

NIU PAN PACIFIC

PAN PACIFIC: OCEANIA NEWSLETTER



MORE GREAT STORIES INSIDE:

Doreka Dai - EWCA Award Winner
Maria Ronna - EWCA Executive
Board Member + **more!**

ALOHA OHANA!

Welcome to the Pan Pacific: Oceania Chapter Newsletter.

NIU PAN PACIFIC is a quarterly update featuring highlights from across Oceania. These are stories of our members along with updates and information from the East West Center (EWC), and the EWC Association.

This first issue marks a new beginning for the Pan Pacific: Oceania Chapter's journey to continue and engage with Pacific EWC alumni across Oceania and the globe.

A big MAHALO NUI LOA - thank you very much, to the EWC Chapter Development Fund for making this possible!

Our Pan Pacific: Oceania Logo:

The **layering image** represents both the past, present and future. This pays homage to our ancestors and those who have gone before us contributing to where we are today, and the journey ahead.

Oceania signifies the magnitude of the blue continent that we are blessed to belong to.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD WINNER:

Doreka Dai of Papua New Guinea (Pacific Islands Women in Leadership Program, 2013–2014)

The East-West Center Association's (EWCA) 21st Century Outstanding Service Award recognizes East-West Center (EWC) participants whose initial involvement in an EWC program began during or after 2000 and have provided outstanding services to the community. The 2020 EWCA 21st Century Outstanding Service Award went to Doreka Dai of Papua New Guinea.



“My journey has been colourful knowing I had a purpose and a heart to serve women and others in the communities.

Since engaging with the EWC in 2013, Doreka has been on an incredible journey to realise her vision of “the establishment of a Women’s Resource Center in Boera village and communities to empower women through tailoring”.

With the help of the EWC's Pacific Islands Women in Leadership Program seed funding, Doreka was able to access training in order to advance her limited skills as a tailor. She was also able to purchase sewing machines and materials and other resources. These were the tools that she needed to mobilise single mothers, widows, and women of otherwise limited social means; and train them in sewing and tailoring skills. The endeavour has now turned into a Training Center.

In June 2015 Doreka took part in the Global Women in Management Program (GWIM) in Washington, D.C., facilitated by Plan International USA under Exxon Mobil’s Women’s Economic Foundation, a program that has trained over 6,000 women around the globe and 64 women from Papua New Guinea.

The Tailoring Project was designed as a tool to empower women to bring positive changes to communities in rural areas, especially in Boera, and the surrounding communities of Porebada, Lealea and Papa. Her vision became reality in 2017 when Exxon Mobil funded the establishment of a Women’s Resource Center. She has trained women in tailoring and cofacilitated training on intergenerational leadership and team building. Using financial literacy as a key to building women’s capability on how to control their family’s income and budget are her contribution to women’s empowerment initiatives.

In her own words, Doreka notes that "my journey has been colourful knowing I had a purpose and a heart to serve women and others in the communities. I am proud to be a part of the EWCA community, a legacy that will always remain in my heart, a place that contributed to live the dream of bringing positive changes in our countries'.

We are all so very proud of you, Doreka!

Good news stories or share your profile - please contact us.

If you have any good news stories to share or you would like to be included in our next Niu Pan Pacific, please reach out to us at PanPacificEWC@gmail.com

MEET MARIA: A NEW EWCA BOARD MEMBER

The East-West Center Association (EWCA) is an international network of professionals who have a past affiliation with the East-West Center. There are no membership fees or other requirements to participate in the EWCA.

The Pan Pacific: Oceania Chapter is one of 50 Alumni Chapters of EWCA.

We are proud to introduce to you, Mrs. Maria Ronna Luna Pastorizo-Sekiguchi, Fiji, who is a newly elected EWCA Executive Board member.



Maria Ronna is the Founder and Director of The Greenhouse Studio, Branding and Marketing Coach for FCEF's Fiji Enterprise Engine, Pacific Greenpreneurship Program Mentor, Graduate Women (Fiji) President, East West Centre Alumni Executive Board Member 2021-2024, Vital Voices Global Ambassador, VVGrow Fellow, Obama Foundation Leader, and TEDx Speaker.

Ronna is an advocate for positive change, life by design, and doing business adhering to the principles of the triple bottom line - people, planet, and profit. She is passionate about social entrepreneurship, design thinking, and empowering women and children through education. She started The Greenhouse Studio, a multidisciplinary creative design and communications studio based in Fiji that was born in 2014 with the philosophy that finding creative solutions can inspire real change in the world. The same conviction has led Greenhouse together with partners like the Market Development Facility (MDF), to work on opening Greenhouse Coworking (GCW), which will be Fiji's first full-service virtual and in-person coworking community in Fiji where they envision people from around the Pacific will converge to collaborate to solve the region's biggest challenges.

EWCA UPCOMING EVENTS



Gen2 Leadership in a Time of Change – July 28-30

The second annual EWC Leadership Program summit is now open to all alumni and public and features peer-to-peer learning and professional development in related themes: Mis/disinformation in the Media, Climate Change, and Inclusive Leadership.

The summit includes session #2 of the Mis/Disinformation in the Media Certificate. To register, visit www.eastwestcenter.org/node/40231

Talent Show & Zoom-a-Thon – August 6

Want to share a talent, skill, or artistry with the EWC community? This 1-day live stream event mirrors the popular talent show at our international conferences and raises support for Center programs and scholarships, such as the Gordon and Milly Ring Endowed Scholarship Fund. Come to watch, share and support!

PAN PACIFIC - IN BRIEF

'Ofeina Manuel-Barbarich, Founder/President of Pan Pacific - Oceania Chapter
(Asia Pacific Leadership Program, 2013 - 2014)

Si'oto'ofa and Kia ora koutou katoa.

By way of introductions, my name is 'Ofeina Manuel-Barbarich.

I hail from the villages of Kolomotu'a, Holonga, Tongatapu and Ha'apai, in the Kingdom of Tonga. I now call Aotearoa, New Zealand, home.

It is with great pleasure that I write this brief update about the Pan Pacific: Oceania Chapter's journey. The Chapter's journey set sail in Seoul, South Korea, 2018, thanks to the foresight and support of Amanda Ellis, EWCA President. Having the opportunity to establish the first Pan Pacific Chapter of the East West Center has been a rewarding experience.

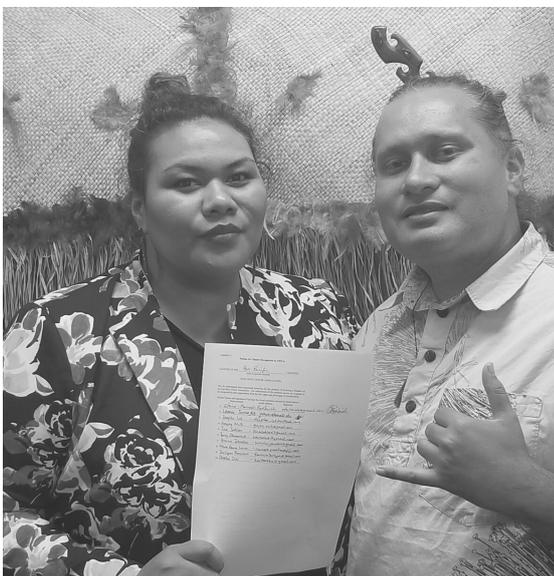
The Pan Pacific Chapter was formalised in July 2019 with support of dedicated East-West Center alumni spread across Oceania. Members from as far north as the Marianas, to as further east as Tahiti, and of course down South including Tonga, and Aotearoa New Zealand. The formalised Chapter holds a vision of being connected to information, resources and each other, and ensuring that our Oceania alumni community is valued within the East-West Center (EWC) alumni network.

At the beginning of 2020, preparation were in progress for the official launch of our Chapter at the 60th celebration of the East West Center. Unfortunately, the COVID pandemic significantly impacted our ability to travel and gather. I think of communities still being impacted by COVID to date, my thoughts and prayers are with you all.

As we approach our second milestone as a Chapter there has been a lot of work in the background to ensure that we are still connected. This work has led us to this newsletter. My hope is that we are able to connect via channels such as Niu Pan Pacific and look at new ways of achieving our vision.

If you are interested in volunteering your skills and expertise to the growth and development of our chapter, please email PanPacificEWC@gmail.com.

Faka'apa'apa atu,
'Ofeina Manuel-Barbarich



'Ofeina and Lelemia after submitting our Pan Pacific Chapter Registration - Aotearoa, New Zealand, 2019



Mahalo nui loa to the brave EWC Alumni leaders whom supported the establishment of our Pan Pacific Chapter.
Dr Lelemia Irvine (Waianae, Oahu, Hawaii), Deepika Lal (Suva, Fiji), Geejay Milli (Papua New Guinea), CNMI Rep. Tina Sablan (Saipan), Tony Siamomua (Tonga), Hironui Johnston (Tahiti), Maria Ronna (Suva, Fiji), Terilynn Francisco (Guam) and Doreka Dai (Papua New Guinea)

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