

**Dr. Robert Franco** is Professor of Pacific Anthropology, Coordinator of the Service-Learning Emphasis, and Director of the Office for Institutional Effectiveness at Kapiolani Community College, University of Hawai’i. In these roles he bridges the cultures of faculty and administration, and shapes an innovative indigenous, intercultural, and international campus culture. He also leads a wide and deep array of campus-community engagements with non-profits, and public and private sector partners, and serves on the advisory board for the International Institute on Partnerships at Portland State University.

Dr. Franco also serves as the College’s accreditation liaison officer, and provides national leadership on local, national, and global diversity and democracy issues for the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) and the American Council on Education. For AAC&U, he serves on the Advisory Boards for their *Community College Roadmap* (MetLife-funded) and *Bridging Cultures* (NEH-funded) initiatives.

As Senior Faculty Fellow for Community Colleges at Campus Compact, he conducts training, technical assistance and research dissemination in five states per year (37 states and 3 U.S. territories in total). In this capacity, he also assisted in the development of the Carnegie Classification of Community Engagement. Kapiolani was Carnegie classified as Community Engaged in 2006, and in 2010 he consulted with Montana State University in their successful application for this Carnegie Classification. His institution has twice won the CCNCCE award for “*Best Partnership with Social Agencies*.”

He provides community college, university, and conference audiences with research-based training designed to improve student engagement, success, learning, degree completion, and transfer through service-learning, undergraduate research, industry internships, and authentic partnerships.

He currently serves as a Co-Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation grant to integrate and institutionalize STEM innovations, and oversees the evaluation of four major NSF grants at Kapiolani. He is also a Faculty Fellow for NSF’s Science and Civic Engagement initiative (SENCER.net) and leads the “Diversity, Education, and Workforce” component of the NSF HI EPSCoR program. Further, he is the Principal Investigator on a HUD Office for University Partnership project, and a Corporation for National and Community Service project. Dr. Franco will be presenting on water and its complex issues at the Sedona Edge Forum Conference on *Water, Unpredictable Climate Change, Global Warming and Overpopulation: Leveraging Factors for our Planetary Health and Future*, at Sias International University in Zhengzhou, China, May 23-25, and working with SIAS University to develop a social and environmental responsibility focused service-learning program.