



3/1/16

To: Faculty and Staff Development Fund Committee
From: Keola Donaghy
Re: Travel to SEM Conference in Austin, Texas in December, 2015

Aloha. I offer the following report of my activities during the travel to this event, and its value to my work at UH Maui College.

As part of the conference I presented on a panel entitled “Indigenizing Academic Soundscapes” with Dr. John Carlos Perea of San Francisco State University and Dr. Jessica Bissett Perea of University of California Davis. I spoke of the work being done at the Institute of Hawaiian Music at UH Maui College in terms of academics, community engagement, social activism, and cultural rigor – themes aligned with the work of my colleagues. Approximately 80 individuals were present in a room that only had seating for 60, and present were the current and five past presidents of the Society for Ethnomusicology.

During the three full days I was present at the conference I attended many presentations, most of which had a Hawai‘i or Pacific theme that is relevant to my work here, and others whose themes reflected a focus on the practical application of academic knowledge for the betterment of indigenous and lesser known musical forms. I also had the opportunity to have extended conversations with Dr. Amy Ku‘uleialoha Stillman of the University of Michigan, the most prolific and respected Hawaiian ethnomusicology of this time, members of the music department at UH Mānoa, and individuals at other institutions who have an interest in Hawaiian music. I returned from Austin quite invigorated by the experience and having significant new knowledge and ideas that I plan to implement in the Institute of Hawaiian Music and Music Studies at UHMC.

I would like to express my gratitude to the committee for funding a portion of this trip and the opportunity to learn and grow from others in my field.

Mahalo,

Dr. Keola Donaghy
Faculty Coordinator, Music Studies and the Institute of Hawaiian Music
donaghy@hawaii.edu • 808-984-3570