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Executive agreements and their relevance to Hawaiian history

KAMUELA, Hawai‘i—March 7, 2011—Dr. Keanu Sai will discuss two important executive agreements signed by President Grover Cleveland in 1893 and their significance for Hawai‘i today in a *Puana Ka ‘Ike* (Imparting Knowledge) lecture in Kona.

Sai will present “1893 Overthrow Settled Executive Agreement” from 5:30–7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 18, at the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort’s Bay View Meeting Rooms. Due to the capacity of the meeting rooms, seating is limited to 170 people.

Previously unknown in contemporary legal understandings of Hawai‘i’s history are two executive agreements that settled the overthrow of the Hawaiian government and that remain binding under international and U.S. federal laws. The first is the *Lili‘uokalani Assignment*, signed on January 17, 1893, and the second is the *Restoration Agreement*, dated December 18, 1893.

The *Lili‘uokalani Assignment* was a temporary and conditional assignment of executive power by Queen Lili‘uokalani to the U.S. President on January 17, 1893. The *Restoration Agreement* mandated the President to restore the government of the Hawaiian Kingdom. According to the *Restoration Agreement*, once her executive power was returned, the Queen would grant the U.S. amnesty. In this lecture Sai will provide a legal and political context in which to understand these executive agreements and their profound impact for Hawai‘i today.

Sai received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, where he specialized in international relations and public law. His doctoral research centered on the legal and political history of Hawai‘i from Kamehameha I to the present. Sai teaches Hawaiian Studies at Windward Community College. He is the author of numerous law journal articles and will have two forthcoming books published by the University of Hawai‘i Press.

For more information on Sai’s presentations, contact Joy Cunefare at 808-534-8528 or e-mail info@kohalacenter.org. For lecture schedules and webcasts of previous lectures, visit <http://kohalacenter.org/puanakaike/about.html>.

This lecture is presented by the Keauhou-Kahalu‘u Education Group of Kamehameha Schools, Kamehameha Investment Corporation, and The Kohala Center.