



# 5th Marianas History Conference

ONE Archipelago, Many Stories: Navigating 500 Years of Cross-Cultural Contact

## Overview

Book 1 of 4





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# 5<sup>th</sup> Marianas History Conference

## Overview





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# Marianas History Conference 2021

*By the 5th Marianas History Conference Steering Committee*

The 5th Marianas History Conference, held in February 2021, was themed “Navigating 500 Years of Cross Cultural Contact” to reflect the commemoration of the 500 year anniversary of the first contact between the CHamoru/Chamorro people and European explorers in March 1521.

This conference was unlike that of any of the earlier Marianas History Conferences. To ensure overall safety and comply with the restrictions on travel and social gatherings as a result of the COVID19 pandemic, presenters and attendees experienced the entirety of the conference behind their screens. Conference attendees heard the latest research not only from Guam and the Northern Marianas, but also from Hawai‘i, Yap, the US mainland, Germany, Spain, Japan, Korea, and Australia.

There were 644 conference participants who logged on from Afghanistan, Aland Islands, Australia, Austria, Canada, Greenland, Guam, Italy, Japan, Micronesia (FSM), New Zealand, Northern Mariana Islands, Spain, Taiwan, and the United States.

Amidst this change to the overall experience of the conference organizers made the most of the online platform. Whereas the conference would normally be held over the course of a single weekend, this 5th Marianas History Conference unfolded over the course of nine days, from Friday, February 19 through Sunday, February 28 with two panels each day. The conference began with welcoming remarks from Dr. Carlos Madrid, Director of Research at the Micronesia Area Research Center (MARC) at the University of Guam and LaVonne Guerrero-Meno, Administrative Officer of MARC as conference co-chairs; Dr. Thomas Krise, President of the University of Guam; and Lourdes Leon Guerrero, Governor of Guam.

The opening keynote was given by Anthony “Malia” Ramirez, Guam’s Territorial Historian, titled “History, Memory, and Lineage.” In the following nine days, 66 presentations were given within the 22 panels. Due to the extended timeframe, each presentation was able to run one after another to ensure attendees were given the opportunity to hear from each presenter, followed by discussion.

The conference concluded with a short film: “Revitalization of Traditional Sailing and Maritime Culture in the CNMI” funded by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council and closing keynote by Dr. Theresa Arriola, Board Chair of the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, titled “The World(s) We Navigate: Re-imagining Magellan through the Lens of the Marianas.”

This e-publication contains 45 presentations, papers, videos, and audiovisual exhibits from this conference’s presenters and guest speakers.





# THE 5TH MARIANAS HISTORY CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

**4 p.m.**

## **INTRODUCTION**

**Dr. Carlos Madrid & Ms. LaVonne Guerrero-Meno**  
*Co-Chairs, 5th Marianas History Conference*

## **OPENING PERFORMANCE**

**Para I Probechu'n I Taotao-Ta**

## **OPENING REMARKS**

**Dr. Thomas W. Krise**  
*President, University of Guam*

## **WELCOMING REMARKS**

**Hon. Lourdes Leon Guerrero**  
*Governor, Guam*

**Hon. Ralph Torres**  
*Governor, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*

## **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**Ms. Malia A. Ramirez**

**History, Memory and Lineage**

**5:30p.m. -  
7:00 p.m.**

## **PANEL: CULTURAL IDENTITIES**

*Moderated by Dr. Donald Rubinstein*

**Solidarity Foods: Cross Cultural Visions for a Decolonized and Food  
Sovereign Guahan**  
Ms. Kristin Oberiano

**Fatto Famalao'an Reimagining Chamoru Womanhood in the Decolonization  
of Guahan**  
Ms. Ha'ani San Nicolas

**"Pakaka i Pachot-mu Chamoru Yu!" A Mestisa Rhetoric Analysis of Guam's  
Chamaole Narratives**  
Ms. Arielle Lowe



## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2021

10 a.m. -  
11:30 a.m.

### PANEL: WORDS AND PLACES

*Moderated by Dr. Robert Underwood*

**Pacific: A 500 Year Old Word**  
Dr. Rafael Rodriguez-Ponga

**Places Without Names and Names Without Places? On the Blank Maps of the Gani Islands**  
Dr. Thomas Stolz

**Exploring Latte in the Marianas: Pagan Island 2020**  
Ms. Leila Staffler

2 p.m. -  
3:30 p.m.

### PANEL: TRADITIONAL SEAFARING

*Moderated by Mr. Frank Cruz*

**Valuing Our Ancestral Knowledge in the Seafaring System**  
Mr. Larry Raigetel

**Interpreting an Authentic Chamorro Sakman form the Historic Record**  
Mr. Pete Perez

**Sea-Lanes of Antiquity: Canoe Voyaging in the Mariana Islands**  
Mr. Eric Metzgar

4 p.m. -  
5:30 p.m.

### PANEL: MARITIME RESOURCES

*Moderated by Ms. Rita Nauta*

**Of Songs of Birds and Whales, How Much Must We Lose?**  
Dr. Kelly Marsh-Taitano

**The History of Understanding Whales in Our Waters**  
Dr. Brent Tibbatts

**If Magellan Had Balutan... An Exploration on the History of Single Use plastics in the Marianas**  
Ms. Moneka de Oro

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021

10 a.m. -  
11:30 a.m.

### PANEL: EARLY SPANISH PERIOD

*Moderated by Dr. Sharleen Santos-Bamba*

**The Chamoru Village after Resettlement: Old New**  
Fr. Fran Hezel, and Dr. David Atienza

**Reporting of the Marianas and their Inhabitants in Early 18th Century Germany: The Jesuit "Neue Welt-Bott (New World Messenger) as a Source of Knowledge and Colonial Fantasy**  
Dr. Ulrike Strasser

**A History of 17th Century Manila Galleon Shipwrecks Santa Margarita and Nuestra Senora de la Concepcion**  
Ms. Aleck Danielle Tan



## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021

2 p.m. -  
3:30 p.m.

### PANEL: MID-SPANISH PERIOD

*Moderated by Dr. Michael Bevacqua*

**Fortifications as Geometric Machines: Marianas During the Early Modern Period**  
Mr. Pedro Luengo

**Jesuit Presence in the Mariana Island (1668-1769): a Twenty-First Century Historiographic Overview**  
Dr. Alexandre Coello de la Rosa

**Gov Jose Ganga: Triumphs and Tribulations**  
Mr. Roque Eustaquio

4 p.m. -  
5:30 p.m.

### PANEL: LATE SPANISH PERIOD

*Moderated by Dr. David Atienza*

**Marianas on Display: A Glimpse of the Marianas in Exhibition in Madrid in the late 19th Century**  
Mr. Clark Limtiaco

**The Dawn of America's Pacific Empire: the Capture of Guam on June 21, 1898**  
Mr. Anthony Camacho

**One Archipelago, Many Stories**  
Mr. Tyler Warwick

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021

4 p.m. -  
5:30 p.m.

### PANEL: NEW PUBLICATIONS

*Moderated by Ms. Jillette Leon Guerrero*

**The Value of Community Driven Publishing in Expanding the Marianas Literary Canon**  
Ms. Victoria-Lola Leon Guerrero

**The Properties of Perpetual Light**  
Julian Aguon, Esq.

**Scars of Faith: Jesuit Letters from the Mariana Islands**  
Dr. David Atienza and Dr. Alexandre Coello de la Rosa

6 p.m. -  
7:30 p.m.

### PANEL: NEW PERSPECTIVES

*Moderated by Dr. James Sellmann*

**Developing a Joint History Book: Through a Shared Interpretation of Relationships Between Micronesia and Japan**  
Dr. Yumiko Imaizumi

**Umespipiha i Fino CHamoru Among Non-Fluent Young CHamorus on Guahan: Exploring Language Revitalization, Ethnolinguistic Identity, Indigeneity and CHamoru Activism Amongst Non-Fluent CHamoru Millenials and Generation 2**  
Mr. Edward Leon Guerrero

**From Coaling Station to Tip of the Spear: The US Militarization of the Mariana Islands**  
Mr. David Lotz



## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021

4 p.m. -  
5:30 p.m.

### PANEL: KUMISIÓN I FINO' CHAMORU

*Moderated by Mr. Leo Pangelinan*

**The History of Fino Haya and the Evolution of Guam's CHamoru Orthography**  
Dr. Robert Underwood

**I Minatayan and Other Signature Projects.**  
Ms. Hope Cristobal

**The Kumision's Nation-Building Mission and Vision**  
Dr. Laura Souder

6 p.m. -  
7:30 p.m.

### PANEL: ARCHIVAL SOURCES AND COLLECTIVE MEMORY

*Moderated by Ms. Wai Yi Ma*

**I Hineggen Chamorro: Peoples of the Mariana Islands and their Colonial Records**  
Dr. Carlos Madrid and Dr. Melissa Taitano

**Archival Documents, Translations, and the Universal Digital Library**  
Dr. Dave Tuggle

**Heritage: Conflict and Borders of Memory**  
Dr. Edward Boyle

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

4 p.m. -  
5:30 p.m.

### PANEL: CULTURE AND COMMUNITY

*Moderated by Ms. LaVonne Guerrero-Meno*

**Community Preservation: Preserving CHamoru Culture with Historic Sites: Ekungok i Estoria-ta**  
Mr. Andrew Tenorio

**Mo'na Finding Our Way: Indigenous Women's Resistance and Organization**  
Ms. Terilyn Francisco and Ms. Lisalinda Natividad

**Elementary Teacher in Guam: A Pandemic Reflection**  
Ms. Marian Grace Huavas

6 p.m. -  
7:30 p.m.

### PANEL: TOWARDS DECOLONIZATION

*Moderated by Mr. Melvin Won Pat Borja*

**Statehood for Guam**  
Mr. Dewey Huffer

**Free Association Guam**  
Mr. Adrian Cruz

**Independence Is the Natural way to be: A History of Guam's Resistance to Colonization and Desire for Sovereignty**  
Ms. Victoria-Lola Leon Guerrero and Dr. Michael Lujan Bevacqua



## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021

4 p.m. -  
5:30 p.m.

### PANEL: CELEBRATING HERITAGE

*Moderated by Dr. Carlos Madrid*

#### **Burego: Joyful Christmas Celebration**

Dr. and Mrs. Larry Cunningham

#### **Celebrating 340 years: The History of Saint Joseph Parish of Inalajan**

Dr. Judith S Flores

#### **Slinging Stones and Fanoghe Chamoru: Past Present and Future**

Mr. Roman Dela Cruz

6 p.m. -  
7:30 p.m.

### PANEL: MUSICAL TRADITIONS

*Moderated by Dr. Kimberlee Kihleng*

#### **Long Term Effects of Colonization on Music – Transformation and Adaptation**

Ms. Lynne Jessup Michael

#### **The Matua's Song: A Musico-Linguistic Approach to Decolonizing Chamorro Music History**

Mr. Michael Clement Sr.

#### **Refaluwasch & Chamorro Children's Songs: Music of Resilience, Adaptation, and Identity**

Ms. Melanie Hangca

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2021

4 p.m. -  
5:30 p.m.

### PANEL: WORLD WAR II IMPRISONMENTS

*Moderated by Dr. Kelly Marsh-Taitano*

#### **Camp Chulu: From Tragedy to Triumph**

Mr. Don Farrell

#### **Chains of Incarceration: WWII Civilian Internment in the Mariana Islands and Okinawa**

Ms. Ayuko Takeda

#### **Amelia Earhart**

Ms. Marie Castro

6 p.m. -  
7:30 p.m.

### PANEL: FROM MILITARISM TO TOURISM

*Moderated by Ms. Victoria-Lola Leon Guerrero*

#### **Colonial Narratives: Military Secrets During the Occupation of Guam**

Mr. Seyoung Choung

#### **Operation New Life: Vietnamese Refugees and U.S. Settler Militarism in Guam**

Dr. Evyn Le Espiritu Gandhi

#### **From Asylees to Tourists: Russian Citizens in Guam, 2012-2020**

Dr. Christopher Rasmussen

# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2021

10 a.m. -  
11:30 a.m.

## PANEL: ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE MARIANAS

*Moderated by Dr. Hiro Kurashina*

### **Matter of Time: Outlining the Order of Time Periods in Marianas Archaeology and Ancient History**

Dr. Michael Carson

### **The Nature of Production Strategies Through Ceramics from Three Marianas Island Sites**

Dr. Arthur Grainger

### **Gendered Households and Ceramic Assemblage Formation in the Mariana Islands, Western Pacific**

Ms. Jacy Miller

2 p.m. -  
3:30 p.m.

## PANEL: ARCHAEOLOGY ACROSS THE CENTURIES

*Moderated by Dr. Michael Carson*

### **Origins of the People of the Marianas Islands: Ancient DNA Research and Archaeological Context**

Dr. Rosalind Hunter-Anderson and Ms. Joanne Eakin

### **Guam 1668-1769: Cultural Change and Cultural Continuity in the Jesuit Mission**

Dr. Sandra Monton-Subias

### **Japanese Archival Records and Archaeological Sites from the Pre-WWII Okinawan Diaspora on Tinian, CNMI**

Dr. Boyd Dixon

4 p.m. -  
5:30 p.m.

## PANEL: ARCHAEOLOGY OF FISHING TRADITIONS

*Moderated by Ms. Judy Amesbury*

### **Fishing weirs at the edge of the Parian: Colonial impacts on the Native Settlement of Cebu City, Cebu, Philippines**

Dr. John Peterson

### **A History and Archaeology of the Pre-War Tuna Fishing Industry in Micronesia**

Dr. William Jeffries

### **Digital Archaeology for the Marianas**

Dr. Andrea Jalndoni and Ms. Maria Kottermair



# SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021

2 p.m. -  
3:30 p.m.

## PANEL: HINANAO-TA EXHIBIT

*Moderated by Mr. Joe Quinata*

### I Hinanao-ta/Our Journey: I Taotao Tâsi

Mr. Manuel Cruz

### I Hinanao-ta/Our Journey; The Creation Story, I Taotao Tâno (The People of the Land), Catholic Missionization Led by San Vitores

Ms. Artemia Perez and Mr. Lazaro Quinata

### I Hinanao-ta/ Our Journey: The Power of Perspectives; A Battle for Sovereignty, A Plague from CHamoru Memory Returns, CHamorus Encounter a New Foreign Power in the Marianas

Mr. Juan San Nicolas

4 p.m. -  
5:30 p.m.

## PANEL: HISTORY & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ACROSS THE MARIANAS

*Moderated by Ms. Bernice Santiago*

### Latte in the Marianas: Art, Icon, and Archaeology (FY2017 Community Grant)

Dr. Kelly Marsh-Taitano

### Ginen i Gualo': Histories of Farming and Agriculture on Guåhan (FY2019 Community Grant)

Ms. Kristin Oberiano

### Tâhdong Marianas: Storytelling Across the Marianas (FY2020 Community Grant)

Ms. Samantha Barnett and Mr. Andrew Gumataotao

6 p.m.

## AUDIOVISUAL PRESENTATION

### The Revitalization of Traditional Sailing and Maritime Culture in the CNMI

Northern Marianas Humanities Council

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Theresa "Isa" Arriola

### The World (s) We Navigate: Re-Imagining Magellan through the Lens of the Marianas

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# Welcoming Message from the MHC Co-Chairs

*By Carlos Madrid and LaVonne Guerrero-Meno*



When in 2011 a group of local scholars gathered to promote the History of the Mariana Islands, they did so to showcase the commitment to recognize a culture, its history, and its language. Since its conception, the Marianas History Conference has reflected the same mandate of the community responsibility of the University of Guam, which transcends the limits of academia.

The 5th Marianas History Conference is a gathering of indigenous and academic scholars to share and exchange their research wisdom about the history of the Marianas Islands. In 2021 the theme, “500 Years Navigating Cross Cultural Contacts,” is a direct continuation of the lengthy conversations and exchanges that happened in our last MHC.

The year 2020, in between these two conferences, was a year of difficulties and challenges, still being faced today. But these challenges signified a change on a global scale: From now on, global access and engagement is available for those interested in learning about the Mariana Islands but living elsewhere in Micronesia, or even outside our region. It is only ironic that within the framework of the 500 year commemoration of the first contact with Europeans, we find ourselves globally connected. Scholars from Rota, Tinian, Saipan and Guam, from our neighboring communities in Micronesia, and from all over the world: the Philippines, the United States, Australia, Spain, Germany, and Japan, all interested in the culture, traditions, language, history and political status.

Framed in-between the opening and closing keynote addresses by Malia A. Ramirez and Dr. Theresa “Isa” Arriola respectively, this conference is a way to bridge the gaps for all in terms of knowledge, understanding and respect for the history of the Marianas, its people, and its

natural resources. It is a continued hope for us that this conference will bridge the gap toward a unified archipelago, re-united in its history.

This year's Steering Committee, that has been working tirelessly for months, reflects the strength of the partnerships of the Micronesian Area Research Center and the University of Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands Humanities Council, the Guam Preservation Trust, Humanities Guahan, the Northern Marianas College, and Guampedia. Their great work has been complimented by the superb services of Guam Global Learning and Engagement at the University of Guam: Amanda Blas and Daniel Ragimar.

The generous sponsorship of trusty partners and benefactors has shown even in the times of challenge and difficulties. The Emeritus Director of MARC, Dr. Hiro Kurashina, GTA Guam, Bank of Guam, Dr. Romina King and Eliana Walker, Fokai, Inc., and the Estoria-ta Commission, have all contributed to this celebration, and to all we extend our sincerest gratitude. **Un dangkulu si Yu'us Ma'ase!**

We are most thankful for the interest that this conference generates, and shall generate in many years to come, for so many people. As knowledge and island wisdom and perspectives are shared, exchanged, discussed, our next generation of scholars and cultural advocates shall continue to engage in scholarly endeavors about the great history of the Maria Islands. **Biba!**

Carlos Madrid, Co-Chair  
LaVonne Guerrero-Meno, Co-Chair  
5th Marianas History Conference

# Welcoming Remarks for the Virtual Marianas History Conference, Feb 19, 2021

*By Dr. Thomas W. Krise*



Buenas yan Hafa Adai, todos hamyu! Welcome to the 5<sup>th</sup> Marianas History Conference. Our virtual format this pandemic year has actually allowed us to welcome more participants than any of our previous conferences, as people all around the world are able to take part.

This year marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the discovery by CHamorus of westerners in their waters. And this conference is one of the main commemorations of that event in which Guam and the rest of the Marianas became the first inhabited Pacific islands to be known to the outside world. It's worth remembering that the Marianas and the principal islands of the rest of Micronesia were the only Pacific islands known to the wider world for many decades. New Zealand remained unknown for 120 years after Guam, and Hawai'i remained unknown for more than 250 years.

As presentations at this conference make clear, the contact of 500 years ago led to many painful changes, but also led to the islands and world we know today. Among the most remarkable inheritances of these five centuries is the persistence and continued thriving of CHamoru culture, language and values in the face of extraordinary and powerful outside forces.

All of us at the University of Guam are proud to support the Marianas History Conference, and I join many colleagues in looking forward to the rich and interesting presentations of the coming week. Thanks to the program committee and our many partner organizations for making this important event possible and sustaining it into the future. Biba Marianas!

Thomas W. Krise, Ph.D.

11<sup>th</sup> President of the University of Guam





# Welcoming Remarks from the Governor of Guam

*By Governor Lourdes Leon Guerrero*



Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

Five hundred years ago, the people of the Marianas experienced their first contact with foreigners on these very shores.

As part of Magellan's expedition and the earliest circumnavigation of the world, this initial encounter between Pacific Islanders and Europeans put the Marianas at the forefront of international exploration, politics, and trade, placing us at the crossroads of the world's greatest powers.

For our people, this 500-year-old interaction did not just open our region to the globe. It represents the beginning of the complicated relationship our island's have had with colonization --a perspective that often goes unnoticed.

Through the Marianas History Conference, we are given a platform that allows us to change the dialogue of important moments in world history, share our stories, and ensure our voices are heard. This conference engages our people so our past will not be forgotten and instead will help us shape our future.

As we recognize the significance of this voyage and continue to navigate the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century brought on by globalization and modernization, it is important we embrace opportunities for us to acknowledge the Marianas' transformation amidst 500 years of cross-cultural contact.

While the beautiful Pacific Ocean separates Guam and the Northern Marianas, we must continue to come together as one people to celebrate our common roots and heritage. Through this unity, our voices are louder than ever -- and the Marianas History Conference is a testament of that.

*Un dangkulu na si Yu'os ma'ase'* and thank you for joining us for the 5th Marianas History Conference.



## Keynote Address

# History, Memory and Lineage

*By Malia A. Ramirez*

Historian and Cultural Preservationist

Department of Parks and Recreation

## Zoom Recording





## Audiovisual Presentation

# Navigating Cultures; Seafaring Returns to the CNMI

By the [Northern Marianas Humanities Council](#)

**Abstract:** *After centuries of absence, traditional seafaring is finding its way back to the CNMI. This movement is fueled by a cultural collaboration between Chamorro and Refaluwasch sailors and boat builders. While distinct, the seafarers of these groups have shared sea lanes since ancient times, and today maintain a passion for perpetuating the knowledge of their ancestors with the next generation of Pacific peoples.*

## Film Presentation





## Closing Keynote

### Navigating Our World(s)

#### Re-Imagining Magellan Through the Lens of the Marianas

*By Dr. Therese “Isa” Arriola*

Assistant Professor

Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Concordia University

[theresaarriola@gmail.com](mailto:theresaarriola@gmail.com)

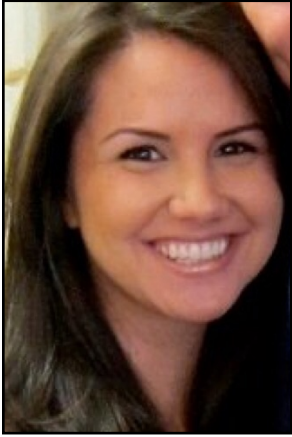
## Zoom Recording



## Presentation Slides

[Navigating Our World\(s\): Re-Imagining Magellan through the lens of the Marianas](#)

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Isa Arriola was born and raised on the island of Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands. From an early age she became interested in learning about social issues throughout Micronesia. She earned her PhD from the University of California at Los Angeles in sociocultural anthropology. Her research focuses on the social implications of contemporary militarization throughout the Marianas archipelago and Oceania more broadly. She is currently an assistant professor at Concordia University in Montreal where she teaches about militarism and the Pacific in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.





