Hawaii Pacific University has now generously made available online videos of each of the 20 talks and the Opening Blessing in Dedication to the Memory of Shandell Brunson presented at our April 8th workshop. Please see the links below and the written introductions used for each speaker.

The Workshop Organizers- Brenda Jensen, Thierry Work, Summer Martin, and George Balazs- warmly look forward to seeing you in 2023 for our 3rd planned annual event.

Presentation links:
April 8th HPU 2nd Annual Workshop on Sea Turtle Research and Conservation in the Hawaiian Islands/Oceania*

830 am OPENING BLESSING FOR OUR WORKSHOP DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF SHANDELL BRUNSON- by Kahu Hanai Danny Akaka Jr. Accompanied by his Wife, Anna Akaka

Danny Akaka's position at the Mauna Lani Auberge is Kahu Hānai. Kahu is defined as one who serves in a spiritual role and Hānai which is usually defined as to adopt as a child, is, in its deeper understanding, one who feeds another both physically and spiritually through food and knowledge. Danny, along with Piʻi Laʻeha, are a part of the Living Culture Team at the Mauna Lani Auberge on the Kona Coast of Hawaii Island. They oversee the Cultural Programs which includes the Mālama Honu, Mālama Honua Program. Kahu Hanai Danny Akaka will be accompanied in this morning's Oli and Pule by his wife, Anna Akaka.

TALK #1 845am- Piʻi Laʻeha

"Malama Honu..Malama Honua: As we care for our turtles, we care for the world"- Piʻi Laehe & Danny Akaka Jr., Mauna Lani Auberge Resort.

Piʻi Laʻeha is the Natural Resources Manager at the Mauna Lani Hotel. Although his focus is on the Green Sea Turtle program, Mālama Honu..Mālama Honua, the overall emphasis is the blending of culture, community, and education.

TALK #2 900am- Dr. Beth Doescher

"Four decades of green sea turtle (Chelonia mydas) breeding and public outreach at Sea Life Park Hawaii"- Bethany Doescher & Michelle Benedict, Sea Life Park Hawaii.

Dr. Beth Doescher received my doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Colorado State University in 2003. Since 2005, she has worked as the Staff Veterinarian for both Sea Life Park in Hawaii and Atlantis in the Bahamas. Both facilities housed green sea turtles and she was responsible for overseeing the medical care for the resident turtles. At Atlantis, she also worked to create a program for sea turtle rehabilitation and during her 14 months at Atlantis they successfully rehabilitated and released the first 2 loggerhead sea turtles in the program. Dr. Beth returned to Sea Life Park in 2008 and has continued to work with the turtles in the breeding colony, the juvenile ambassador turtles, and public education programs at the Park.
TALK #3 915am Irene Kelly

"NOAA Fishery Service Pacific Islands Regional overview"- Irene Kelly, Pacific Islands Regional Office.

Irene Kinan Kelly is the sea turtle recovery coordinator for NOAA Fisheries Pacific Islands Regional Office, based in Honolulu. She has been involved in pan-Pacific sea turtle research, conservation and management since 2001. Her work focuses primarily on implementing the USA Endangered Species Act to support the demanding recovery challenges of domestic and internationally-shared populations while also co-managing the sea turtle stranding network in Hawai'i.

TALK #4 930am Katherine Shaw

"Quantifying harm to sea turtles from ingested plastics"- Katherine Shaw & Jennifer Lynch, NIST and Hawaii Pacific University’s Center for Marine Debris Research.

Katy Shaw is a National Research Council postdoctoral research fellow at the National Institute of Standards and Technology based here in Hawaii. Her research interests are to improve the health and conservation of the oceans using chemical and toxicological measurements. Her passion for sea turtle conservation and the magnitude of the plastic marine debris problem in Hawaii have led to her research today.

TALK #5 945am Tommy Cutt

"Interactions of marine turtles with fisheries on the Island of Maui"- Thomas Cutt, MOC Marine Institute.

Tommy Cutt is a biologist with over 15 years of experience working in sea turtle research, rehabilitation, and conservation. He helped found MOC Marine Institute in 2015, where he served on the board of directors before accepting the executive director position in June 2018. Tommy and his team coordinate the sea turtle stranding response, rescue, and rehabilitation program on the island of Maui.

TALK #6 1015-1030am Marc Rice

"Destination revealed: Post nesting migrations of hawksbill turtles (Eretmochelys imbricata) from Moso Island, Republic of Vanuatu"- Marc R. Rice, Hawaii Preparatory Academy.

Marc R. Rice is the Co-Director of the Sea Turtle Research Program and Director of IT Services at the Hawaii Preparatory Academy in Kamuela on the Island of Hawaii.

TALK #7 Recorded and Live for Q & A 1030am Cheryl King


Cheryl King is a marine biologist based on Maui. When she’s not working hard researching and protecting native wildlife, she can often be found on the slopes in the winter. She’s presently in Whitefish, Montana where the mountain internet isn’t the most reliable, so please enjoy her recorded presentation and she’ll be live with us for questions afterwards.

TALK #8 1045am Godfrey Akaka Jr. And Joshua DeMello

"Native Hawaiian cultural and traditional practices of honu harvest: Opportunities and challenges to restoring a cultural right to a traditional food source"- Godfrey Akaka, Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights Association & Joshua DeMello, Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council.

Godfrey Kahikina Sun Ling Akaka Jr. is Native Hawaiian, Portuguese, and Chinese. He graduated Kaiser high school on Oahu. Married a Molokai girl and is a resident of Molokai since 1988. He's a retired Fire Captain with the Maui County Fire Department 27 years. Member and President of the Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights Association. Farmer, Fisherman, Hunter, Gatherer. 4 children, 11 grandchildren.
Joshua DeMello is a Fishery Analyst with the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council. Amongst his many hats, he works on the Council's community and indigenous issues under its Island Fisheries Program. He is native Hawaiian, a graduate of Kamehameha Schools, UH-Hilo and USC.

**TALK #9 1100am Karla McDermid and Kara Smith**

"What's on the menu? Unexpected forage plants in green turtle diets on Hawai'i Island" - Karla McDermid & Kara Smith, Marine Science Department, University of Hawaii at Hilo.

Professor Karla McDermid teaches in the Marine Science Dept at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. She shares with green turtles a deep interest in marine plants.

Kara Smith is a senior completing her bachelor's degree in marine science at UH Hilo. She also works on the Hilo Turtle Stranding Response Team.

**TALK #10 1115am Wally Ito**

"Hawaiian cultural relationships with limu and honu" - Wally Ito, Ewa Limu Project.

Wally has been a spear fisherman since the age of nine. With almost sixty years of being in the nearshore waters of our state, he has seen the once high abundance of our nearshore resources diminish drastically. In the fall of 2015, he decided to go back to school to finish a college degree started in 1971. He is a proud graduate of Hawaii Pacific University, completing his BS Marine Biology degree in the summer of 2014.

He recently retired from his Limu Hui Coordinator position at Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo and is currently the project coordinator with Ewa Limu Project. As Uncle Henry Chang Wo always said, "No Limu, No Fish."

**TALK #11 1230pm Laura Jim**

"Growth rates of green turtles in West Hawaii based on 30 years of tag and recapture studies" - Laura M.R. Jim, Hawaii Preparatory Academy.

Laura M.R. Jim is the Co-Director of the Sea Turtle Research Program Marine Science Education, and Director of the SCUBA Program at the Hawaii Preparatory Academy in Kamuela on the Island of Hawaii.

**TALK #12 1245pm Kelleigh Downs**

"Honu'ea and Ka'u Coast" - Kelleigh Downs, HVNP Hawai'i Island Hawksbill Project.

Kelleigh Downs has been with the Hawaii Island Hawksbill Project since October of 2020. She graduated from Stephen F. Austin State University with a B.S in Biology.

**TALK #13 VIRTUAL 100pm Marylou Staman**

"Status and trends of honu, or green sea turtles (Chelonia mydas), in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument" - Marylou Staman, NOAA Fisheries, PIFSC Marine Turtle Biology and Assessment Program.

Marylou Staman has been with NOAA's Marine Turtle Biology and Assessment Program since her first field season in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in 2017. She led 3 honu nesting research seasons at Lalo (French Frigate Shoals) and, although she considers the Monument to be a second home, she now primarily helps coordinate the research and logistics of the project from Honolulu.

**TALK #14 VIRTUAL 115pm Michelle Maria Early Capistran**
“People and sea turtles in Baja California: cultural practices and connections across the Pacific”- Michelle Maria Early Capistrán, CICESE.

Michelle Maria Early Capistrán is a Cultural Anthropologist and Marine Scientist. Her transdisciplinary research focuses on integrating local ecological knowledge and marine ecology to improve conservation outcomes. She is currently a visiting researcher at CICESE, a federal research institute in Ensenada, Mexico, and will soon start a postdoc as part of the Professor Larry Crowder’s Lab at Stanford University in California.

**TALK #15 Virtual 130pm Shritika Prakash**

“Hawksbill turtles in Fiji: Research and findings”- Shritika Prakash, The University of the South Pacific.

Shritika is currently a research assistant for the sea turtle project at the University of the South Pacific (USP) in Suva, Fiji. She assists in project coordination, data collection, reporting, and publishing. She has 6 years of field experience working at various sea turtle nesting and foraging grounds in Fiji. Shritika has completed her Bachelor of Science in Marine Science and Master of Science in Marine Science at USP. Her Master’s Thesis focused on nest distribution and paternal contribution of hawksbill turtles in Fiji.

**TALK #16 VIRTUAL 145pm Unity Roebeck**

“Turtle research and monitoring: TREDS (Turtle Research and Monitoring Database System)”- Unity Roebeck, SPREP.

Unity Roebeck, based in Apia, Samoa, is the Turtle Database and Conservation Officer at SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme). Unity has been heavily involved in the upgrade of the new Web-based Turtle Research and monitoring Database System (TREDS). He was previously the Mariculture Team Leader for the Samoa Fisheries Division for the past 8 years. SPREP) is an intergovernmental organisation charged with promoting cooperation among Pacific islands countries and territories to protect and improve their environment and ensure sustainable development.

**TALK #17 VIRTUAL 200pm Larry Crowder**

“Small turtle, Big ocean: Dynamic thermal corridor connects loggerhead sea turtles (Caretta caretta) across the North Pacific”- Larry Crowder & Team, Stanford University.

Larry Crowder is the Edward F. Ricketts Professor of Marine Ecology and Conservation at the Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University. Larry began working on sea turtles since 1985 and just can’t seem to give it up. Larry has co-authored over 40 papers on sea turtle biology, ecology, and conservation.

**TALK #18 230pm Alex Gaos**


Dr. Alexander Gaos is a research marine biologist with the Marine Turtle Biology and Assessment Program at the NOAA Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center. He has managed marine turtle nesting beach, in-water monitoring, and fisheries bycatch research programs for nearly two decades, and uses his extensive experience developing projects, deploying satellite telemetry technologies, and implementing molecular genetic tools to cultivate marine turtle research throughout the Pacific Ocean. Alexander attained a Master’s degree in Biology from San Diego State University (SDSU) and a PhD in Ecology as part of the Joint Doctoral Program in Ecology with the University of California Davis and SDSU.

**TALK #19 245pm Josefa Munoz**

“Using stable isotopes and satellite tracking on post-nesting green turtles in Guam to identify foraging hotspots in the Western Pacific”- Josefa Munoz, University of Hawai’i at Manoa.
Sefa is a University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa marine biology graduate student. She was born and raised in Guam and is collaborating with the NOAA Fisheries PIFSC Marine Turtle Biology and Assessment Program to advance knowledge on Guam’s sea turtles. Specifically, Sefa’s research involves identifying foraging hotspots in the Western Pacific using stable isotopes and satellite tracking, studying green turtle inter-nesting movement, and understanding the climate change impacts on Guam’s green turtles.

**TALK #20 300pm Summer Martin**

“Spatial ecology of foraging green and hawksbill turtles in the Marianas from >100 satellite tags” - Summer Martin, NOAA Fisheries, PIFSC Marine Turtle Biology and Assessment Program.

Dr. Summer Martin is the leader of the Marine Turtle Biology and Assessment Program at the NOAA Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center. She has conducted research on marine turtle populations throughout the Pacific Islands Region for the last 7 years. Some highlights from her work include modeling fisheries impacts on turtle populations, quantifying nesting trends for leatherback populations around the world, and studying marine turtle ecology in the Mariana Islands through in-water surveys, satellite telemetry, and modeling. Summer has a PhD in Biological Oceanography from Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

**Summary remarks from the Steering Committee**

With Appreciation & Aloha from Brenda, Thierry, Summer, and George- The Workshop Organizers

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