

CURRICULUM VITAE

MICHELLE L. NOE NOE WONG-WILSON, PhD



Dr. Noe Noe Wong-Wilson is a Native Hawaiian educator, cultural practitioner and community leader. Noe Noe retired from Hawai'i Community College, University of Hawai'i in 2016. She served as Assistant Professor in Hawaiian Studies and Coordinator of the Title III funded Hālaulani Native Hawaiian Student Success Center. Noe Noe is active in Native Hawaiian rights and community issues, most notably as one of the kupuna protecting Mauna Kea in 2019/2020. She currently serves as 1st Vice Chair of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority as well as on the Governor's Military Leases Advisory Group. Noe Noe serves as the Executive Director of Lālākea Foundation, a native hawaiian cultural educational non profit organization comprised of kumu hula from across the State. She is active in several Hawaiian organizations, including serving as President of Hawaiian Civic Club of Hilo, sits on the Hawai'i Island Moku Council and was a representative on the Executive Council. She is a Founding Co-Author of 'Āina Aloha Economic Development Futures Initiative (AAEF). Noe Noe has a long history working in the hospitality industry at Hawai'i Visitor's Bureau and Island Holidays Tour in Waikiki and as Sales and Convention Services Director at Waiohai Resort in Poipū, Kauai, in state government as a legislative aide, at DBEDT as the Legislative Liaison and Hawai'i Island Coordinator, and in her own strategic planning firm in Hilo. She is a graduate of Kamehameha School for Girls and has degrees in Anthropology from University of Hawai'i Hilo and Pacific Islands Studies from University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She received her Doctorate in Philosophy from the School of Maori and Pacific Development at University of Waikato in Kirikiriroa, Hamilton, New Zealand. Born and raised in Kailua, O'ahu, Noe Noe is resides with her family in Kaiwiki, Hilo, Hawai'i

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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| Mar 2016 | Doctor of Philosophy, School of Maori & Pacific Development, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand, Topic: Native Hawaiian Well-Being at Hawai'i Community College: An Initiative in Student Success |
| Aug 2007 | Master of Arts, Center for Pacific Island Studies University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Topic: Paths Toward Creation of An Independent Hawaiian Nation, Ethnographies of Four Hawaiian Independence Leaders |
| Dec 2001 | Bachelor of Arts with Honors, Anthropology University of Hawai'i at Hilo, Dean's List |
| Dec 2001 | Hawai'i Community College, Academic Certificate in Hawaiian Life Styles, Dean's List |

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- 1992 Participated in National Governors Association, Academy on Rural and Community Development, Utah and Washington State as part of the State of Hawai'i Rural Development Team
- 1968 – 69 Attended University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
- 1968 Kamehameha School for Girls, Honolulu, Hawai'i

ACADEMIC AND WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2020 – Present International Thesis Examiner, Te Wananga O Awanuiarangi, Maori Studies
- 1993 – Present Strategic Planning and Hawaiian Cultural Consultant
- Aug 2018 Conference Director, Ka 'Aha Hula 'o Hālaauaola Hula Conference, Hosted in Hilo by Lālākea Foundation
- Apr 2017 Affiliate Faculty – Heritage Management Program
University of Hawai'i at Hilo, Department of Anthropology
- July '12 – Sept 2016 Assistant Professor/Coordinator– Hālaulani Transfer Success Center, Hawaiian Studies, Hawai'i Community College. Retired in 2016
- July '11 – Jun 2012 Coordinator/Instructor – Hālaulani Transfer Success Center, Hawaiian Studies, Hawai'i Community College, promoted to Assistant Professor
- Aug '10 – Jul 2011 Professional Leave – resided and studied at University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand
- October 2008 – Aug 2010 Coordinator/Instructor – Paepae 'Ohua Student Support, Hawai'i Life Styles, Hawai'i Community College. Responsible for total program coordination for student support, new curriculum development, recruitment and retention programs, articulation and special projects. Includes in-class instruction in Hawai'i Life Styles Classes. Classes taught included Hwst 100 – Piko Hawai'i and Hwst 103 – Lei Hulu.
- Mar '07 – Aug 2010 Achieving the Dream Initiative Coordinator for Hawai'i Community College – Develop campus initiatives to increase

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- to Success (Retention, Persistence, Graduation/Transfer, Access Financial Aid) for Native Hawaiian students at Hawai'i Community College. Represent HawCC on the UHCC System Core Team.
- Jan '06 – October '08 Unukupukupu Coordinator, Hawai'i Community College
Provide support and coordination for the Hula Track program for the Hawaiian Life Styles AAS program, develop programs for students, faculty and staff to participate in cultural exchange programs in the Pacific Region, including Aotearoa, Tahiti, Samoa, Japan and U.S. Continent.
- Jan '06 – August '06 Instructor, UHH Kipuka Center for Native Hawaiian Students
Develop and instruct an online, non-credit 6-week course on Hawaiian culture and History.
- Jan '05 Consultant on Strategic Planning for UHH, Pacific Islands Center for Education (PICED) Project in American Samoa
- Aug '03 – August '06 Lecturer, Hawaiian History and Culture, Hawai'i Community College. Duties include developing on-line instruction via WebCT and video-conferencing technology as well as on-site instruction. Courses taught include: Hist 153, Hawai'i and the World I, Hist 154, Hawai'i and the World II, Hist 284, History of Hawai'i, Hwst 107 – Hawai'i: Center of the Pacific, Hwst 221 - Culture in Transition.
- Jul '03 – Dec '04 Assistant Executive Director – Kekua Foundation Hilo
World Sprints – Special Project
- Aug '02 – May '05 Graduate Assistant, Native Hawaiian Leadership Project, UH Manoa
- Jan '02 – 2014 Hawaiian Cultural Consultant and Instructor
Kohala Center, Program consultant and instructor for Cornell University Earth Science Semester Abroad Program. The course, AIS 340, Contested Terrain: Introduction to Hawaiian History and Culture, is offered in Spring semester (2002 – 2014); Kealakekua Heritage Ranch, Kohala Center Community Education programs
- Jan '99 – Sep '01 Conference Director for Ka 'Aha Hula 'O Hālaulaola, the World Conference on Hula, co-hosted by Lālākea Foundation and Edith Kanaka'ole Foundation, co-sponsored by University of Hawai'i at Hilo and Hawai'i Community College – Special Project

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- Nov '97 – Dec '99 Conference Director for 1999 World Indigenous Peoples' Conference on Education, hosted by the Edith Kanaka'ole Foundation and co-sponsored by the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and Hawai'i Community College – Special Project
- Oct '95 – Apr '97 Traveled extensively through the South Pacific. Studied culture, language and customs of Pacific Island people.
- 1993 - 1995 Partner, Hugo Wong-Wilson Community Planning Firm, Hilo
- 1988 - 1993 Legislative Coordinator and Hawaii Island Economic Development Coordinator, Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
- 1985-1988 Legislative Aide & Committee Clerk (Consumer Affairs and Commerce) to Representative Mazie Hirono, Hawai'i State Legislature
- 1972-1984 Director of Sales & Convention Services, Waiohai Resort, Kaua'i
Executive Secretary, Island Holidays Tours, Honolulu
Visitor Satisfaction Specialist, Hawaii Visitors Bureau, Honolulu
- 1969 - 1972 Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, San Francisco/Honolulu

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2025 September Recipient of Na Kama Kai's Pa'akai Award for Native Hawaiian Lifetime Achievement
- 2024 National Conference on Race & Ethnicity, NCORE, Susan Shown Harjo Award for System Social Justice
- 2023 Association of Hawaiian Civic Club Kukui Lama Ku Award, Kupuna recognition award from Hawai'i Council
- 2010/2011 Kohala Center Mellon Fellow Award for International Graduate students 2010/2011
- January 2010 CIBER – Center for International Business & Education Research award recipient – Selected to represent University of Hawai'i at a 12-day educational forum in China, January 2010

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

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World Indigenous peoples' Conference on Education, Coolangatta Statement on Indigenous Education and Youth Declaration on Indigenous Rights Presentation, Tamaki Makaurau, Auckland, Aotearoa, November 2025

World Indigenous Peoples' Conference on Education, Convenor of Coolangatta Statement Symposium, Hilo, Hawai'i. April 2024

World Indigenous Peoples' Conference on Education, Convenor, Master's Series on Coolangatta Statement on Indigenous Education, Adelaide, Australia

World Indigenous Peoples' Conference on Education, Selected as facilitator for Masters Series – Indigenous Research Methods Facilitator, July 2017, Toronto, Canada

He Manawa Whenua, Indigenous Research Conference, March 2017, "Pono Hawai'i: A Native Hawaiian Research Methodology", University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand

A Palamanui Kākou Workshop, Strategies for Student Success, August 2016, Kailua-Kona, HI

Hawai'i Strategy Institute, March 2016, "Fried Rice Strategy for Success", Honolulu, HI

League of Innovations, Poster Session: Hawaiian Style Plate Lunch: A Strategy for Student Success, March 2016, Chicago, Illinois

Hawai'i Strategy Institute, "Hālaulani Transfer Success Center", March 2015, Honolulu, HI

World Indigenous peoples' Conference on Education, "Native Hawaiian Sense of Well-Being and Student Success at Hawai'i Community College" & "Positioning Indigenous Women in Insider Research: Strategies for Success", Honolulu, Hawai'i 2014

Smithsonian Folklife Festival, "Hulu No'eau" workshops, June 2012, Washington, D.C.

World Indigenous Peoples' Conference on Education, "Strategies for Native Hawaiian Student Success", Cusco, Peru, 2011

World Indigenous Peoples' Conference on Education, "Achieving the Dream", University of Waikato, New Zealand, 2008

World Indigenous Peoples' Conference on Education, Brisbane, Australia, 2005

"An Interview with Mililani Trask", Contemporary Pacific: A Journal of Island Affairs, Spring 2005, UH Press, Honolulu

Native Hawaiian Education Association Annual Conference, Windward Community College, Co-Presentation on Native Hawaiian Students in Higher Education, March 2004

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Ancient Cultures and Globalization Conference, University of Waikato, Presentation on
Globalization and Hawai'i Tourism, November 2004

6th Annual World Indigenous peoples' Conference on Education, Calgary, Canada,
Presentation on 5th WIPCE Hawai'i, August, 2002

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Nā Kama Kai Kupuna Council, a Makaha non-profit organization

Native Hawaiian Advisory Committee on Military Leases Member, Governor Josh Green,
November, 2025

Lele Aloha, A Hawai'i Non profit organization dedicated to the recovery of Lahaina, Vice
President and Treasurer, September 2023 to present

Mauna Kea Stewardship & Oversight Authority, State of Hawai'i – First Vice Chair,
appointed in 2022 to present

Mauna Kea Working Group, HR33-2021 – Served on the State of Hawai'i House of
Representatives working group to develop a plan for managing Mauna Kea lands., 2022

Nā Kalai Wa'a, Kupuna Council, A Kohala, Hawai'i Non-profit organization

Kohala Hawaiian Civic Club, member, 2021-present

Lalakea Foundation, Native Hawaiian organization to perpetuate the arts and culture –
President 2007-2009, Board member 2003 – 2016, Executive Director 2016 – Present

World Indigenous Peoples' Conference on Education International Council (WIPCE
International Council) – Founding Director and Vice Chair 2011 – 2022, Chair 2022 -
Present

'Āina Aloha Economic Futures Initiative – Founding Member and Co-Author, 2020 - Present

Hilo Hawaiian Civic Club, President, 2015 – Present, Director 2006 – 2015, Association's
Moku O Keawe Council Director 2018- Present; Former Nohona Hawai'i Committee Chair
2019-2023

Nā Wāhine 'Āpapalani, Native Hawaiian Women Cultural Practitioners on Mauna a Wākea,
2015-present

Unukupukupu Hālau, Kumu Hula Dr. Taupouri Tangaro, 2006 -2016. Life long hula dancer
since age 4.

Friends of Lili'uokalani Gardens, Non-profit community organization – Board member

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2010-2022

Prince Kuhio Hawaiian Civic Club, Member 1984 – present, Past Treasurer

Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association, Māmalahoe Chapter, Officer and Director 1997-2001, Life Member

Naki'i Ke Aho, organization of Native Hawaiian Anthropologists, Archaeologists and Cultural Resource Managers, Founding member 2006 -2008

Pagan Pride performance, trained with Dr. Pualani Kanahale in native oral arts for public performance on Hawai'i and Maui, 2004

Nā Kālai Wa'a Moku O Hawai'i, Wa'a Makali'i 'Ohana , Kupuna - 1994 - Present

Kohala Center, Founding Board of Director Emeritus, A non-profit educational services organization serving the Hawai'i Island community, 2000 – 2001

Kamehameha Schools Trustee's Advisory Board Member, 2001 - 2004

Participated in Strategic Planning Program for Kamehameha Schools – K-12 Curriculum Committee, 2000

Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, Hawai'i Island Chapter Founding President and Director, 1993 – 1995

Mayor's Committee on Children and Youth, Hawai'i County, Chairperson, 1994-1995

March 2026