



IPMEN 2023 Conference Abstracts Tuesday July 18th – Afternoon Session

Valentina Lovat (UNESCO-IOC Italy)

Format: 15-minute paper presentation (virtually)

Presentation Title: Ocean Literacy and the UN ocean Decade: co-designed and modular ocean literacy initiatives

Presentation Description: The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO is coordinating the global Ocean Literacy With All programme within the UN Ocean Decade framework. In this context, a series of modular, co-designed and co-created Ocean Literacy initiatives are carried out in partnership with different stakeholders from a various range of sectors. One of these initiatives is the Ocean&Climate Village, an exhibition created to travel and be adapted to different geographical, social and cultural contexts.

Presenter Bio: Valentina Lovat, Ocean Literacy Consultant at the Intergovernmental oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. Valentina is an oceanographer with experience in ocean communication, stakeholder engagement and project management for ocean literacy, and ocean conservation and regeneration projects. Valentina is also one of the founding members of the Youth4Ocean Forum of the European Commission.

Strand 1: Linking TEK & Ocean Literacy (ocean voyaging) – Facilitator **Michelle Smith**

Joe Martin (Canada):

Format: Keynote presentation

Presentation Title: Teachings of a Nuu chah nulth canoe maker

Presenter Bio: Joe Martin has been dedicated to mastering the art of traditional ʔaʔuukʷiath (Tla-o-qui-aht) canoe carving for decades. He has sparked a revitalization of this ancient art form in his own community and among neighbouring nations in the Pacific Northwest. Taught by his father, the late Chief Robert Martin, Joe has continued to transfer his knowledge to future generations, taking on apprentices and leaving a legacy of over 70 carved canoes. Joe has been formally recognized for his incredible contributions to the artistic community – in 2013 he received a BC Creative Achievement Awards for First Nations' Art and in 2012 he received a BC Community Achievement Award.

Cecillo Raiukiulipiy (Saipan)

Format: Keynote presentation (virtually)

Presentation Title: Traditional Navigation

Presentation Description: This oral presentation will cover topics such as overview of the master captains work, how he grew up traditionally learning navigation at an early age, some examples of navigating by the stars and clouds followed by questions and answers.

Presenter Bio: Cecilio Raiukiulipiy was born on Satawal, a 12 km coral atoll in the Federated States of Micronesia located about 545 miles South of Saipan. His earliest experiences sailing traditional canoes was at the age of seven. As a child, he would stowaway in the canoes the night before fishing trips that often took him to neighboring islands of West Fayo (Piagailoe), Puluwat, and Pulusuk. In addition to the privilege of bringing home large pelagic fishes, these short voyages provided him with early exposure to the value and essence of a navigator out at sea. He was a daring young apprentice and vividly remembers his own follies in trying to set off on his own before he was deemed ready. At the age of 10, he was presented with his own canoe and a few days later, he set sail for West Fayo with his cousin without permission from

his elders. The adventure was short-lived as the canoe's mast fell and they were left stranded in the open ocean miles away from land. They were eventually rescued by his Uncle Mau, but not before being taught a lesson about the responsibilities of navigating a canoe. As Uncle Mau approached the canoe in a small motor boat, Cecilio noticed him standing with a machete. Before he knew what was happening, the boat came alongside the canoe's outrigger and Uncle Mau proceeded to chop off the arm connecting the main haul to the outrigger. The canoe capsized leaving the young boys treading water watching the boat motor away from them. Uncle Mau would not return until after nightfall to tow them back into land.

Cecilio moved away from Satawal after the 8th grade and would only return home for short visits throughout his life. He lived on Sorol Atoll for two years and then moved to Ulitihi Atoll to attend Outer Island High School. He then moved to Pohnpei for four years to earn a certificate in construction trades from the Pohnpei Agriculture and Trade School (PATS). He graduated, but with \$3,600 in unpaid fees for tuition and books, he was sent to work for Xavier High School on Moen, Chuuk to pay off this debt. During his two-year stay in Chuuk, he also gained experience as a private contractor developing blue prints and material lists for the Chuuk Housing Authority. After a brief return to Satawal to help rebuild the church over a period of six months, he moved back to Pohnpei where he worked supervising construction over the course of a year for the public library, the Bank of Guam, the Bank of Hawaii, and the Salvation Army – all the time maintaining part-time enrollment at the College of Micronesia. Despite keeping busy with school and work, Cecilio found opportunities to sail within the lagoons and vicinity of the islands in which he lived.

After living in Pohnpei for a year, Cecilio moved to Guam, enrolled at Guam Community College and worked full-time and on-call as a technician for US Elevator. He joined the Marianas Yacht Club and participated in club-sponsored sailing races between Guam and Rota. He moved to Saipan in 1995 to help operate a water inspection and filtration company and that same year traveled for the first time outside of Micronesia for work-related training in Chicago, Illinois. In 1996, Cecilio co-founded the Marianas Sailing Club to provide free sailing lessons to the community together with a handful of other local like-minded sailors. Over the next seven years, Cecilio would embark on his longest ocean voyages sailing between Hawai'i and the CNMI, Japan to Australia, Guam to the Philippines, including a 1997 return voyage to Satawal with Grand Master Navigator Pius "Mau" Pailug.

In 2008, he served as Captain for Okeanos Marianas, a 50-foot double-hulled sailing canoe, sailing her over 3,000 miles from as far North as Pagan in the Northern Mariana Islands to the islands of Fayo, West Fayo, Satawal, Puluwat, and Pulusuk in the Federated States of Micronesia. Today, Cecilio teaches a sailing course through 500 Sails leading an effort to revive sailing and traditional seafaring culture in the Mariana Islands using the Chamorro Sakman canoe.

Natalie Davey (Australia)

Format: 15-minute paper presentation

Presentation Title: Caring for Sea Country

Presentation Description: Reflecting on 20 years of collaborative practice at sea. Starting with early beginnings of creating a network to build a Polynesian-inspired Ocean-going catamaran to Understanding Traditional Knowledge in contemporary contexts and journeys combining science, Culture, education and research.

Presenter Bio: Natalie is a director of Saltwater Projects - a not-for-profit that has been working in marine research, Indigenous communities and education for the past 20 + years. Her interest in ocean health and research, social justice and climate change led to building a catamaran, ocean projects, catchment health involvement and community development work. Her study and work in the Fine Arts trained her well in the art of lateral and multi-disciplinary thinking which has been helpful for working in collaborative, restorative environmental projects. She is currently on the IPMEN committee and President of the Yalukit Willam Nature Association.

Virtual Talanoa: 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm (Victoria BC time)