

SAMOA—U.S. RELATIONS



FRIDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER
1:00 P.M.
250 SWKT



His Highness

Tui Atua Tupua
Tamasese Efi

HEAD OF STATE, SAMOA

His Highness Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi was elected in 2007 as the head of state of Samoa. Tupua has held a number of academic positions during and after his political career as an MP and prime minister for two terms. He has authored three books and numerous scholarly journals and publications from his government and academic pursuits. Tupua served as an associate member of the Matahauariki Institute at Waikato University and as an adjunct professor for Te Whare Wananga o Awanuiarangi in New Zealand. He is a former resident scholar at the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies at University of Canterbury in New Zealand and at the Australian

National University in Canberra, where he also served as a PhD examiner for Pacific and Samoan history. At Samoa's archaeological site Pulemelei Mound, Tupua helped begin excavations, and at his direction in 2003, Samoans held a ceremony to honor Thor Heyerdahl for his contributions to Polynesia and the Pulemelei Mound excavations. Described as a defender and proponent of the Samoan language, Tupua was educated at St. Patrick's College and at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand. He is the son of the late Tupua Tamasese Mea'ole and Noue Irene Gustava Ta'isi Nelson and is married to Her Highness Masiofo Filifilia.