# Canoe Summit at the 12th Festival of Pacific Arts

(Guam, 26 May 2016)

### Organizers:

The Canoe Summit Organizing Committee

Anthropological Institute, Nanzan University

National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo

Traditional Arts Committee, Guam

Tatasi (Seafaring) subcommittee, Guam

## With support of:

UNESCO Office for the Pacific States

The Organizing Committee of the 12th Festival of Pacific Arts, Guam 2016

### **Objectives:**

To encourage the sharing of knowledge and skills related to traditional seafaring in the Pacific among practitioners

To identify opportunities and challenges facing traditional seafaring in the Pacific

To discuss regional and international cooperation for its safeguarding and transmission

# **Description:**

This Summit will provide the opportunity to discuss issues involved in the safeguarding of traditional navigation systems as shared heritage in the region.

The Programme of the Summit consists of Activity Reports by practitioners in the region, Research Reports by experts, and Round table discussion on the topics of safeguarding, transmission and promotion of the Canoe culture in the Pacific.

The Summit will produce an outcome statement which will guide future regional and international cooperation in this area.

Venue: Latte of Freedom/Hall of Governors, Adelup

# Agenda

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# **List of Speakers**

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Monica Guzman  Vicente Diaz	Monica Guzman, Festpac Program Chair, served as chair for the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency (CAHA) to guide the preparation of Guam's artists for presenting and hosting Festpac 2016. She is a professional graphic artist, event organizer and supporter of Guam's traditional arts with a focus on seafaring. Under her leadership, the Master of Traditional Arts program was revived and 6 additional masters were formally recognized. She guided the preparation of Guam's artists for Festpac through a series of capacity-building workshops and regular planning meetings over the past four years. She has participated with, encouraged, and assisted the development of Guam's Tatasi – Navigation, Canoe and Seafaring practitioners for many years.  Dr. Vicente Diaz teaches Global and Comparative Indigenous Studies at the
Vicente Diaz	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities campus, where he also runs the "Digitizing Ancient Futures Virtual and Augmented Canoe, Voyaging, and Atoll Project". He taught Pacific History and Micronesian Studies at the University of Guam from 1992-2001; Pacific Islands Studies at the University of Michigan from 2001-2012, and American Indian Studies and Anthropology at the University of Illinois from 2012-2015. Diaz is the former Coordinator of the Micronesian Seafaring Society in the mid-1990s, co-founder of the Guam Traditional Seafaring Society, which studied under Polowat navigators and canoe builders in the late 1990s and early 2000s to help revive traditional seafaring in Guam via courses at the University of Guam, the refurbishing of the Guam-based 47 ft Polowat sailing canoe, the Maelae, the building of the present canoe house Utt Sahyan Tasi Fachemwan in Hagatna, and the sailing of the Quest from Polowat to the Northern Mariana Islands. He also participated in the 2000 Millennium Voyage that featured six canoes that sailed from Polowat and Satawal to Saipan under the navigators Manipy Onopey and Mau Piailug. Diaz also wrote, directed and co-produced the 1997 documentary Sacred Vessels: Navigating Tradition and Identity in Micronesia. Diaz also works with traditional canoe builders and cultural practitioners of the Native US Great Lakes region (Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa) and the Suquamish of Seattle, Washington to help build cultural and educational exchange programs between American Indians and Pacific Islanders.
Akira Goto	Born in Sendai, Japan. M.A. in Archaeology from University of Tokyo, and Ph.D. in Anthropology from University of Hawaii. Currently teaching anthropology as a professor at Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan; the director of anthropological institute of Nanzan University, director of graduate school of anthropology of Nanzan University; Chair of anthropologists association of Central Japan; vice chief director of NVA (Nippon Voyaging Association) established at Hyuga City, Kyushu, Japan; a research advisor of Okinawa Marine Expo. Memorial Park; supervisor of renewal of Okinawa Oceanic Culture Museum and

	Planetarium from 2003 to 2013. Currently. Akira has been participating in an experimental Paleolithic voyage project of 30,000 years ago organized at National Museum of Science, Tokyo, building a hypothetical boat by reed and bamboo to cross from Taiwan to Okinawa in 2008. Organized Circum-Philippine Sea Small Boat Pre-Summit held at University of Guam sponsored by the Toyota Foundation.
Tomo Ishimura	Born in Hyogo, Japan. Ph.D. in Archaeology from Kyoto University. He is currently the Head of Audio-Visual Documentation Section, Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage, National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo. He has been engaged in safeguarding both tangible and intangible cultural heritage in different parts of the world such as Afghanistan, Cambodia, Viet Nam, Myanmar, the Pacific island countries, and Japan. Recently he has been involved in the support for the nominations of the Ruins of Nan Madol, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Yap Stone Disk Sites, Republic of Palau and FSM, for the UNESCO World Heritage sites, as well as in the cooperation for preparing the national inventory and nomination files of intangible cultural heritage in the Independent State of Samoa. In addition, he with National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo is collaborating with the University of the South Pacific to carry out cooperative research for safeguarding cultural properties from the negative impacts of climate change.
Peter Nuttall	Senior Research Fellow at the University of the South Pacific. Leads a small team researching the potential for Pacific Island Countries to transition to low carbon sea transport futures. Obsessed with the heritage of Drua, the giant Fijian double hulled sailing canoes. Lives in a wooden sailing ship and has lived and sailed extensively in the Pacific Islands. Worked in sustainable planning and policy across the Pacific from village mat to the UN.
Mimi George	Mimi George, PhD, is a cultural anthropologist, sailor/researcher of voyaging, and writer. She has worked mostly under the auspices of charitable NGOs—with Austronesian voyagers of New Ireland, PNG, scientific over- wintering in Antarctica, Siberian Yupik of Alaskan & Chukotkan Bering Straits.  Mimi answered the request of Paramount Chief Kaveia of Taumako to aide in his effort to teach a new generation how to build and navigate using only the materials, methods, designs, and tools of Culture Hero, Lata, to document the knowledge, and to train Taumako youth to record their own culture with video.  Mimi is Principal Investigator of the Vaka Taumako Project of the Pacific Traditions Society (501c3), a non-voting, international, board member of the Vaka Taumako Project of Solomon Islands, and a 23 year member of the "crew of Lata." Mimi is writing a book about the VTP— "Sailing with Lata"—, and fundraising to complete a documentary—We, the Voyagers—and for costs of Holau Vanuatu—a voyage of reunion for families and the

	region.
Luke Vaikawi	Commander Luke Vaikawi was born and raised on Taumako Is. SE Solomon Isles, until he went away to secondary school as first generation to do so. Vaikawi captained Solomons Patrol Boats for 25 years,and is now Commander. Luke also represents his country in international maritime safety training patrol.  Vaikawi is a grandson of Te Aliki Kruso Kaveia. Duff Island travelers to Honiara stay at his home. Luke is experienced handling political adversaries, civil war, dysfunctional government, iack of access to modern communication, etc. Vaikawi assisted Vaka Taumako Project from 1993 on, and is now a Director of the Vaka Taumako Project of Solomon Islands, a charitable org. He is a lifelong member of the "crew of Lata"—the Culture Hero of Polynesians.  Vaikawi's main concern now is preparations for a vaka to voyage from Taumako to Vanuatu in November. It has been over 70 years since family members were separated by the closing of the border. The crew needs passports, rations, escort vessel, clearances, transport to go home while they wait for the return voyaging season, and a permanent roof for the Lata Wayfinding School, archive and Halevaka.
Elia Nakoro	Elia Nakoro is an archaeologist and the Head of History Archaeology Department, the Fiji Museum. He engage in a number of archaeological fieldworks in Fiji, including excavating sites of the Lapita peoples, the first seafarers in the Pacific 3000 years ago. He is also involved in the conservation of the historic Drua that is over 100 years old stored in the museum.
Sesario Sewralur	Master Navigator Sesario Sewralur is a member of the Micronesian Voyaging Society, along with President of Palau - Tommy Remengesau Jr., Ibedul, Reklai, Alan Seid, Dr. Victor Yano, Ms. Faustina Rechucher-Marugg and MVS President Shalum Etpison. He works closely with Dr. Patrick Tellei, president of Palau Community College where MVS is an important program of the college. Sesario is a master navigator who guided the voyage of the double-hull MAISU from Palau to Guam for Festpac 2016.
Mario Benito	Benito is a member of the Houpolowat clan, and its canoehouse, Utt Wenimai. He also belongs to Utt Wenipukuw. Benito was educated in the Werieng school of navigation and as a child studied under some of the most famous and revered old-time navigators from Polowat, including Hipour and Manipy Onopey. As an adult Benito studied with the late Teo Onopey and Rainam Edward. A long time cameraman, photographer, and archivist of Polowat images based in Saipan, Benito was the lead photographer for the documentary "Sacred Vessels: Navigating Tradition and Identity in Micronesia" (1997) and shot for many visiting documentary teams over the past two decades. Benito serves as an informal ambassador of Polowat seafarers in Saipan, served as one of the coordinators and translators in the building of the Lien Polowat in 2012

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	and its sail to Guam and final resting place at the Oceanic Culture Museum in Okinawa in 2013.
Kyoko Miyazawa	Kyoko Miyazawa is an independent documentary producer and cameraman affiliated with Studio UMI in Japan. She specializes in documenting indigenous seafaring skills and knowledge in Asia and the Pacific. Her work on traditional canoe building and sailing spans Africa and the Middle East (Mozambique, Tanzania, Kenya, Dubai, United Arab Emirates); South Asia (Bangladesh, India); Southeast Asia (Mandar of West Sulawesi, the Bugis of South Sulawesi, and Maluku, in Indonesia; the Moken in Mergui, Myanmar); and Oceania (Kitava Island and the Motu of Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea; Suva, Fiji; Majuro, Marshalls; Yap, Ifalik, Polowat, Federated States of Micronesia. In 2012 Miyazawa documented the building of the Lien Polowat in Polowat, and in 2013, she sailed on it to Guam where she helped ready it for its final destination at the Oceanic Culture Museum in Okinawa.
Matahi Tapeta Tutavae	Associated with the Ministry of Culture, French Polynesia, Tutavae is a respected navigator of Tahiti as well as an official documentarian for Tahiti's participation in Festpac 2016. He works closely with photographer Danee Hazama for Polynesian seafaring documentation.
Danee Hazama	Danee Hazama has immersed himself in Polynesian culture since 1992 at the Pacific Arts Festival in Rarotonga. His work as a professional photographer since 1984, has led him to embark on a personal journey of discovery, embracing the many and varied aspects of Pacific Island heritage and traditions encountered in his research and experiences throughout Oceania. Since 2007, he curiously involved himself in a 3 year field study documenting the Taiwan indigenous peoples and found cultural similarities amongst the Pacific islanders. He shares his knowledge and findings by public speaking and photographic expositions. This enabled him to help create international cultural bonding and friendship within some of the Pacific island nations. Danee has also participated on several canoe projects as well as sailed across the Pacific from Hawai'i to the Solomon Islands on voyaging canoes with the Pacific Voyagers while serving as a crewmember /photographer on Faafaite, Tahiti Voyaging Society since 2011. He has spoken on the TED program entitled <i>One Big Family</i> , helped worked on the documentaries to include National Geographic Channel, <i>Lost Continent of the Pacific</i> and was the project photographer for UNESCO World Heritage Site nomination, Marae Taputapuatea complex in Raiatea. He was awarded Adventurer of the Year by the Los Angeles Adventurers' Club in 2013 and was selected as one of Air Tahiti Nui's Ambassadors and Tahiti Nui Explorers. Danee feels that one of his responsibilities is to document, record and safeguard cultural history through photography for the future generations.
Ali Haleyalur	Master Navigator Ali Haleyalur is from Yap. Navigated several extensive voyages between Yap, Guam and Palau.

Eric Metzgar	A researcher, filmmaker (Triton Films), and close associate with Master Navigator Ali Haleyalur, which whom he participated in major voyages.
Melissa Nelson	Professor Nelson is a cultural ecologist, writer, editor, media-maker and native scholar-activist. She is Anishinaabe/MÃ'tis/Norwegian and an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians. Her work is dedicated to indigenous rights and revitalization, Native science and biocultural diversity, ecological ethics and sustainability, and the renewal and celebration of community health and cultural arts. Dr. Nelson is an associate professor of American Indian Studies at San Francisco State University and president of the Cultural Conservancy, an indigenous rights organization, which she has directed since 1993. Dr. Nelson received her B.A. degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz and her Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis, both in the field of Ecology with an emphasis in Ecophilosophy and Native American Environmental Studies respectively. Her first edited anthology "Original Instructions Indigenous Teachings For A Sustainable Future" (2008), features three of her essays and focuses on the persistence of Traditional Ecological Knowledge by contemporary native communities. She publishes regularly in academic and popular journals and books. In 2005 Dr. Nelson was the co-producer of the award-winning documentary film, "The Salt Song Trail: Bringing Creation Back Together" and has co-produced three other documentary short films. In 2006/2007 Melissa was a Visiting Scholar at the American Indian Studies Center at the University of California, Los Angeles. In 2010/2011 she served as the Anne Ray Resident Scholar at the School for Advanced Research in Santa Fe, New Mexico.
Sandy Morrison	Sandy is Māori from the peoples of Tainui and Te Arawa. She is an Associate Professor at the University of Waikato, New Zealand and her research and professional specialty focuses on the application of indigenous models in addressing social, environmental and developmental issues to improve livelihoods for indigenous peoples and peoples of the Pacific. She served as President of ASPBAE, Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education from 2004-2008 and was inducted into the International Adult and Community Education Hall of Fame by the University of Oklahoma in 2009 in recognition of her adult education work throughout the diverse populations of the Asia- Pacific. She is currently the President of ICAE, International Council for Adult Education, a global NGO which advocates for the right of adults to education and lifelong learning.  Sandy was the Project Manager for the Translation into Te Reo Māori of the He Waka He Tangata Manual.
Tua Pittman	Cook Islands' Master Navigator, Tua Pittman, along with other PWO navigators in the Cook Islands, Hawaii and Aotearoa have been at the forefront of a Pan-Pacific movement to revive traditional voyaging in the Pacific. A movement of preserving the secrets of ocean navigation that brought ancestors of modern Polynesians to the Cook Islands, and

ultimately populating all of Polynesia. One of only two Traditional Master Navigators in the Cook Islands of the South Pacific, Pittman was bestowed with the title of Pwo navigator along with his fellow navigators from Hawaii and Aotearoa in 2008 by famed Grand Master Mau Piailug of Satawal Island. Pwo is a sacred initiation ritual, in which students of traditional navigation in the Islands become master navigators and are initiated in the associated secrets of this ancient art. From the teachings of Mau Piailug and Nainoa Thompson of Hawaii, Tua and others have captured the astounding navigation skills passed on to a select few by oral tradition, from navigator to apprentice. After 30 plus years of voyaging Tua has followed his pledge to his mentors Mau and Nainoa to uphold the culture of traditional navigation, share the knowledge of this art form with the younger generation and the stress importance of caring for our oceans through powerful conservation and environmental messaging on our canoes to the World.

#### Akatsuki Takahashi

Akatsuki Takahashi, BA in international relations (Tsuda College, Tokyo), Diploma in education (International Christian University, Tokyo), PhD in cultural heritage risk management (Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto) has been the Programme Specialist for Culture at the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States in Apia, Samoa, since January 2010. She is in charge of the Culture Programme for sixteen Member States and one Associate Member of UNESCO in the Pacific with a focus on the promotion and implementation of the UNESCO Conventions in the field of heritage and creativity. Previously, she was at the Executive Office of the Culture Sector at UNESCO Headquarters (2001-2009), UNESCO Office in Venice (1998-2001) and the Secretariat for the World Decade for Cultural Development (1989-1998) at the Culture Sector of UNESCO headquarters in Paris. Before joining UNESCO in 1989, she worked at the Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (1986-1989) in Tokyo as Programme Manager.

### **Roundtable Participant**

Lino Olopai	Lino Olopai is Refalawasch from Saipan, CNMI. A fisherman, educator, cultural worker and activist Olopai is recognized as one of the earliest and most important leaders of the revival of seafaring in the Marianas. In the early 1970s, Olopai returned to his ancestral islands in the Central Carolines to study seafaring traditions, which included voyaging up to the Northern Marianas from Satawal in the mid 1970s. He is a founding member of the Micronesian Seafaring Society and is known across Polynesia as one of Mau Piailug's earliest
	assistants. His experiences and views are detailed in this memoirs, The Rope of Tradition (2009) whose topics include his role as

	coordinator of and instructor for the US Peace Corps language training program in the western pacific and his voyage to learn how traditional culture and traditions can help steward the land and waters, and check unbridled tourism development. Olopai was also one of the subjects featured in the film Insular Empire (2010).
Dr. Patrick Tellei	Patrick U. Tellei, Ed.D, is president of the Palau Community College, where he serves as a member of the Micronesian Voyaging Society. As President of Palau Community College, he runs the program and watches over the voyages and essentially worked to institutionalize the program. He works closely with Master Navigator Sesario Sewralur, and he helped organize the sailing of the double-hull Maisu from Palau to Guam for Festpac 2016.