

**A P A**

Fall

2008

**PERSPECTIVES**

National Association for Asian and Pacific American Education

## **2009 NAAPAE Conference Announced**

**The National Association for Asian and Pacific American Education  
Announces its 31st Annual Conference.**

**May 1 and 2, 2009**

The Conference will be held in the Hotel Murano in Tacoma, Washington.

[www.hotelmuranotacoma.com](http://www.hotelmuranotacoma.com).

NAAPAE Member Minh-Anh Hodge will Chair the Conference Committee.



**Minh-Anh Hodge**



The Call for Papers, Registration Forms, and Hotel Information Will be Available Soon

### **Inside**

**President's Message; U.S. Congresswoman Mazie Hirono; Announcement of the NAAPAE 2009 Scholarships; "Using MOODLE for Blended Learning," Membership Renewal Application.**



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
**Gary Kamino**  
**Roselands Junior Public School, Toronto**

Dear NAAPAE Members,

I hope all of you are enjoying the wonderful fall weather with family and friends.

In October, Betty Jeung and I travelled to Tacoma, Washington, for a conference-planning meeting with Dr. Minh-Anh Hodge. Dr. Hodge is Director of the Second Language Acquisition Department with the Tacoma School District.

Minh-Anh Hodge is a recognized leader in Second Language Acquisition in the Washington State region. She is also in the process of forming a new Washington chapter of the National Association for Asian and Pacific American Education.

This new Washington chapter will be hosting the NAAPAE Conference 2009 in the city of Tacoma. This will be the first time in many years that our conference will take place in the Northwest Region of the United States. So, it will be a very special event.

The conference will take place on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please be sure to mark these important dates in your calendar.

The conference 'Call for Papers' will soon be e-mailed to NAAPAE members. We hope all of you will attend and participate in our annual conference this year.

In the meantime, I wish you the very best in the months to come.

Warm regards,

Gary Kamino  
President



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**APA Perspectives**

Submissions for the newsletter are welcome and may be edited for style and space. Send submissions to:

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Please send submissions for the next newsletter by

**February 15, 2009**



(Editor's Note: The following story is adapted from Congresswoman Mazie K. Hirono's website, <http://hirono.house.gov/index.shtml>.)

Mazie Keiko Hirono was elected in November 2006 to represent the 2nd District of Hawai'i in the United States House of Representatives. When the 110th Congress convened in January 2007, she became the first immigrant woman of Asian ancestry to serve in Congress.



She was previously the first woman of Asian ancestry born in a foreign land to be elected to a statewide office, having served two 4-year terms as the State of Hawai'i's ninth elected Lieutenant Governor. She was the Democratic Party candidate for Governor of Hawai'i in 2002, one of only a handful of women in the United States to be nominated for Governor of a state.

Hirono was born in Fukushima, Japan on November 3, 1947. When she was almost 8 years old, her mother fled an abusive marriage and moved the family to Hawai'i. Mazie was naturalized a U.S. citizen in 1959, the year Hawai'i became a state.



Educated in public schools in Hawai'i, she graduated with honors from Kaimuki High School and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She earned her law degree from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C., where she focused on public interest law.

Prior to her election as Lt. Governor, she served for 14 years in the Hawai'i State Legislature and earned a reputation as a dedicated consumer advocate. She was a founder of the House Women's Caucus. Over 120 of her bills became law, making her one of the most effective members of the Legislature during her 7 terms.

(continued on next page)

(Mazie Hirono Continued)

Committed to educational reform, she chaired Hawai‘i’s Policy Group of the National Commission on Teaching and America’s Future and brought together education advocates and stake-holders from across the state.

The group’s report, “The Magic Weavers: Securing the Future for Hawai‘i’s Children,” describes the steps necessary to improve teacher quality, a key to student success in school. Mazie led the policy group’s lobbying at the legislature to successfully enact a comprehensive set of bills supporting teacher quality.

Mazie also led the state’s effort to bring about Pre-Plus, a public-private partnership to create pre-schools on elementary school campuses. Recognizing the importance of pre-school to better prepare our children for learning, Mazie successfully lobbied the legislature for \$5 million in funds to build 13 preschools across the state.



In the U.S. Congress, Hirono was appointed to key House Committees of great interest to her and her constituents in Hawai‘i: the Committee on Education and Labor, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. In September 2007, she requested a waiver to serve on an additional Committee and was selected by House leadership to fill a vacant spot on the Committee on Small Business. Mazie Hirono was re-elected to the House of Representatives in November 2008.



**Moving? Changing Your postal or e-mail Address?**

To help NAAPAE keep our records accurate, be sure to send NAAPAE your change of postal address or email address. If you change your email address without notifying us, we have no way of continuing to send you the newsletter and announcements. NAAPAE no longer mails hard-copy issues of the newsletter. Send your new address to Bob Johnson [bjohnson@hawaii.edu](mailto:bjohnson@hawaii.edu) and Susan Kagehiro [kagehiros@sfusd.edu](mailto:kagehiros@sfusd.edu).

# NAAPAE SCHOLARSHIPS 2009

The National Association for Asian and Pacific American Education (NAAPAE) invites high school seniors, and college juniors and seniors to participate in its scholarship program.

In the spring 2009, NAAPAE will award up to two \$500 scholarships to high school seniors and up to two \$1,000 scholarships to college junior/seniors. The recipients will be students who meet the following qualifications: (A) are of Asian or Pacific Islander (API) descent; (B) are actively involved in extracurricular activities in school; (C) have outstanding academic records; and (D) are young leaders who show concern and commitment to Asian/Pacific Islander communities. Scholarship recipients must be citizens of the United States or Canada or be resident aliens.

To apply, you must provide the following: **(incomplete applications will not be considered.)**

1. The completed application form below (please type or print).
2. One copy of your transcripts sent directly by the high school or college you are currently attending.
3. Two letters of recommendation sent directly by instructors, counselors, community leaders, youth leaders, employers, or other persons who can address your qualifications.
  - a. Include with your application the full names, mailing addresses, and phone numbers of the two persons whom you have asked to write letters of recommendation on your behalf.
  - b. You are responsible for ensuring that the letters are postmarked by the application deadline.
4. A statement of your career goals (maximum 50 words).
5. Select **one** of the following four topics on which to write an essay that contains no more than 300 words.
  - (a) How do you serve the Asian Pacific community? (b) What recent or historical events involving Asian and Pacific-Islander (API) Americans resonate with you and why? (c) What do you think the most pressing issues are for API students of your generation and why? What would you do to address those issues? (d) What steps can high school and college students take to improve relations between racial and ethnic groups in schools or college campuses?
6. A list of your most important school and/or community service activities over the past two years. For each, list the type of activity or service, your role or involvement, and the dates of your participation.

All materials submitted must be **typed or computer-printed**. You may be interviewed by phone.

The application materials should be sent to: NAAPAE Scholarship Committee, **Attention:** Betty Jeung, c/o NEA, 1201 16<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Washington, DC 20036. For more information, Betty Jeung can be reached by telephone (202-822-7736), fax: 202-822-7624, or e-mail: [bjjeung@nea.org](mailto:bjjeung@nea.org).

Application materials must be postmarked no later than **February 28, 2009** or emailed before midnight of February 28, 2009.

## Scholarship Application Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Citizenship Status: \_\_\_\_\_ Ethnic Background: \_\_\_\_\_

**College/University Students:** Name of College/University Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Attendance: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

**High School Students:** Name of High School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University Applied to: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Major: \_\_\_\_\_

I affirm that all records and information sent are true and can be verified.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Using MOODLE for Blended Learning

Yukiko Inoue, PhD

University of Guam



The School of Education at the University of Guam—an early adopter of the Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment (MOODLE)—offers a blended learning research course that I teach using MOODLE. According to the MOODLE website, “MOODLE is a course management system—a free, Open Source software package designed using sound pedagogical principles, to help educators create effective online learning communities.” MOODLE was selected because of its *flexibility, efficiency, and low cost*.

This graduate course provides an overview of the concepts and applications used in educational research, with a focus on knowledge of research methods necessary to obtain valid and reliable outcomes as solutions to educational problems. The course syllabus indicates the planned learning outcomes, discusses student activities, and describes how mastery is assessed. Student coursework is evaluated based on scoring guidelines and scoring rubrics. In the future, the course I am teaching will be taught entirely online.

Incorporating an active-learner model based on a constructivist approach, I seek to maximize students’ benefits from their online experience. The likelihood of faculty-student interactions may also increase through the timely use of feedback. Eventually, strategies will be tested to enhance interactive experience with course content, including short video segments and interactive activities embedded into the lecture material.

Students (many of them were full-time school teachers and administrators) submitted all the assignments electronically, creating ‘files.’ Students also participated in a weekly online discussion and in weekly online exercises. At the end of the semester, students developed a one-page reflection paper based on their perceptions about Blended Learning and MOODLE. Representative reflections to date include the following:

- Blended Learning provides graduate students who are also full-time employees the convenience of working at their own pace.
- Online learning encourages student interaction and electronic contact with the professor beyond the confines of the classroom.
- This virtual platform provides students flexibility to complete and submit assignments anywhere that internet service is available.
- Incorporating technology with traditional lecture formats has a positive, synergistic effect on the learning environment, especially for graduate students.
- Blended Learning teaches students how to manage time responsibly.

Based on the assumption that students at the graduate level are responsible enough to study on their own, the Blended Learning system works very well. Student reflection papers show that students are satisfied with their online experience. Furthermore, students in the course have found MOODLE easy to use, and they appreciate the way that MOODLE presents materials week by week.

Nevertheless, several students pointed out the inconveniences, including occasional suspensions of access to the website, mainly due to power outages and network downtime. In areas where such interruptions are frequent, MOODLE has consequent disadvantages. (For more information about MOODLE, go to <http://moodle.org/>.)

# NAAPAE MEMBERSHIP

[www.naapae.net](http://www.naapae.net)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (*all NAAPAE materials are sent by email*) \_\_\_\_\_

**Application Status:**  New Member  Renewal

**Chapter Affiliation:**  CALIFORNIA  GREATER NEW YORK  HAWAI'I  
 ILLINOIS  TORONTO, CANADA  WASHINGTON DC AREA  NONE

<b>Membership Dues</b>	<b>One Year</b>	<b>Two Years</b>	<b>Ten Years</b>	<b>Lifetime</b>
Regular	<input type="radio"/> \$30	<input type="radio"/> \$50	<input type="radio"/> \$200	<input type="radio"/> \$1,000
Student/Senior Citizen	<input type="radio"/> \$20	<input type="radio"/> \$30		
Organization	<input type="radio"/> \$100			

Memberships expire on April 1st. One-year memberships extend for at least 12 months; two-year memberships for at least 24 months.

To join or renew your membership, print and mail this form with your check, payable to **NAAPAE**, to:

**NAAPAE MEMBERSHIP, P.O. Box 280346 Northridge, CA 91328-0346**

The **National Association for Asian and Pacific American Education** is a network of educators and community leaders sharing information about the education of students of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry. NAAPAE has chapters in California, Hawai'i, Illinois, New York, Washington D.C., and Canada. Membership in the national association also includes membership in a regional chapter of your choice. You also receive the national and local newsletters, a discount on NAAPAE publications and, reduced registration fee for the national conference. We invite you to begin or renew your membership in NAAPAE today.

