism, business).
- 2005-2007 Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi Indigenous Exchange Program Coordinator. Established communications and coordinated visits to Hilo for native language communities both nationally and internationally seeking models of language renormalization.
- 1996-2000 Office Assistant. Provided administrative, programmatic and logistical support to the central, statewide coordinator of the preschool operations.

University of Hawai'i at Hilo

2001-2004 Hawaiian Language Lecturer – HAW 101, HAW 102

Professional Development

- Hawai'i Investment Ready (HIR) – 2017-2018
HIR supports people and organizations addressing Hawai'i's social and environmental opportunities by accelerating social enterprise impact and access to investment.
- Omidyar Leadership Fellowship – Inaugural Fellow, 2013
A leadership fellowship designed to build stronger leaders, more effective organizations, and cross-sector connections that are necessary to collectively affect societal change.
- Pacific Century Fellowship (PCF) – Fellow, 2009-2010
PCF aims to unite Hawai'i's emerging leaders from diverse professions and backgrounds in an endeavor to find innovative solutions to the State's main problems and concerns.
- Center for Advancement of Informal Science Education (CAISE) – Fellow, 2008-2009
CAISE is supported through the National Science Foundation (NSF) and devoted to the advancement and improvement of informal science education (ISE). The fellowship focuses on mentoring ISE leaders in the development of their NSF proposal ideas and networking them with leaders in informal science education from throughout the country.
- First Nations Futures Indigenous Leadership Fellowship – Fellow, 2006-2007
The fellowship focuses on developing indigenous leaders through partnerships, academic rigor, business leadership, natural resource management, and

community development. The program is an academic consortium between Kamehameha Schools, Stanford University, and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

- Association of Science and Technology Centers (ASTC) Diversity Fellowship – Fellow 2006-2007
ASTC is an organization of science centers and museums dedicated to furthering public engagement with science among increasingly diverse audiences. The intent of the program is to provide Fellows with professional development experiences, a supportive peer network, and opportunities to acquire and hone leadership skills.

Board Appointments

Current

- Parker Ranch, Inc. – Board of Directors, 2022
- Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation – Co-Chair, 2021
- Mānoa Heritage Center – Board Member, 2021
- Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry Hawai'i – First Vice President, 2023; Board Member, 2011
- 'Ohana Wa'a Voyaging Committee – Secretary, 2021; Board Member, 2006

Past

- Community First – Board Member, 2014-2020
- Hawai'i Island Workforce and Economic Development 'Ohana – Executive Board member, 2012
- Blue Revolution Hawai'i – Board member, 2012
- University of Hawai'i at Hilo Alumni Relations – Board Member, 2011-2013
- 'Aha Pūnana Leo – Treasurer, 2011-2018
- Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce – Executive Board, 2010-2017; President, 2015-2016
- Big Island Visitors Bureau – Executive Board, 2010-2013

Publications

Kimura, K., Wyatt, R., Maryboy, N., Kimura, L., Pitts, D., Dhurde, S., Nepton-Rousseau, L., Dawson, S., Chisholm, E., Inoue, T., Zhu, J., Subbarao, M., Baybayan, K., Brewer, J. (2022). One Sky Project Planetarium Production. 'Imiloa Collaborative. <https://oneskyproject.org/>

Venkatesan, A., Lowenthal, J.D., Arion, D., Castro F., Banniester, M., **Kimura, K.**, et al. (2021). SATCON2 Community Engagement Working Group Report. Smith ScholarWorks Astronomy: Faculty Publications.

Maryboy, N., **Kimura, K.**, Stein, J., Valdez, S., Hawkins, I., Petcolas, L. (2021). IWISE: A Foundational Conference on Indigenous Worldviews in Informal Science Education. *Informal Learning Review*, 166 (12-21).

Kimura, K., Aton, K., Baybayan, K., DeFries, J., Gionson, T., Kaluna, H., Tokunaga, A., & Kimura, L. (2019). A Hua He Inoa: Hawaiian Culture-Based Celestial Naming. *Bulletin of the AAS*, 51(7).

Simons, D., Adamson, A., Chun, M., Dempsey, J., **Kimura, K.**, Lotz, J., & McLaren, B. (2019). The Future of Maunakea Astronomy. *Bulletin of the AAS*, 51(7).

Venkatesan, A., Begay, D., Burgasser, A., Hawkins, I., **Kimura, K.**, Maryboy, N., Peticolas, L., Rudnick, G., Simons, D., Tuttle, S. (2019). Collaboration with Integrity: Indigenous Knowledge in 21st Century Astronomy. *Bulletin of the AAS*, 51(7).
<https://baas.aas.org/pub/2020n7i020/release/1>.

Venkatesan, A., Begay, D., Burgasser, A., Hawkins, I., **Kimura, K.**, Maryboy, N., Peticolas, L. (2019). Towards Inclusive Practices with Indigenous Knowledge. *Nature Astronomy*, Vol. 3, 1035-1037.

Conference Presentations

Flynn, L., **Kimura, K.**, Nakafuji, D., Nunes, M. 2023. STEM Education in Hawai'i. Fall National Meeting of the National Council of Space Grant Directors, Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Wilson, W., Kamana, K., **Kimura, K.**, Cabral, J. 2023. Growth with an Institute for Hawaiian and Indigenous Languages in Hilo, HI. Stabilizing Indigenous Languages Symposium, Flagstaff, Arizona.

Kimura, K., Cobian, K., Martinez, L., Shotton, H. 2023. Exploring the Research Agenda. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine – Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences Committee on Advancing Antiracism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in STEMM Organizations, Washington D.C.

Kimura, K., Cabral, J., Harman, P. 2023. Graduates: Pursuing Justice from and Indigenous Base. International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation: Centering Justice in Language Work, He 'Ōlelo Ola Field Study: Ma ka Hana ka 'Ike Pono Kaulike –Justice through Action, virtual.

Kimura, K., Matsuda, R., Komeiji, J., Wong-Wilson, N. 2023. Maunakea in Mutual Stewardship: A Conversation with three board members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority. American Astronomical Society Winter Conference, Seattle, Washington.

Laychak, M., **Kimura, K.**, Matsuda, C., Bezilla, K., Kakazu, Y., Ramon-Sauberan, J. 2023. Case Studies and Success Stories: Community Based Astronomy Models in Indigenous Communities. American Astronomical Society Winter Conference, Seattle, Washington.

- Dhrude, S., **Kimura, K.** 2022. The One Sky Project: Bringing Cultural and Indigenous Astronomy to Planetariums Worldwide. International Astronomical Union Communicating Astronomy with the Public, Sydney, Australia.
- Kimura, K. 2021. A Hua He Inoa. Hawaiian Culture Based Education For All, Virtual.
- Kimura, K. 2020. Indigenous Worldviews in Informal Science Education. American Astronomical Society Winter Conference, Honolulu, Hawai'i.
- Kimura, K. 2020. Indigenous Perspectives on Land and Sky. Indigenous Education Institute Webinar Series, virtual.
- Kimura, K.**, Mangauil, L. 2019. Understanding the Sacred: Why Maunakea Brings Meaning To My Life. Hawai'i Tourism Authority Fall Tourism Update, Waikōloa, Hawai'i.
- Kimura, K.**, Laughlin, G. 2019. A Color Out of Space: 'Oumuamua's Brief and Mysterious Visit to the Solar System. American Astronomical Society Winter Conference, Seattle, Washington.
- Kimura, K. 2019. Keynote Address: Transforming STEM Education. Hui Holomua Business Festival, Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, Waikapū, Maui.
- Paishon, C., **K. Kimura.** 2013. Indigenous and Science Integration in Community Development. Presentation at the Hawai'i Planners Association Conference, Kona, Hawai'i.
- Kahapea, B., C. Paishon, K. Sproat, **K. Kimura.** 2013. Community Partnerships in Education. Presentation at the Native Hawaiian Education Council conference, Honolulu, Hawai'i.
- Coats, V., N.C. Maryboy, D. Begay, L. Peticolas, I. Hawkins, **K. Kimura.** 2012. Native Universe: Bridging Indigenous Astronomy and Western Science. Presentation at the Association of Science and Technology Centers, Columbus, Ohio.
- Coats, V., N.C. Maryboy, D. Begay, K. Baybayan, **K. Kimura.** 2011. Bridging Indigenous Astronomy and Western Science. Presentation at the World Science Congress, Cape Town, South Africa.

Major Grants

- U.S. Department of Education
 - 2023: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, PI, *Aanikoobijigeng: Connecting Generations* (S415C230006; \$6,593,858)
 - 2021: Native Hawaiian Education Program, PI, *Hawai'i I Ke Alo: Forward Facing Hawai'i* (S362A210127; \$2,799,222)

- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
 - 2023: PI, *A Hua He Inoa – Phase 2* (\$1,200,000)
 - 2021: PI, *Community Caucusing* (\$353,587)
 - 2019: PI, *A Hua He Inoa* (\$996,000)
 - 2017: *Community Engagement in Science* (\$457,440)
 - 2011: PI, *Manu 'Imiloa: Mobile Outreach Education* (\$1,100,000)
 - 2008: PI, *'Imiloa Field Trip Program* (\$670,000)
- National Science Foundation
 - 2013: PI, *Conference Support: Indigenous Worldviews in Informal Science Education (I-WISE): Integration, Synthesis, and Opportunity* (DRL 1250571; \$249,664)
 - 2011: Co-I, *Collaborative Research: Native Universe – Indigenous Voice in Science Museums* (DRL 1114535; \$326,386)
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
 - 2022-2024: PI, *Advanced Connections of Science, Indigenous Culture, and Community Through 'Imiloa/Hale Pōhaku Exhibition and Planetarium Expansion* (\$1,000,000)
 - 2010-2011: PI, *For the Promotion of Astronomy in Hawai'i* (\$2,500,000)
 - 2009-2010: Co-PI, *Connecting Science, Culture and the Community Through Education Programming at 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i – Phase III* (\$2,000,000)
 - 2008-2009: Co-PI, *Connecting Science, Culture and the Community Through Education Programming at 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i – Phase II* (\$1,288,027)
- Small Business Administration
 - 2021: PI, *Shuttered Venues Operators Grant* (\$752,701)
- County of Hawai'i
 - 2020: Sub-PI, *Hālau Lamakū: Keiki Care during COVID-19* (\$608,696)

Community & Civic Engagement

- National Coalition of Native American Language Schools and Programs – Symposium Planning Chair, 2023.
- International Astronomical Union: North American Regional Office for Astronomy Development (NA-ROAD) – Strategic Planning Member, 2020-2021
- National Ecological Observatory Network, Inc. (NEON) – Advisory Board-Member, 2009-2010
- Hōkūle'a Japan Voyage – Crew, 2006-2007
- Nā Lau Lama Advocacy Group – Member, 2006
- Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association – Hawaiian Language Consultant, 2003
- Keaukaha Canoe Club – 2001-2005