

**Profile of
Lori Kido Lopez
Professor of Communication Arts
Director of Asian American Studies Program
University of Wisconsin–Madison
2023 Regents Diversity Award Individual Recipient**

Highlights from nomination materials:

- Ph.D., Communication, University of Southern California, Los Angeles; M.A., Mass Communication, Indiana University, Bloomington; B.A., Media Studies and Asian Studies, Pomona College, Claremont.
- Research and teaching focus on ways disenfranchised communities use media to promote empowerment and social justice, focusing primarily on Asian Americans.
- As director, has overseen significant student growth of the Asian American Studies Program; has prioritized faculty recruitment, hiring early-career scholars into tenure-track faculty roles; program's 12-credit Asian American Studies Certificate has seen increased enrollment and number of certificates awarded.
- As co-chair of the Campus Diversity and Climate Committee and co-chair of the College of Letters & Science Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, developed new diversity, equity, and inclusion reporting mechanisms to help build a campus culture of accountability and continual improvement.
- Instrumental in supporting UW-Madison's Asian, Pacific Islander, and Desi American (APIDA) Student Center in 2017, which serves hundreds of students each year.
- Over a sustained period, has centered student needs and concerns, fostered student leadership development, advocated for space and staffing increases, promoted connections and collaborations with the Asian American Studies Program and other academic units, and served as an active and influential member of the APIDA Student Center's advisory board.
- Advocated to strengthen UW-Madison's Ethnic Studies Requirement (ESR) and engaged a broad coalition of stakeholders as part of efforts to deepen student understanding of multiple dimensions of diversity.
- Has written several books on race and the media, including an ethnographic study of how Hmong Americans engage with a wide range of media.
- Selected Awards: Chancellor's Inclusive Excellence Award (UW-Madison Distinguished Teaching Awards, 2020); Early Career Achievement Award (Association for Asian American Studies, 2017); Research-Service Award (UW-Madison, 2017); Outstanding Women of Color Award (UW-Madison, 2015).

In the words of Dr. Lopez:

- "Beyond my work as a scholar, I have also engaged in numerous efforts across campus to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion at the university level. I see all of these efforts as centered around creating sustainable impacts, increasing accountability through assessment, highlighting intersections across multiple dimensions of diversity, and strengthening impact through collaboration."

In the words of colleagues:

- "[Dr. Lopez] has made transformative, meaningful, and inspired commitments to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging and richly deserves to be recognized for her commitment and successes."
—*Jennifer L. Mnookin, Chancellor, UW-Madison*
- "[Dr. Lopez] is a tireless advocate for diversity and inclusion on the UW-Madison campus, working at both the micro- and macro-levels to build a not just a culture of change, but also the tools that culture needs to make real progress."—*Derek Johnson, Chair and Communication Arts Partners Professor, Department of Communication Arts, UW-Madison*