

## FROM THE EDITOR

Hūi! Aloha ‘āina kākou.

Please join me in celebrating another remarkable volume of *Hūlili*. As our 10-year anniversary draws near, we look forward to expanding critical discussions of Native Hawaiian well-being that are intergenerational, empowering, and provocative.

Our *Hūlili* journey reminds me of the ‘ōlelo no‘eau, he pūko‘a kani ‘āina, a coral reef that grows into an island. As ko‘a, coral, attracts sea life by providing shelter and resources in an ecosystem, so too has our journal become a gathering space for emerging and established Native Hawaiian scholars. Volume 8 exemplifies this trait as we present mana‘o from eclectic sources that enable us to reflect on ourselves as 21st-century Native Hawaiians.

The Paglinawans remind us of the transformative power of ritual and the benefits received through the artful weaving of cultural practices. Similarly, the increasing popularity of lua (Hawaiian fighting arts) highlights the appeal of learning and living cultural values. Akana and Donaghy describe the intellectual veracity of our people through their investigations of hei (string figures) and ki hō‘alu (slack key guitar).

Our kuleana to ‘āina and each other is emphasized by several authors. Fermantez investigates ironies surrounding the displacement and re-placement of Native Hawaiians in Wai‘anae, Goodyear-Ka‘ōpua and Baker frame the crises of peak oil as a problem in need of ‘Ōiwi solutions, and ho‘omanawanui models the art of writing place through Wailua, Kaua‘i. Merce forces us to ask whose justice was served in the case of Delbert Wakinekona. And Harman explores the nexus of ‘ōlelo, history, and identity among Hawaiian-language college students.

My season as editor has rolled by all too quickly. However, I am excited to welcome Dr. RaeDeen Keahiolalo-Karasuda to the helm. A political scientist with a solid record of community advocacy, I am confident Dr. Karasuda will help *Hūlili* reach even greater heights. Her pioneering studies of the criminalization of Native Hawaiians and her talent as a writing coach will surely attract even more sea life to our ko‘a. Lastly, the professionalism and dedication of our managing editor, Debra Tang, deserves special recognition. Her behind-the-scenes effort is a large part of *Hūlili*'s success.

With faithful support and engagement from readers like you, this journal will continue to grow from a reef into an island. As we multiply in this new century—there are now 527,000 Native Hawaiians in the United States—we maintain strong ties to akua, ‘āina, kūpuna, and ‘ohana. No doubt, our spirituality and relationships to ancestors, lands, and families will persist into the future.

Mai poina, ua pōmaika‘i nō kākou i ke ola. Let us not forget, we are truly blessed with this life.

Brandon C. Ledward

*Editor*