



Oct. 24 meeting

Number 16: 2007-08

PRESIDING: RICHARD CROWE
LED PLEDGE: ART TANIGUCHI
INSPIRATION: MARY BEGIER
Ms. MIKE: SUZANNE ROBOTHAM

GUESTS:
HILO CLUB: ALAN KUSUNOKI, JERE USUI
SOUTH HILO CLUB: WALLY CHONG
OTHERS: DR. JOHN PEZZUTO (GUEST SPEAKER), LISA SEESE (WITH JOHN PEZZUTO), DONN MENDE (HOST GERRY HOLLINS)



UH HILO COLLEGE OF PHARMACY: A LABOR OF LOVE BEFORE IT EXISTED

Dr. John Pezzuto (left) was introduced by Carol Van Camp. “Dr. John” was appointed the founding dean of UH Hilo’s College of Pharmacy. He previously served as Dean of the College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Health Sciences at Purdue University. Active in research, Pezzuto’s current interests include natural products as inhibitors of chemical carcinogenesis, biological evaluation of potential cancer chemotherapeutic agents, isolation of chemotherapeutic agents from plant materials, evaluation of test agents for cancer preventative and therapeutic activity employing animal models. Pezzuto earned an A.B. in chemistry from Rutgers University and a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He is the author of over 400 manuscripts, and his research team was recently granted more than \$6.8 million by the National Cancer Institute to continue cancer chemoprevention studies. The new College of Pharmacy was first discussed in 1998 and finally established in

Service
Above
Self



2006. John actually became Dean before the school could formally grant a degree in Pharmacy! The new college’s mission is to train young people in Hawai’i in pharmaceutical science and pharmacy practice. There is a severe shortage of pharmacists in the state. The college’s first cohort is 90 students, with 16 faculty and staff. The plan is to reach a staff of 60 within 3 years. Accreditation standards are high with over 150 guidelines to be followed. Tuition is on a par with other U.S. pharmacy schools: \$15,000 a year for in-state students and \$30,000 a year for out-of-state students. “Dr. John” finished his talk with a quote from Charles Dickens’ “Pickwick Papers”: “The whole difference between construction and creation is exactly this: that a thing constructed can only be loved after being constructed, but a thing created is loved before it exists.”

