

In honor of Earth Day, We present a talk about hope for our planet's future:

The Original Singularity: How Restoring the Human-Nature Relationship Can Lay the Foundation to Build a Global Eco-Civilization

There's a lot of talk nowadays about the "technological singularity" - the hypothetical point in time when A.I. surpasses human control. Thoughts of this evoke a dystopian future that seems, to some, to be the inevitable future of humanity. However, I contend that there is another singularity - the "biocultural singularity" - that can exist when entire human societies embrace the reality that humanity and nature are a part of a single system, an axiom which can allow for the building of an eco-civilization. With Hawaiian, Mayan, and other societies as examples of historical eco-civilizations, why aren't we talking now about how these can inform the design for our global future? It is because of the many myths about the relationship between humanity and nature that position us as separate from and inherently bad for nature. These myths not only shape the science that universities conduct and teach, and thus our understanding of the world, but also how we collectively envision our future as well. Once these myths are debunked, however, what remains is the very real possibility that the lifeways of Indigenous Peoples, and the pre-colonial societies they developed, offer us what just might be the best templates for humans and nature to thrive together in a single system. The work being done in Indigenous communities to heal these relationships - increasingly referred to as "biocultural restoration" offers the rest of us lessons on how humanity can do this as a whole, so we can restore hope for our future.



🕒 Wednesday, April 22nd, 2026
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

📍 KUY 201
(2523 Correa Rd)

Zoom Information:

Zoom Registration Link:

<https://go.hawaii.edu/yjD>

***Vegetarian lunch will be provided
(first-come, first-serve)!**

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