At Luheikawai, a forgotten place name somewhere in the valley of Mānoa, a newspaper writer wrote down three oral traditions: "Ka Moolelo o Kalealealuaka," "Ka Moolelo o Kamaakamahiai," and "E hoi ka ui o Mānoa ua ahiahi." Though these stories are well-known today, the author wrote under a pseudonym, J. W. K. Kauailinoe, and his identity remains a mystery.

In this presentation, Hau‘oli will speak about the method and results of his master's thesis (Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language, 2021), which analyzes the writings of the elusive Kauailinoe and uncovers hints of his true identity. More importantly, this study provides a deeper understanding of the Hawaiian thought masterfully woven into Hawaiian language compositions of the 19th century while also honoring a lesser-known, yet equally important, Hawaiian writer.

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