



## **For Immediate Release**

**Contact:** Cortney Okumura  
Executive Assistant, The Kohala Center  
[cokumura@kohalacenter.org](mailto:cokumura@kohalacenter.org)  
808-887-6411

### **Native Hawaiian academic fellowship program accepting applications** *Doctoral scholars committed to advancement of Hawaiian knowledge encouraged to apply*

KAMUELA, Hawai‘i—May 22, 2017—The Hawaiian Scholars Doctoral Fellowship Program is now accepting applications for the 2017–18 academic year. More information and application materials are available online at <http://kohalacenter.org/hawaiian-fellowship>. The application deadline is June 26, 2017.

Entering its tenth year, the Hawaiian Scholars Doctoral Fellowship Program (formerly the Mellon-Hawai‘i Doctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowship Program) was established in 2008 for Native Hawaiian scholars early in their academic careers and others who are committed to the advancement of knowledge about the Hawaiian natural and cultural environment, Hawaiian history, politics, and society. Administered by The Kohala Center, the program is currently supported by Kamehameha Schools and the Deviants from the Norm Fund.

Applicants accepted to the program as doctoral fellows receive \$45,000 in support to complete their dissertations before accepting their first academic posts. In addition, the program provides fellows with opportunities to prepare presentations of their research; network with community leaders, mentors, and previous fellows; and meet academic publishers who may be interested in their work.

“This is the most successful program that has supported a new generation of Hawaiian scholars to earn their PhDs, to publish and to join the tenured ranks of the professoriate,” said Dr. Noelani Goodyear-Ka‘ōpua, associate professor of political science at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa who was a postdoctoral fellow in the program’s 2013–2014 cohort and currently serves as a mentor in the 2016–2017 cohort. “It has nurtured young scholars through meaningful mentorship, professional development training, and network building. When future generations look back at the flourishing of multidisciplinary Hawaiian scholarship in the early 21st century, they will be able to see the impact of those who were supported by this program. This is no exaggeration.”

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P.O. Box 437462 | Kamuela, Hawai‘i 96743 | Tel. 808-887-6411 | Fax 808-885-6707 | [www.kohalacenter.org](http://www.kohalacenter.org)

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Since its inception, 35 doctoral and postdoctoral scholars have been accepted to the program, with many having achieved tenure or currently in tenure-track positions. Book manuscripts written by the fellows have been published, or in the process of being published, by presses such as Duke University Press, Kamehameha Publishing, Oregon State University Press, Oxford University Press, University of Arizona Press, University of California Press, University of Hawai‘i Press, and University of Minnesota Press.

Award notifications will be made by July 17, 2017. For more information about the fellowship program or to apply, visit <http://kohalacenter.org/hawaiian-fellowship> or contact Cortney Okumura at [cokumura@kohalacenter.org](mailto:cokumura@kohalacenter.org) or (808) 887-6411.

### **About The Kohala Center**

Founded in the year 2000, The Kohala Center (<http://www.kohalacenter.org>) is an independent, community-based center for research, conservation, and education. We turn research and ancestral knowledge into action, so that communities in Hawai‘i and around the world can thrive—ecologically, economically, culturally, and socially.