The Hawai‘i Language Roadmap is a statewide initiative that aims to identify the needs of the government, health and social services, business, and NGO sectors of the state with respect to world languages and cultures, and to work with stakeholders to develop solutions for addressing current and near-term gaps in personnel, training, and technology, as well as to develop a sustainable plan for tracking and managing the long-term needs of the state. The concept of the language roadmap originated in 2007 with a collaborative endeavor between the US Department of Commerce, the US Department of Labor, and the National Security Education Program (NSEP). The goal of this endeavor is to increase world language learning and cultural awareness for the overall economic and educational well-being of the country.

The Hawai‘i Language Roadmap to a Multilingual Workforce is based on interviews and conversations with people from well over 100 government agencies, community organizations, and businesses across the state. With representation from each of the Neighbor Islands, and from a broad range of sectors (agriculture, hospitality, retail, legal, health, housing, social services, K-12 education, higher education, and more), it is a well-grounded and broadly participatory statewide endeavor. With strong interest from the Governor’s Office, and significant support from distinguished community representatives, Hawai‘i became the 6th state to prepare and launch a language roadmap on September 16, 2013.

For this talk, I will begin with a presentation of the development of the Roadmap, and then turn to a discussion of the 8 initiatives proposed in the Roadmap. I will close with remarks on current directions for implementation of the projects associated with the eight initiatives.

Please take a look at the materials available on the Roadmap webpage:
http://nflrc.hawaii.edu/languageroadmap/

or visit the Hawai‘i Language Roadmap Initiative on Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/HawaiiLanguageRoadmap

Light refreshments will be served.
For further information, please contact Sang-Yee Cheon (scheon@hawaii.edu) or Saeko Shibayama (sshiba@hawaii.edu). The talk is open to the public and funded by the EALL Enrichment Fund.