

2021 SWCOLT FRIEND OF THE PROFESSION



Amefil "Amy" Agbayani
Friend of the Profession
HAWAI'I

Dr. Amefil "Amy" Agbayani is Emeritus Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity Programs at the University of Hawai'i-Manoa. She is the former President of the Filipino Community Center, former Chair of the Judicial Selection Commission and former Chair of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission. Among the University programs she administered are: Women's Center, Office of Multicultural Student Affairs for underrepresented ethnic groups, Kua`ana Student Services for Native Hawaiian Students, College Opportunities Program for disadvantaged students, KOKUA program for students with disabilities, Presidential and Regent's Merit Scholarships and the Senior Visitors program. She received her B.A. in Political Science from the University of the Philippines. Agbayani received an East West Center fellowship and obtained an MA and Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Hawai'i.

Dr. Agbayani has been honored in Hawai'i and nationally with various awards including the following: Alan Saunders American Civil Liberties Union award, YWCA Outstanding Women award, UH Distinguished Alumni Award, Hawai'i East West Center Alumni Award, the National Association for Student Personnel Administrators and Honpa Hongwanji as a "Living Treasure." Her university responsibilities, research and work in the community involve affirmative action for women and minorities, immigrant rights, native language use, educational opportunities for underrepresented groups, and Filipinos. Agbayani co-edited two books on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in higher education.

