

LANGUAGE ACCESS ADVISORY COUNCIL (LAAC) MEETING MINUTES
 Director's Conference Room 320, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
 830 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawai`i, 96813

Maui District Health Office, State Office Building
 54 South High Street, Room 415, Wailuku, Hawai`i 96703

746 Hele Mauna Street, Hilo, Hawai`i, 96720

October 08, 2014
 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Dominic Inocelda, Chair; Gerald Ohta, Vice-chair; Serafin “Jun” Colmenares, Ex-officio; Melba Bantay; Jennifer Dotson; Mindy Emmons; Patricia Harpstrite; Margarita “Day Day” Hopkins; Dr. Ruth Mabanglo; Mary Santa Maria; Terrina Wong;

EXCUSED: Lito Asuncion; Livia Wang for Bill Hoshijo Ex-officio; Kristine Pagano for Francine Wai, Ex-officio; Rebeca Zamora

STAFF/Others: Rebecca Gardner (OLA); Gail McGarvey (OLA)

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
1. Call to order	The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. with quorum by the Chair, Dominic Inocelda.
2. Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair welcomed all present and those participating by video-conferencing.
3. Approval of Minutes of September 10, 2014 Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the meeting minutes. Motion to accept the meeting minutes was made by Gerald Ohta and seconded by Patricia Harpstrite. The motion was carried unanimously and meeting minutes of September 10, 2014 were accepted.
4. Executive Director's Report	Executive Director, Jun Colmenares presented his report for October, copies were distributed and an update was given to the council. Some highlights were as follows:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 140 people attended the Cultural Competency workshop on September 19, 2014 with Ira Sen Gupta at the State Capitol Auditorium. There was very positive feedback. • The Roster of Interpreters/Translators PIG met on September 16, 2014 to finalize the application questionnaire. • Bruce Adelson will be conducting a two-day workshop on federal language access compliance On October 22-23, 2014 at the Queen Conference Center. Registration will be limited to 200. At this time the registration count was about 66. The council discussed ways to increase registration numbers. It was suggested to focus on sending flyers to agencies receiving federal funding. • Conference call with Holly Mikkelson to discuss the December 5-6, 2014 free, workshop for court interpreters on Oahu. OLA staff still looking for a Friday morning venue and hoping to have about 100-150 persons attending the workshop. • Conference call with Kleber Palma, Director, Translation and Interpretation Unit, of the New York City Department of Education took place to discuss details of a workshop on translation of vital documents in January 2015. • Bridging the Gap (BTG) training for medical interpreters on November 7-8, 14 and 21-22, 2014 has about 10 applicants thus far; the deadline has been extended to October 17, 2014. • OLA has prepared three draft legislative proposals; two are resubmitted bills from last year: the extension of the Language Access Resource Center (LARC); the restoration of three lost OLA positions. New is the proposal for a state certification for medical interpreters (patterned after Oregon law). Both Senator Chun-Oakland and Representative Aquino have agreed to sponsor. • OLA and interested state language access coordinators met with the State Procurement Office (SPO) on October 2, 2014 to discuss the possibility of having a single statewide contract with translation companies only, not for interpreting. • On September 15, 2014 ED and Gerald Ohta attended an advisory council meeting of the Hawaii Language Roadmap Initiative at UH. The question of hiring bilingual staff for public contact positions was discussed; OLA will take the lead and contact the Attorney General's office regarding clarification on some issues. The council spent time discussing salary issues for these positions. • On September 22, 2014 ED attended a strategic planning workshop conducted by FACE on the issue of driver's licensing for LEP. • Staff attended workshops on the use of US Census data and federal grants and met with DCAB on a proposed legislation for an ASL referral agency. • Dr. Noelani Iokepa Guerrero of the University of Hawaii at Hilo and Punana Leo is applying for the vacant LAAC position representing a Hawaiian language advocacy organization and

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	Barbara Tom, president of the Nations of Micronesia is applying for the vacant position representing an LEP group.
5. Report of the Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair, Dominic Inocelda had no updates or reports.
6. Reports of Standing and Ad Hoc Committees	
Legislative Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion about OLA's new bill relating to state certification of health care interpreters. Rough draft, based on Oregon's bill, Becky asked for some guiding principles to put in the bill. Gerald Ohta suggested referring to DCAB's process for their certification as a guide to follow on how to word the bill and to look to other documents for certification guidelines, i.e. Joint Commission, and the National CLAS standards (Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Standards). There was discussion on the part of the bill relating to establishing a Hawaii board on health care interpreters, how representation should be determined, by organization, by district, by counties, and other agencies who might be interested in being on the board. Continued discussion on the new bill regarding how many level of tiers there should be for the certification, the terms of members for the board, definition of board, exam fees for certification, who charges and how much. You do not have to be certified to be an interpreter. Terrina Wong asked how does one know if someone is certified or not? Per Mindy Emmons, the agencies that use the service will have to be educated on the tiers. It is the agencies who will have to have the information and not the public.
Motion to Form Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) for 2015 Legislative Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A motion was made by Dominic Inocelda, Chair, to form a PIG for the purpose of processing testimony, responding to inquiries, revising and otherwise representing the Language Access Advisory Council (LAAC) with respect to OLA's legislative proposals during the 2015 legislative session. The motion was seconded by Terrina Wong. Motion carried. Persons included to be part of the PIG are Dominic Inocelda, Gerald Ohta, Jun Colmenares and Becky Gardner. The question was asked if non-PIG members can attend meetings. The answer is yes.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
Special Projects Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No meeting.
Plans Review Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No meeting.
By-Laws Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No meeting.
Permitted Interaction Group - Annual Hawaii Conference on Language Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No meeting.
Permitted Interaction Group - Language Access Month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No meeting.
Permitted Interaction Group – Roster of Interpreters/Translators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be one last meeting.
7. Other Upcoming Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
8. Agenda Items for Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form a new PIG Annual Hawaii Conference on Language Access committee.
9. Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Melba Bantay announced Catholic Charities' 20th Annual Men's March Against Violence Rally on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at noon, State Capitol Rotunda. Ruth Mabanglo and Gerald Ohta will be excused from the next council meeting. Next Language Access Advisory Council meeting to be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 @ 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM, same location.
10. Adjournment	Chair, Dominic Inocelda adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m.

Submitted by Gail McGarvey