



UNIVERSITY
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MĀNOA

Department of Atmospheric Sciences Seminar Announcement

Department of Atmospheric Sciences, S.O.E.S.T., University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
2525 Correa Road, HIG 350; Honolulu, HI 96822 ☎956-8775



The Hurricane of 1871

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Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2017
Refreshments: 3:00pm at MSB courtyard
Free Cookies, Coffee & Tea Provided
(Please Bring Your Own Cup)
Seminar Time: 3:30pm
Location: Marine Sciences Building, MSB 100

Abstract:

High literacy rates among Native Hawaiians in the 19th century and publication of more than 100 Hawaiian language newspapers from 1834 to 1948 produced the largest archive of indigenous writing in the western hemisphere. These newspapers extend our knowledge of historical environmental events and natural disasters back into the early 19th century and deeper into pre-contact times. Articles reporting observations of meteorological events allowed us to reconstruct the track and intensity of an 1871 hurricane that brought devastation to Hawai'i and Maui and to discern historical patterns of droughts and floods in Hawai'i. These findings illustrate the value of Hawaiian language newspapers as resources for science research and science education.