Closing Plenary

Culturally Responsive Evaluation and Assessment-Hawai'i (CREA) 301:

Hawai'i-Pacific Evaluation Association 2020 Conference, Honolulu, HI

Aloha as a Disruptive and Humbling Force

CREA-HI Presenters

- Herb Lee, Pacific American Foundation
- Kathy Tibbetts, Liliʻuokalani Trust
- Pālama Lee, Liliʻuokalani Trust
- Peter Mataira, Hawaiʻi Pacific University
- Paula Morelli, Consuelo Foundation

Evaluation with Aloha available at
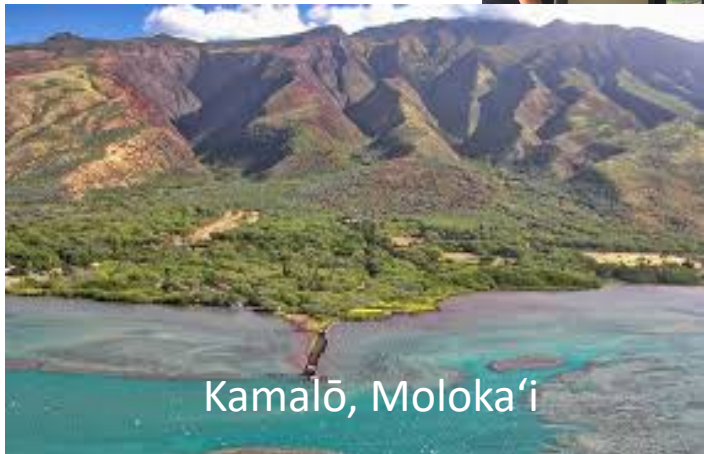https://onipaa.org/pages/culturally-sustaining-r-e-practice

Kathy's Moʻokūauhau

Cherryfield, ME

Me, mommy, and tita

Kalama ʻOhana

Lilo Aiga

Kamalō, Molokaʻi

Lee ʻOhana

Pālama and Kanahele

My partner and foster son
(to be adopted soon!)

Pālama's Moʻokūauhau

Reflections by Puanani Burgess

Vivian Ainoa

Pilahi Paki

Puanani Burgess

Verlie Ann Malina Wright

Lois Ellen Datta

Lori Higa

Pearl Ulu Garmon

Calvin Hoe

Evaluation with Aloha as Humbling

- Living in a space of respectful relationships: honoring the mana, histories, talents, and resources of the community

- Haʻahaʻa – entering a space with emptiness
  - Unpacking colonial assumptions
  - Recognize our biases
  - Open to new understandings, perspectives, and ʻike
  - Expressions of humility and gratitude (e.g., food and other cultural offerings)

Evaluation with Aloha as Disruption

Culturally responsive and *sustaining*

- Honor ea

- Kuleana highest to intended beneficiaries and communities

- Support/advance the perpetuation of Hawaiian culture, ways of being, ways of knowing
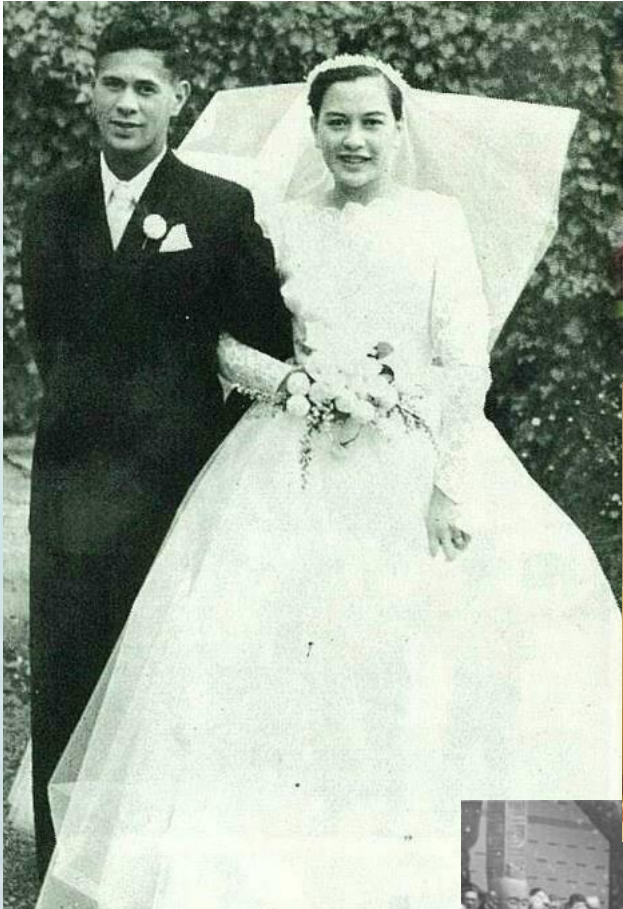
- Be pili with key stakeholders

A Journey of Re-Discovery: STRENGTHS ENHANCING EVALUATION RESEARCH (SEER)

Decolonizing & Indigenizing Community Research

Peter Mataira & Paula T. Morelli

Prologue and Positionality

Lenses, contexts, values

Decolonization & Indigenization

- What does decolonization mean and look like?

- "Everyday acts of resurgence" which regenerate Indigenous knowledges, epistemologies, and ways of life." (Corntassel, 2012)

- Indigenous knowledges are always adapting, creating and moving forward. There's no stopping, no finality. Decolonization is a "tangible unknown" (Sium, Desai & Ritskes, 2012).

Evaluation Research Journey

- 2008: Consuelo Foundation: Nā Kamalei (2 years)
- 2010: Nā Kamalei, Administration for Native Americans (3 years)
- 2013: Liliuʻokalani Trust (1.5 years)

Strengths Enhancing Evaluation Partnerships 2008-2010

Nā Kamalei, Punalu`u

Ho`oulu ʻĀina, Kalihi Valley

Na Kamalei: Ko`olauloa Early Education Program

Punalu`u, Hawaiʻi (Administration for Native Americans 2010-2013)

Keahuolū Ahupua`a

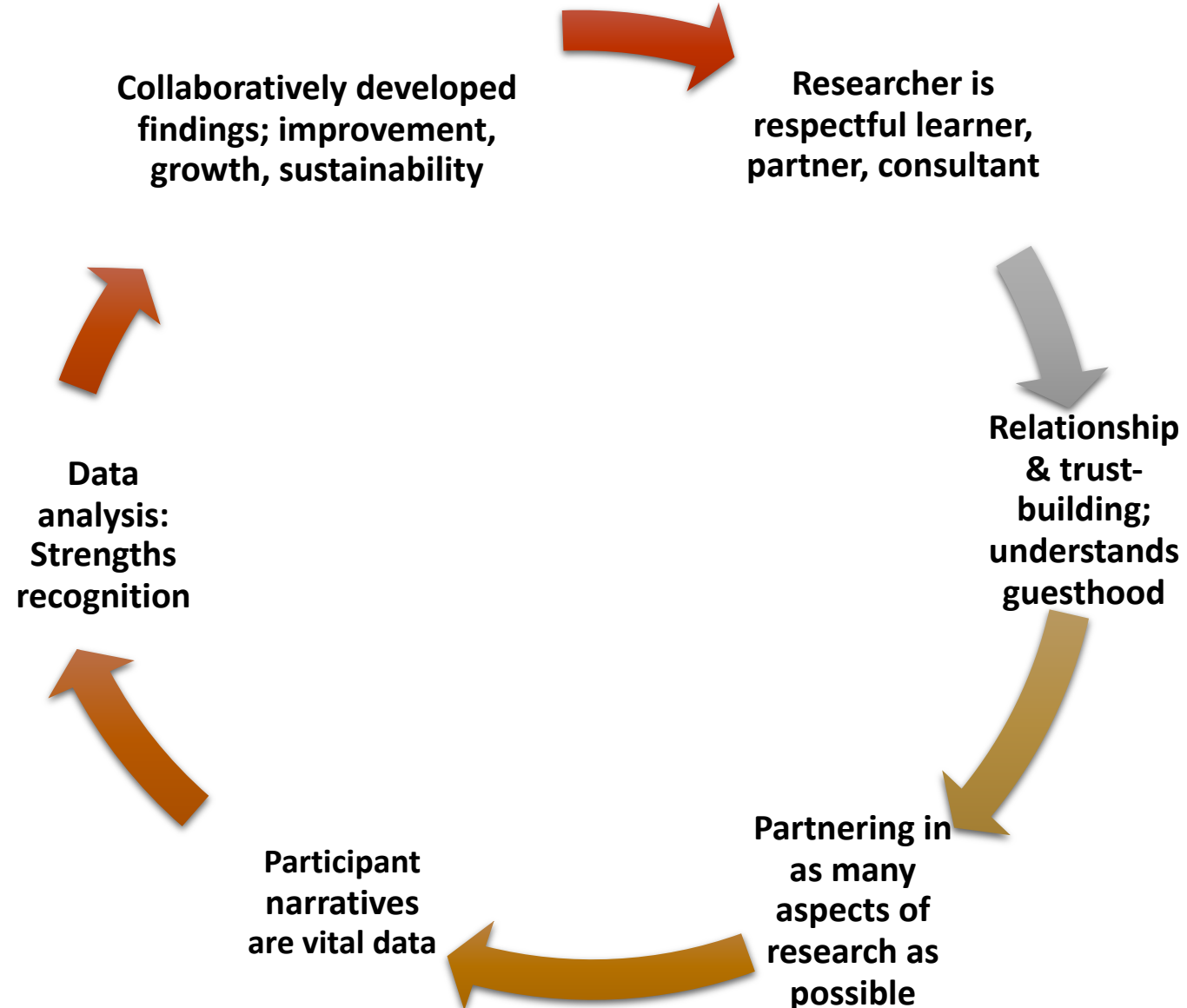Site of Papawai Nurturing
`Ohana Camp
(Lili`uokalani Trust, 2013)

What we learned and continue to…

- We're guests, asking to be invited to enter their space.
- Our interactions were acts of:
  - Trust-building, demonstrating deep respectfulness, not needing to be an expert, self-recognition of assumptions
  - Open and willing to learn what they offered to teach us,
  - Humble and trusting enough to be scolded or corrected.
- What questions do they want research to answer? How do they want to use the data?
- How did they want to tell their stories (Narratives, mixed methods, etc.), collaboratively examine and analyze data, and report (Written, videography, innovative methods.)
- Value of long-term relationship beyond the research timeline

Strengths Enhancing Evaluation Research (SEER): Partnership, Relationship-Building Practices

Collaboratively developed findings; improvement, growth, sustainability

Researcher is respectful learner, partner, consultant

Relationship & trust-building; understands guesthood

Data analysis: Strengths recognition

Participant narratives are vital data

Partnering in as many aspects of research as possible

SEER is not new…

- There's a genealogy to evaluation work, many generations before us sought to re-empower and give voice to the amazing work in communities and to continually develop evaluation processes.

- This COVID period is providing opportunities for everyone to understand the struggle that's been going on for generations.

Each of you will have a unique journey in evaluation research… ask yourself …

- What is my prologue? How does it affect the way I view people, situations, and outcomes?

- How prepared am I to be uncomfortable outside of my own perspective?

- How am I respecting the community's boundaries?

- How am I addressing issues of power?

- How am I acknowledging Indigenous peoples' righteous indignation at ongoing injustices?

Concluding thoughts

https://www.creahawaii.com/resources

SEER Videos

❖Strengths Enhancing Evaluation Research (SEER) – Partnerships with Ho`oulu Aina & Na Kamalei, in evaluation research 2008-2010 (a project funded by Consuelo Foundation) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GEubejt8oUg

❖Na Kamalei Early Education Program Evaluation 2010-2013 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BSJTMKVwBGs

❖Queen Lili`uokalani Children's Center – Papawai Nurturing Ohana Camp evaluation 2013

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