

**Malia Akutagawa**, is a Kanaka 'Ōiwi born and raised on the island of Moloka'i. She is an Assistant Professor of Law and Hawaiian Studies with the Hawai'inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge – Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies and the William S. Richardson School of Law – Ka Huli Ao Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law. Malia is part of Hui 'Āina Momona, a consortium of scholars throughout the university community charged with addressing compelling issues of indigenous Hawaiian knowledge and practices, including the legal regime and Native Hawaiian rights associated with mālama 'āina (caring for the land), and with a focus on cross-disciplinary solutions to natural and cultural resource management, sustainability, and food security. Malia is the Po'o of the 'Aha Kiole O Moloka'i, the island 'aha moku council for Moloka'i. It models the ancient 'aha kiole (people's councils) that governed along moku (districts) and ahupua'a (traditional land divisions within moku) to create 'āina momona (abundant land and people).