

**Viral Ports, Virtual Currents: Interconnections between Media,
the Arts and the Everyday in Southeast Asia and its Diasporas,
a Center for Ideas and Society Focused Research Group and
a UCR Program for Mellon Foundation
Interdisciplinary Workshops in the Humanities with
the program in Southeast Asia: Text, Ritual & Performance (SEATriP)**

welcomes

Victor Bascara,

associate professor of
Asian American Studies
UC Los Angeles

**Guns, Germs, and
Schools:**

U.S. Imperial War and
Its Universities (of Puerto Rico
[1903], of Hawai'i [1907], and of
the Philippines [1908])

**Friday,
May 6, 2011
12:10 - 2:00 p.m.**

**CHASS Interdisciplinary South
Symposium Room 1113**



ABOVE: Detail from "School Begins"
Louis Dalrymple, *The Journal* (Minneapolis) c. 1899.
BELOW: Photograph from *Kapalapala*
(University of Hawai'i yearbook) c. 1937.

This talk examines the post-1898 course of formal U.S. empire, as the spectacle of military conquest gives way to putatively benevolent faces of annexation through such means as the educational and public health apparatuses. As Reynaldo Ileto has noted of this forgetful and forgotten period in the Philippines, 'The image of the conquering [U.S.] soldier quickly became transformed into that of the crusading sanitation inspector'. This presentation, with a particular emphasis on the founding of the Universities of Puerto Rico (1903), of Hawai'i (1907), and of the Philippines (1908), reads for traces of war in these post-war reconstruction projects that implicitly and explicitly sought to legitimate the incorporation of new lands and new subjects to the United States. Based on archival research conducted at each of these institutions of higher learning, this talk examines how contested conceptions of empire may have manifested in and through these universities during their early decades. Building on these findings, this presentation also assesses the extent to which these conceptions of empire continue to be both current and contested under neoliberal globalization today. *Images courtesy of Victor Bascara.*

**INFORMATION: 951 827-3456, patie001@student.ucr.edu
<http://seatrip.ucr.edu>**