



**CAL POLY**



# Sunset to Sunrise:

Pacific Navigation, Living Traditions, and Maritime Futures

*Presented by*

**Cal Poly Strategic Initiatives and Advocacy**

*In partnership with 500 Sails*

A cross-campus series bringing traditional Pacific voyaging knowledge into dialogue with maritime education, rooted in contemporary Oceania and the living continuum of ocean knowledge — from master navigators to emerging wayfinders.

Presented in partnership with 500 Sails, Cal Poly welcomes Grand Master Navigator Sesario Sewralur and Master Navigators Jun Coleman, Cecilio Raiukiulipiy, and Mario Benito from the Northern Mariana Islands. Representing island lineages within the Weriyang tradition of Micronesia, these navigators carry forward rigorous systems of star-based navigation, canoe building, apprenticeship, and ceremonial initiation that have sustained ocean voyaging for generations.

Through interactive dialogues, a keynote lecture, a traditional canoe ceremony, & an evening conversation with four navigators, participants will encounter ocean knowledge as living practice—gaining insight into the discipline, observation, and judgment required to read winds, swells, and stars. In the Blue Continent, such knowledge is transmitted across generations as cultural stewardship, guiding contemporary Oceania while drawing from ancestral foundations.

## Program :

Cal Poly SLO		Cal Poly Maritime	
March 5 11 – 12:30 pm ATL	The Blue Continent I: Past to Present, interactive dialogue with Pedru Perez, Canoe Builder and 500 Sails Co-founder.	March 16 TBD	Launching of the Canoes: A Traditional Canoe Ceremony with Navigators of the Northern Mariana Islands.
March 5 3-4:30 pm ATL	Traditions of Our Past Are Viable Solutions for Our Future, a lecture by Emma Perez, 500 Sails Co-founder, with an introduction by the Cal Poly Hui Haumana student group.	March 16 5-6 pm Compass Room	Beyond the Horizon: A Conversation with Master Navigators. Opening remarks by Jun Coleman followed by breakout discussions with Navigators.
March 6 11-12:30 pm 192-106	The Blue Continent II: Navigating from Present to Future, continuing interactive dialogue with Pedru Perez, Canoe Builder and 500 Sails Co-founder.	March 16 6-7pm Compass Room	Reception with Navigators

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



\*Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander

**Sponsors:** Cal Poly AANHPI Initiatives, Bailey College of Science & Mathematics, Center for Institutional Excellence, College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences, College of Engineering, College of Liberal Arts, Office of Research, International Center, Strategic Enrollment Management & Student Affairs  
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