

SUMMER AT SHIDLER

Pacific Asian Lecture Series

Tuesday, May 27, 2014, 4:15-5:30 PM, BusAd G-103, Shidler College of Business

ULU: Potential Multi-Billion dollar industry, flowering in the Pacific

Dr. Failautusi Avegalio, Jr

This seminar highlights the multiple gifts of the ulu and how it can significantly impact the Asian Pacific economy and quality of life regionally, nationally and globally. Few are aware of the Pacific regional breadfruit initiative lead by the University of Hawaii Pacific Business Center Program (PBCP), that spans Oceania's three sub regional areas of Polynesia, Melanesia and Micronesia weaving collaborations for a regional, community based approach to economic development that has only occurred in the 1800's with copra. Given the cultural and political diversity and scope of the geographical area being served by PBCP, the Pacific breadfruit initiative is a model for community based and regional economic development. Compelling issues engendered by multiple cultures and languages, geographical diversity of and distance between islands that span an area larger than North America, multiple political associations from freely associated states, territories, republics independent island nations, to the State of Hawaii; different levels of economic development relating to sustainability, self-reliance, food security and globalization are daunting challenges to overcome, yet PBCP has found a way to effectively do so.



Dr. Failautusi 'Tusi' Avegalio serves as the Director of the Pacific Business Center Program (PBCP) and as the Executive Director of the Honolulu Minority Business Enterprise Center (HMBEC) at the University of Hawaii (UH) at Manoa. "Dr. Tusi", as he is affectionately known by his colleagues, clients, and friends, has made a profound impact on the development of minority businesses throughout the Pacific Islands (Micronesia, Melanesia and Polynesia) using his strong relationships and an innate ability to create and stimulate new business ventures. There are very few who have the extensive insight into the Western and Pacific Island views of business, the environment and culture. It is this experience and expertise that make Dr. Tusi successful, and uniquely qualified, to advocate for minority businesses throughout the Pacific Island region.

*All PALS lectures are **FREE** and open to the public. RSVP not required. Street or visitor-paid parking is available.*