

Editorial

Welcome to the Conference Proceedings of the 36th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity 2021

Kiriko Takahashi¹ & Hye-Jin Park²,

^{1,2} Center on Disability Studies, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Abstract

This is a welcome message for the Conference Proceedings of the 36th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity 2021 at the Center on Disability Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Keywords: Pacific Rim, disability, conference, COVID-19

We are delighted to share the Conference Proceedings for the 36th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity 2021. The conference is an annual Hawaii tradition. Since 1988, the conference has provided a forum for those concerned with disability and diversity to gather together and share research, ideas and strategies. In what has become the Premier international gathering on disability, researchers, practitioners, businesspeople, policymakers, advocates and others from across the globe come together to consider ways to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

This collection continues that tradition and represents some of the diverse voices that were present at Pacific Rim 2021 in March 2021. The volume offers innovative global perspectives on accessibility, education, mental health, indigenous perspectives, healthcare, and strategies on meeting the ongoing challenge presented by COVID-19.

Pacific Rim 2022 pacrim.coe.hawaii.edu

Building on the announcement of this collection, we are also pleased to announce the upcoming opening of registration for Pacific Rim 2022. The 37th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity invites participants to gather together on the theme *Mobilize for action!* and come together to move forward towards meaningful action that improves the life of people with disabilities. As we celebrate our 37th year, the upcoming conference takes place February 28 and March 1, 2022 HST (with a Pre-conference Celebration Day on February 26, 2022 HST). Presentation proposal submissions are now being accepted. **Submissions will be accepted until December 1, 2021 at pacrim.coe.hawaii.edu.**

The 37th Annual Pacific Rim Conference will offer a wide variety of opportunities for participation, including:

- poster presentations,
- live and recorded sessions, and
- capacity building institutes.

For this year's theme, *Mobilize for Action*, we are especially inviting proposals that invite attendees to move forward together, taking collective action to amplify our power for change.

Presentations will fall within five general strands:

(1) **Communities:** Autism & Neurodiversity; Deaf Community; Family Engagement; Indigenous & Cultural Diversity

(2) **Education:** Higher Education, Disability, & COVID-19; PreK-12 Education, Disability, COVID-19; Social-Emotional Learning

(3) **Employment and Career:** Accessibility & Accommodation Issues; COVID-19 and Employment Issues; Innovations and Challenges in Career Development; Transition from

Postsecondary Education to Employment


(4) **Health & Well-being:** Disability and Health; Mental Health Issues & COVID-19; Well-being and Flourishing; and

(5) **Disability Studies & Diversity Issues:** Disasters and Emergency Preparedness; Disability Policy and Advocacy; Creativity, Media & the Arts; Disability Studies & Intersectionality.

As the pandemic has helped focus global attention on the vulnerabilities of the body and our mutual interdependence, there is growing general awareness of the importance of addressing the needs of people with disabilities in any vision of social justice. In this most extraordinary time, we look forward to hearing your voice at Pac Rim 2022 on February 28th and March 1st, 2022 (with pre-conference Celebration Day February 26th.)

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The Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity is hosted by the Center on Disability Studies at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. Learn more about the Center on Disability Studies at <https://cds.coe.hawaii.edu> .

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