

AS PART OF THE FSU ENGLISH DEPARTMENT'S SPRING SERIES ON ARCHIVAL RESEARCH,
THE RHETORIC & COMPOSITION PROGRAM PRESENTS

RECIPROCITY, REPATRIATION, & REPARATION IN THE ARCHIVES:

QUESTIONING CONTINGENT LIBERATION & DECOLONIZATION

DR. RICARDO PUNZALAN

February 23, 2022 | 3:30–5:00
Williams Common Room (WMS 013)

Dr. Punzalan's presentation will reflect on archival decolonization and the implications of the following quote attributed to Lilla Watson, an Indigenous Australian artist and activist:

"IF YOU HAVE COME TO HELP ME YOU ARE WASTING YOUR TIME. BUT IF YOU HAVE COME BECAUSE YOUR LIBERATION IS BOUND UP WITH MINE, THEN LET US WORK TOGETHER."

His talk, which will discuss recent **decolonization and Indigenization practices in archival spaces and collections**, addresses the questions:

- *What constitutes decolonial actions in archives and how does this work actually advance Indigenous sovereignty and self-determination?*
- *How do related concepts of reciprocity, repatriation, and reparation simultaneously expands and limits our approaches to decolonization?*

In addition, Dr. Punzalan will discuss the promises and challenges of decolonial work in archives while clarifying the role of **reciprocal and reparative actions** as means to achieve a culturally-responsive and historically-minded stewardship.

Dr. Ricardo L. Punzalan is a scholar of archives and digital curation. He studies community access and use of anthropological data in archives, as well as the digitization of ethnographic records held in libraries, archives, and museums. He is currently an associate professor at the School of Information and on the faculty of the Museum Studies Program at the University of Michigan. He codirects *ReConnect/ReCollect: Reparative Connections to Philippine Collections at the University of Michigan*, a project that develops the framework for, and the practice of, reparative work for Philippine collections acquired by the university during the US colonial period. He is currently co-chair of the Archival Repatriation Committee of the Society of American Archivists.

