

HAWAII PLANNING



American Planning Association
Hawaii Chapter
Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association

From Maile Way

**News from the Department of Urban and Regional Planning
University of Hawai'i - Mānoa**

University of Hawai'i APA Scholarship Recipients for 2011 Acknowledged



**Professor Peter Flaschbart, Vera Zambonelli, Tai-An Miao and Mary Alice Evans
at the Annual APA Dinner held at the Plaza Club on July 21, 2011**

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Vera Zambonelli

Vera Zambonelli is a doctoral candidate at the UH Department of Urban and Regional Planning and her research interests lay in examining processes of place-making and everyday cosmopolitanisms using videographic methodologies. Vera holds a Bachelor Degree in Japanese Studies from the University of Venice, a Diploma in Advanced International Studies with a focus on Latin American Studies from the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Bologna Center and a Master's Degree in Political Science from the Johns Hopkins University. Last summer, Vera was a Visiting Scholar at the Institute of Comparative Culture, Sophia University, Tokyo Japan, and this September will be a guest speaker to the workshop “*Growing up and growing old in Shanghai, Delhi and Tokyo. Inter-generational stories from Asia’s global cities*” in Shanghai. Currently working as research assistant with the Hawaiiinuiakea School of Hawaiian Knowledge, she is developing the Knowledge Well, a digital archive of Hawaiian knowledge. Vera is the founder and creative director of the annual Diversity in Place Film Festival and Conference, now at its fourth upcoming edition, involved with Girl Fest, and the outreach coordinator and producing partner for Community Cinema ITVS. Currently, she is establishing Hawai'i Women in Filmmaking, a creative and safe space where film and media-makers connect, create, mentor, and inspire current and future generations of women to explore and pursue careers in the field of filmmaking.

Tai-An Miao

Tai-An Miao earned her B.S. in Civil Engineering from California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo. She received her MS in Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) from UH Manoa, then worked as a community planner for the City of Houston before returning to Hawaii. She has helped facilitate several local community-based planning efforts focused on improving community health and youth development, most recently in Kailua and Waimanalo in her position as the Director of Community Mobilization for the Asian/Pacific Islander Youth Violence Prevention Center. She is now researching ethnic disparities in the Hawaii juvenile justice system and plans to write her dissertation on cross-sector collaboration for systems change. She currently serves as a board member for both the Hawaii People's Fund and the Waimanalo Youth and Family Collaborative. In her spare time, Tai-An enjoys playing volleyball and getting in the ocean for any reason.