



EAST-WEST CENTER

COLLABORATION • EXPERTISE • LEADERSHIP

WEDNESDAY EVENING SEMINAR

Education Program Presents

Community Planning for Neighborhood Change

Karen Umemoto, PhD

Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at Univ. of Hawaii, Manoa

Wednesday, October 17th, 2012

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Keoni Auditorium, Imin International Conference Center

Viable change often begins at the neighborhood level. Community planning is a vehicle to mobilize communities to work together towards a common vision. This presentation will feature two local examples of community planning for neighborhood change. One case looks at youth who live in the public housing community of Mayor Wright Homes. Students at UH facilitated a planning process that led to the eventual creation of a neighborhood playground. The second case looks at a community planning process in the Hawaiian Homes community on the Big Island where residents are creating a community resource center. Learn how you can get involved in and help to initiate community efforts such as these to realize positive change for children and families.

Karen Umemoto's research focuses on issues of planning and governance in a multicultural society, community development and youth violence. Her book, "The Truce: Lessons from an LA Gang War" (Cornell University Press, 2006), examined government and community responses to gang violence in Los Angeles. Representative refereed articles include: "Deliberative planning in a multicultural milieu," "Walking in another's shoes: Epistemological challenges in participatory planning," and "Essential Elements for Community Engagement in Evidence-based Youth Violence Prevention." She serves on the Governing Board of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and the editorial boards of *Planning Theory*, *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, *Journal of the American Planning Association*, *AAPI Nexus*, and *Journal of Indigenous Social Work*. She teaches courses on Planning and Policy Theory, Community Planning, Community Economic Development, and Qualitative Methods. In addition, she works with various public and non-profit organizations on strategic planning and community development. She has won numerous awards, including the W.E.B. DuBois Award (Western Society of Criminology), the Chester Rapkin Award (Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning), and the Regents Excellence in Teaching Award (University of Hawai'i).

Refreshments will be served. Please bring your own cup, plate/bowl and utensil. The public is invited to attend. Check out our WES blog - <http://mywes.info/>