

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

Agency on Elderly Affairs, Piikoi Building, Suite 330
4444 Rice Street, Lihue, Hawai'i, 96766

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

Wednesday, January 14, 2015
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Dominic Inocelda, Chair; Gerald Ohta, Vice-chair; Serafin "Jun" Colmenares, Ex-officio; Kristine Pagano for Francine Wai, Ex-officio; Lito Asuncion; Melba Bantay; Jennifer Dotson; Mindy Emmons; Margarita "Day Day" Hopkins; Mary Santa Maria; Terrina Wong; Rebeca Zamora

EXCUSED: Livia Wang for Bill Hoshijo Ex-officio; Patricia Harpstrite; Dr. Ruth Mabanglo; Rebecca Gardner (OLA)

STAFF/GUESTS: Gail McGarvey (OLA); ASL Interpreters Samantha Heberling and Sabina Wilford

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
1. Call to order	The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. with quorum by the Vice-Chair, Mr. Gerald Ohta.
2. Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Vice-Chair welcomed all present and those participating by video-conferencing.
3. Approval of Minutes of December 10, 2014 Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Vice-Chair asked if there were any corrections to the meeting minutes.The motion was carried unanimously to accept meeting minutes of December 10, 2014.
4. Executive Director's	Executive Director, Jun Colmenares presented his report for January 2015, copies were distributed

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Report	<p>and an update was given to the council. Some highlights from the report are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Executive Director's (ED) appointment has been extended till January 31, 2015. • The new Department of Health (DOH) director is Dr. Virginia Pressler. • The application questionnaire for the roster of interpreters/translators has been finalized and will be rolled out to the public within this month. The roster is expected to be up by the end of February 2015. • The workshop on translation of vital documents will be held on January 22-23, 2015 at the Kamehameha Auditorium and Lounge, Queens Medical Center, with Kleber Palma of the New York City, Department of Education, Translation Unit. • The three legislative proposals: the extension of the LARC (Language Access Resource Center) program for another two years; the restoration of three lost OLA positions; and state certification for medical interpreters; have been submitted to Senator Chun-Oakland and Representative Aquino. • The OLA and LARC positions that were included in the DOH biennial budget request were not approved by the outgoing governor. The ED has requested the new DOH director to restore it as part of the new governor's biennial budget. The council discussed options and possibilities for the budget. Gerald Ohta asked if the council would want to reorder priorities as the appropriated money for 2015 was not released yet by the governor. The ED is looking at the current budget to see if there is enough money to extend the contract for Mr. Abhishek Duggal of Connecting the Dots. He said there is no money to fund LARC positions. • OLA is busy preparing for the statewide language access training workshop for police and public safety officers scheduled for the week of March 9 through 13, 2015. It will include workshops on the neighbor islands. The workshop schedule is: March 9, 2015 (Kauai); March 10 and 11, 2015 (Honolulu); March 12, 2015 (Maui); and March 13, 2015 (Hilo). In addition to OLA staff the workshops will be conducted by (1) Ms. Alyssa Larue, staff attorney, Federal Coordination and Compliance Section, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. and (2) Deputy Chief Lyn Tomioka, Chief of Staff, San Francisco Police Department. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kristine Pagano wanted to know if the training was about teaching policy development or how to approach an individual and understanding LEP. Jun Colmenares replied that it would be both, policy and actual implementation. San Francisco Police Department has a module training program which will be presented as part of the workshop. ○ Terrina Wong was wondering if during an arrest of an LEP person if an interpreter is provided immediately. There was some discussion about Hawaii's language law and

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	<p>requirements; the LEP person must make the request for an interpreter or attorney.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ED and OLA staff will be presenting at the following conferences: Cross Cultural Health Care Conference, January 16-17, 2015, Ala Moana Hotel; and Department of Transportation Civil Rights Conference, January 28-29, 2015, Honolulu Airport Conference Room. • Request for approval of sole source procurement for the translation of medical glossaries to Tagalog, Ilokano, Cebuano, Marshallese and Chuukese has been submitted to DOH. Cross Cultural Health Care Program is being contracted for the project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Terrina Wong asked how will the glossaries be distributed? Per Jun Colmenares the glossaries will be ordered directly from Cross Cultural Health Care Program. • ED and staff will be attending the Hawaii Language Roadmap Initiative meeting with Michael Leoz, Regional Manager of the Office for Civil Rights, Region IX, as well as his presentation on HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) rules, both on January 15, 2015 at the Queen’s Medical Center, Honolulu.
5. Report of the Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report of the chair.
6. Reports of Standing and Ad Hoc Committees	
Legislative Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No meeting. (Three legislative bills and sponsorship mentioned earlier in the ED report.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kristina Pagano would like to read a draft of the bills. Jun said the bill is pending review from Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland’s office.
Permitted Interaction Group 2015 Legislative Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No meeting.
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 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No meeting. Jennifer Dotson has one more year on the council. She said she would like to be on the committee as a co-chair and help the new chair take over this year’s conference. • Terrina Wong volunteered to be on the committee. • Rebeca Zamora also volunteered to be on the committee. It was suggested to have both

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	<p>Terrina and Rebeca as conference co-chairs this year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential conference dates are August 6 & 7, 2015. Discussion followed on venue location and conference schedule, only plenary with no breakout sessions, pros and cons. Jun Colmenares suggested conference theme to use AAIP (Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders) as a focus group as there are many issues regarding language access for this group. Gerald Ohta mentioned that there needs to be someone to take control of the vendor/exhibits to avoid unscheduled interruptions. • It was suggested that the committee meet at 8:30 a.m. before next month's scheduled LAAC meeting. Pending room availability.
<p>Permitted Interaction Group – Roster of Interpreters/Translators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ED covered this in his report. The roster will be in place by February 2015. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Terrina Wong asked if an agency's name will be posted on the website. Jun said it would be part of the interpreter's application and not listed separately. She also wanted to know if the community goes to the website how will they make an informed decision. Ms. Wong felt there would be some concerns from the service providers. ○ Kristine Pagano agreed as she has seen it happen in the deaf community. She asked if OLA staff will be accepting phone calls to explain the certification, skills, pay rates and can OLA explain the difference between certifications? She said DCAB does give explanations but does not mention names. Jun Colmenares said OLA will not be providing information on businesses or recommending any particular agency or individual. ○ Terrina Wong said this would have a negative impact on private businesses and service providers and will impact their revenues and incomes. It might also be confusing for the public when it comes to picking an interpreter. How will they know about qualifications? ○ Rebeca Zamora said that the application breaks down and provides all the information Ms. Wong anticipates that the public will have a lot of questions. ○ Melba Bantay said the roster provides names and certification but OLA cannot be responsible to say who would be the best person to choose. She suggests having a disclaimer for the roster. ○ Terrina Wong anticipates that the public will want to know and ask a lot of questions.
<p>7. Other Upcoming Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<p>8. Agenda Items for Next Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None mentioned.
<p>9. Announcements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jun Colmenares said that the neighbor island LAAC members are helping with finding venues for the March police training workshop on Kauai, Maui and the Big Island.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are two more planned language access training workshops, a judges' workshop co-sponsored with the Judiciary Office on Equality and Access to the Courts, contact person Debi Tulang-Silva and an educators' workshop for DOE (Department of Education). • IAC next meeting on January 28, 2015, 2:30 p.m. at Susannah Wesley Community Center. • OLA is still waiting for the new governor to make a final appointment for executive director. • Next Language Access Advisory Council meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 @ 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM, at the Director's Conference room 320, DLIR.
10. Adjournment	Chair, Dominic Inocelda adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Submitted by Gail McGarvey