

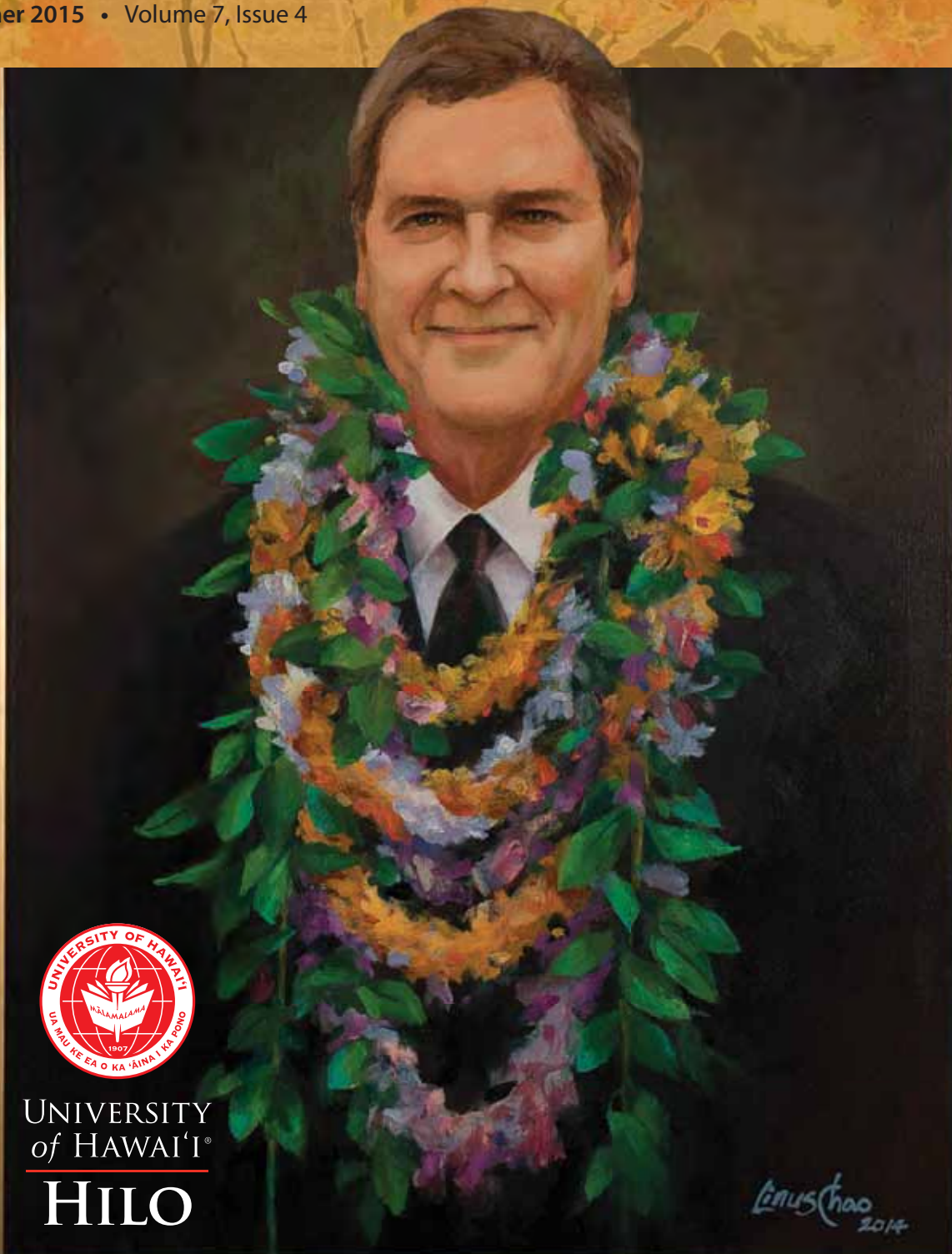
One who mixes ingredients, drugs or medications: a pharmacist

Kāwili Lā'au



The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Summer 2015 • Volume 7, Issue 4



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HILO

Linus Chao
2014

Dean's Message



In this issue of *Kawili La'au* it is an honor to focus on the Class of 2015. Many transitions will occur in the near future, including my own, but the graduation of a class of student pharmacists must be considered the most profound metamorphosis. Leaving the relative comfort of familiar University life for the unexplored territory of the professional is an exciting adventure. Throughout the years I have been proud of all of our graduates, and again, I have great confidence each and every member of this graduating class will succeed. Our College is vibrant. We have built a pedagogical base that is arguably equal to or better than any other pharmacy college. These graduates are competitive, assertive and well prepared. So we celebrate with them in this issue, and chronicle their final week before receiving their Doctor of Pharmacy degrees.

We also celebrate the future in this issue by looking at progress being made on our permanent home, the construction of which should commence this calendar year. Once again, we extend our thanks to all of the many people who supported our case for a permanent building. In addition to enhancing our ability to aptly fulfill our mission, it is a symbol of strength of durability. The DKICP is here to stay.

Another glimpse into the future was before our eyes during the annual Awards Ceremony, when our students, who will be graduates in years to come, took center stage in an evening of celebration. The event has greatly expanded since the time when my wife, Mimi, and I were able to host an annual luau at our house. Congratulations to all of the award-winners.

Making us proud at the University level, two of our very own 'ohana were recognized with awards from the Chancellor's office: Dr. Susan Jarvi and Nadine Hara. In a moving ceremony, they represented all the greatness that our entire College displays.

Meanwhile, it's business as usual as we made more connections with Japanese universities, and completed our strategic plan, which will take us into 2020. Our faculty seminar series attracted world-wide scholars, and collaborations with other programs as well as with state agencies and hospitals keeps our faculty alert and engaged while they exert their leadership skills.

And despite the busy final weeks of the semester, our students stepped up once again and showed their incredible community spirit through non-profit fundraisers and representing DKICP in the Merrie Monarch Parade. Their energy level never ceases to amaze me, and I hope they realize how gratified I am by their engagement, enthusiasm and spirit.

As many of you know, this will be my final message as Dean of the DKICP. It is a time of mixed emotions and ambivalence, to say the least. On the positive side, Mimi and I will be eternally grateful to Hany Guirguis and Adele Etinas who graciously established The John M. and Mimi F. Pezzuto Fund for Excellence at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. This endowment will benefit students for the life of the College.

But as I recall so many wonderful deeds and accomplishments, I am also compelled to think of all the things I will miss in the future. One thing I will miss is the great privilege and honor of presenting and hooding the Class of 2016. In a touching gesture, they allowed me to provide a message for their upcoming yearbook. I would like to share an excerpt with you.

Dear Class of 2016,

For some reason, the year we were fortunate enough for you, the Class of 2016, to join the College of Pharmacy, seems like a very long time ago. We were struggling to acquire funding for a permanent building and our professional accreditation was in some jeopardy. But now, as you approach your graduation day, you can be confident that everything is in order. Construction of the permanent building is on the horizon, the College is compliant with every single standard established by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, passage rates on the NAPLEX and MPJE are respectable, opportunities following graduation are solid, and our faculty is strong. Everything is well-positioned for a bright future.

I hope you will always take pride in your alma mater, the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. I hope you look back at your professional education experience with great fondness. But most of all, I hope you were not burdened by politics or polemics and just had the opportunity to enjoy the incredibly rich environment of Hawaii while mastering your new profession. One of my fundamental concerns has been to help foster such an atmosphere. Only you will know if that vision has been achieved; truly, I hope so.

Having been cited so frequently, the Shakespearean quote "Parting is such sweet sorrow..." may seem trite, and it is not possible to "... say good night till it be morrow." We all have our own paths in life and, as you know, I too will be following a different path. I am proud of what we have accomplished here but, were it not for you, all of our progress would have been for naught. It has been my honor to serve you.

In parting, as I asserted during the 2015 UH Hilo Commencement Address, ... my most indelible memories will certainly include my many friends and colleagues at UH Hilo and throughout the state. Building this College and everything surrounding its creation has become a part of my soul. In that sense, I don't imagine I will ever leave.

Aloha 'Oe

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John M. Pezzuto', written in a cursive style.

John M. Pezzuto
Dean



Kāwili Lā'au

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On the cover: Dean John Pezzuto was presented an oil-on-canvas portrait painted by famed award-winning artist Linus Chao. Mr. Chao, an American who was born in northern China, was sent to attend college in Taiwan. He, his wife, and four children immigrated to Hawai'i in 1969.

Mr. Chao studied, exhibited, and taught art from China and Tokyo to New York and Canada. He has given generously of his talents and knowledge in a wide range of areas. Recognized both locally and internationally for life-like portraiture, he leads a variety of classes, including those on Chinese culture, photography, silk screening, drawing, and painting. He has also presented numerous workshops around the world.

Linus Chao was born in the Year of the Horse in 1930 in Shangdong Province, China, and received a Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Fine Arts from Taiwan National Normal University as well as a Master of Science Degree in Visual Arts Education from New York's Parsons School of Design.

During the 1960s, Mr. Chao studied and trained in animation and film at Toei Motion Picture Co. in Tokyo, Japan, and Walt Disney Studio and Hanna-Barbera Productions in Hollywood. He is known as the "Father of Animation" in Taiwan and China for pioneering animated educational films in Taiwan.

He was a professor of fine arts at Hawaii Community College from 1971-2003. In 1997, Mr. Chao received the County of Hawaii Living Legend Award for his dedicated contribution to promoting culture and the arts. In 2002-03, he received the University of Hawaii Board of Regents Medal for Excellence in Teaching Award.

Plans are for the portrait of the Founding Dean to be displayed in DKICP's permanent building, currently in pre-construction phase (see page 19).



Commencement 2015

The Class of 2015 entered the Edith Kanaka'ole Multipurpose Stadium in Hilo at 9 a.m. on Saturday May 16 to be bestowed with the right to use the title "Dr." before their names.

This year they were treated with a special honor when Dean John Pezzuto gave the keynote address (see related stories). Chancellor Donald Straney presented the Chancellor's Certificate of Recognition to Dean Pezzuto, which recognizes faculty and staff "whose accomplishments and contributions exemplify the vision of UH Hilo to prepare students to thrive, compete, innovate and lead in their personal and professional lives."

"This award is given to a person whose contribution to UH Hilo goes above and beyond what is expected, and serves as an example to us all," Chancellor Straney said.

Previous recipients of the award include Gerald De Mello, Jackie Johnson, Bridget Awong and Norman Aroncon.

Pharmacy graduates were among 821 candidates for degrees and certificates at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo's Spring 2015 Commencement Ceremony. There were 91 PharmD degree's awarded, while 87 graduates also earned a Bachelor of Arts in Pharmacy Studies (BAPS).

Thousands of family members, friends, teachers

and mentors packed the stadium to watch the carefully choreographed march of the graduates as they took their seats. Many faculty members showed their support and donned the regalia of their alma mater and walked alongside the students.

Students from the professional pharmacy program filled the first three rows in the center of the biggest venue in Hilo. When it was time for the PharmD students to take the stage in their black and green robes, they crossed one by one as their names were called. They first approached Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Dr. Edward Fisher, who took the ceremonial hood from their arms and then approached Dean John Pezzuto, who placed the doctoral hoods over their heads, signifying their success at completing the program.

The graduates moved on to shake hands with Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Matthew Platz, Vice President for Administration Jan Gouveia and Chancellor Donald Straney.

Perhaps tens of thousands of photos and flower leis later, the Class of 2015 has now taken its place in the annals of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. Congratulations!!!



Founding Dean John Pezzuto delivers funny, poignant commencement Address

(Following are his remarks without the sound effects.)

It is quite an honor for me to be here today and have the opportunity to provide a few remarks. It has taken me nine years, but I have finally made it to the front row of the platform party.

Since this is a commencement address, I am supposed to tell you something very profound and philosophical. Sorry, but that's the rules. So, I thought I would start by quoting one of the greatest philosophers of our time – Sponge Bob Square Pants. In one of his many episodes, he sang a song entitled "The Best Day Ever." I would like to sing this for you now but I thought technology would be better. Here goes.

(Dean Pezzuto pushed a button and the song "It's the best day ever" from Spong Bob Square Pants played over the speaker system, to the enjoyment, surprise and laughter from the crowd.)

So, what do you think? Is this the best day ever? Indeed it is.

As I walked into the stadium this morning, I witnessed a familiar event.

There was a young man in his cap and gown, and his mother was trying to take a picture. He was standing with his father. His mother said, "Okay, Junior, let's try to make this look natural. Put your arm around your father's shoulder." His father answered, "If you want it to look natural, why not have him put his hand in my pocket?"

In other words, today, the best day ever, is a time for celebration. Yes, for the graduates, but also for everyone who cares for you, such as Junior's father, who is now on his way to financial independence.

I hope each of you graduates have someone to celebrate with today. But if not, for whatever reason, you can come to my house. My wife, Mimi, is here today, sitting over there with the faculty. Would you stand and be recognized? Is it okay with you if anyone needing a family for the day comes to our house? Yes? I thought so.

Anyhow, it would be nice to chat with you all day, but Chancellor Straney has given me strict orders keep my remarks short. It shouldn't be so hard. How many of you know how many words were in Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, one of the most important speeches of all time? 272. I am already at 337 words and I haven't said a single thing. So let's get down to business.

As you know, for the past several years I have had the honor of serving as the Founding Dean of the College of Pharmacy. I hope you all agree we have proven that a College, with all the right stuff, can be located in Hilo and thrive. Based on this idea, the Chancellor asked me to consider my experience in creating this college and relay any parallel life lessons that can apply to you, our graduates, as you go forward.

What came to my mind immediately was a piece entitled the Paradoxical Commandments composed by Dr. Kent Keith. Dr. Keith was born in Brooklyn but has roots in Hawai'i. He graduated from Roosevelt University and holds a law degree from UH. As with the classical Commandments, there are 10 Paradoxical Commandments. I will read



them for you.

1. People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered. Love them anyway.
2. If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives. Do good anyway.
3. If you are successful, you will win false friends and true enemies. Succeed anyway.
4. The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.
5. Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable. Be honest and frank anyway.
6. The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds. Think big anyway.
7. People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs. Fight for a few underdogs anyway.
8. What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight. Build anyway.
9. People really need help but may attack you if you do help them. Help people anyway.
10. Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth. Give the world the best you have anyway. So there is it. Do you think I am being too cynical? Too

sarcastic? I can only tell you this, as a matter of fact. I have found all of these statements to be true, not just here in Hawai'i, but throughout the country. Perhaps you have or will find them to be true as well. But in any case, I hope you are able to: do good, think big, help people, and give the world the best you have.

So, now, in case that's not enough, let me be very candid with you for a minute. Some people find themselves positioned with a leg up. A degree embossed with a name such as Harvard, Princeton or Yale opens some doors - without even a single word being said.

But having started my career in a three-room elementary school in rural southern New Jersey, and being the first in my family to complete graduate school, I can assure you that you hold your future in your own hands.

There is no doubt the tools you have acquired at UH Hilo are of high quality. So now it is time to use those tools, while continuing to acquire additional tools as life-long learners, and building a career and a life that fulfills all your dreams.

So what about these dreams? It is often said that anything is possible. Honestly, I do not believe anything is possible. But many good, important things are possible, and these things generally require inspiration, focus and very hard work. I am sorry to tell you this, but sometimes, for an inspiration to become a reality, it is necessary to leave home and family.

I can say on a first-hand basis such a decision can be very costly and painful. But eventually it may be paramount to go where your work is. My work has been in Hawai'i. Many people predicted the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy would fail. It appears some people still aspire to make it fail. But it will not fail. I hope you can view this as an example of how you can be part of something that improves society while at the same time generating pride and self-contentment.

Finally, I was recently asked, what will I remember most about my time at UH Hilo? As time goes on, and I struggle through snow storms and blizzards in New York, I will probably remember the weather more often than anything else.

But seriously, there are too many things to list. Of course I will always remember our long list of firsts. The inaugural class, this graduation, gaining professional accreditation, recruitment efforts, establishing graduate programs and respectable research programs, and the trials and tribulations of the permanent and interim buildings, to mention a few.

But my most indelible memories will certainly include my many friends and colleagues at UH Hilo and throughout the state. Building this College and everything surrounding its creation has become a part of my soul. In that sense, I don't imagine I will ever leave.

As days or years go by, or even in a few minutes, I am sure you will not remember who presented this commencement address, let alone what I said. But remember just one thing:

(He pushed a button a played the song "It's the best day ever.")

Congratulations to all. This is the best day ever.

Class of 2015 makes strong showing in preliminary job searches

More than half of all new PharmDs from DKICP have been hired within the first month of graduation for jobs in 14 states as well as Washington, D.C., Guam and American Samoa at various retail chains, community pharmacies and hospitals.

With an 84 percent response rate, the Department of Student Services obtained information from 76 out of 91 students who graduated in May.

"Upon graduation and before the NAPLEX licensure exam, 57 percent reported that they have obtained a job that requires a PharmD degree or were working in a paid residency," said Paula Zeszotarski, DKICP assessment coordinator. "The average salary for graduates working full-time but not in a residency program is \$122,000."

A record 16 members of the class were selected for

pharmacy residencies in hospitals across the mainland US and Hawai'i. They will reside in Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, North Dakota, Tennessee, Washington state as well as Washington, D.C.

New DKICP alumni will be working in the following states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Hawai'i, Idaho, Louisiana, Minnesota, North Dakota, Nevada, Tennessee, Texas, and Washington.

Most of the class accepted jobs at national chain retail pharmacies such as CVS/Long's, Fred Meyer, Safeway, Target, Walgreen's, and Walmart, Zeszotarski said.



Background of beginnings of College

By Ken Hupp
Public Information Officer, University Relations
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Dr. John Pezzuto, founding dean of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy was the keynote speaker at the University's spring commencement.

Pezzuto arrived at UH Hilo in 2006 from Purdue University, where he had served as professor and dean of the College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Health Sciences. He was tasked with creating a college from the ground up to serve Hawai'i and the Pacific region, as envisioned by the late Hawai'i U.S. Senator for whom the institution is named.

Despite having no offices, staff or students, Pezzuto assembled a team of world-renowned faculty, which enabled the then UH Hilo College of Pharmacy to seat an inaugural class of 90 students the following year and award its first degrees in 2011.

Today, the College is fully accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), on track to become one of the nation's top 25 institutions, and can look forward to moving into new, modern facilities following last year's groundbreaking on a permanent home.

Pezzuto believes the successful journey that took the College from a concept to its current status illustrates what can be accomplished through inspiration, focus and hard work -- the same qualities required to earn a degree.

"Many people predicted the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy would fail. But it will not fail," Pezzuto said. "And I hope our graduates can view this as an example of how they, too, can be part of something that improves society while at the same time generating pride and self-contentment."

Pezzuto reminded graduates that their future is in their hands and that the true value of their degrees will be determined by what they do going forward.



John Pezzuto and Ken Hupp

"Let's be honest. A degree embossed with a name such as Harvard, Princeton or Yale opens some doors without a word being said. But there is no doubt that the tools they have acquired at UH Hilo are of high quality," Pezzuto said. "Now it is time to use those tools, while continuing to acquire additional tools as life-long learners, and building a career and a life that fulfills all dreams."

His address also marks the final UH Hilo Commencement for Pezzuto, who leaves in August to assume his new duties as professor and dean of the Arnold and Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at Long Island University (LIU) in Brooklyn, New York. He embarks on that next chapter with a sense of satisfaction that the team he assembled here has largely fulfilled its lofty goals.

"From the very beginning, our aspiration was to not simply create a degree mill but to create a top-ranked college that will inspire hope and pride," Pezzuto said. "And we have proven that a college with all the right stuff can be based in Hilo and thrive."

He's bullish on the future of the College, which he says is on a solid trajectory, with a good reputation and much strength. Pezzuto said the next dean will assume leadership of an institution that is well positioned to build on its earlier accomplishments.

"The 'torch' being passed

is strong and bright," Pezzuto said.

"Anything other than making it stronger and brighter would be a tragedy that could only be attributed to apathy or incompetence."

As the time of his departure nears, Pezzuto says he'll look back on his experience and the countless friendships he's made along the way. He will also reflect on a lengthy list of firsts, including the inaugural class, gaining professional accreditation, recruitment efforts, establishing quality graduate and research programs, along with the effort to secure a permanent home for the College. And while you can take him out of the College, you can't take the College out of him.

Pezzuto said: "When I came to Hawai'i, I was taken by an article that appeared in the magazine of Hawaiian Airlines call *Hana Hou*. It described people who had the ability to swim between the islands. In a similar way, when I arrived on the Big Island, I had the feeling of walking across the beach, facing the ocean, with not much more than a hope and a dream, and thinking it was time to jump in and swim to Maui. In retrospect, the feat was more daunting than I ever expected. There were many sharks encountered along the way. But we made it.

Now it is time for someone else to take the next step and swim from Maui to Oahu. That is doable. I can provide advice if it should be desirable. The College is well positioned, has a good reputation and much strength. The trajectory is solid. It is the third phase, however, the swim from Oahu to Kauai, which will be the greater challenge."





Dean's Luncheon holds special honors for graduates, Dean and Mrs. Pezzuto

Dean John Pezzuto welcomed the Class of 2015 on May 14 during a gathering at the Hilo Yacht Club to celebrate their recent accomplishments. The annual Dean's luncheon for the new graduates was punctuated by the announcement of a scholarship fund in the name of John and Mimi Pezzuto created by long-time supporter Hany Guirguis and Adele Etinas, owners of Mina Compounding Pharmacy.



Dr. Lara Gomez demonstrated the way the hood would be folded over the arm in preparation for graduation day.

Dr. Guirguis, RPh, Certified Clinical Nutritionist, PhD, presented a check for \$20,000, which signifies Mina's fifth annual gift to the College of Pharmacy. He announced that he directed all previous gifts to go towards the John and Mimi Pezzuto Scholarship fund. (See related story next).

The luncheon included a demonstration by Dean Pezzuto and Drs. Edward Fisher and Lara Gomez on how the graduates will carry and receive their doctoral hoods to complete their graduating regalia at the Saturday Commencement Ceremony.

Student Support Specialist Tracey Niimi explained how the pending graduates could become members of the UH Alumni Association - CoP Chapter and expressed that he looked forward to welcoming the soon-to-be graduates in the future and encouraged their participation in the group.

Class President Danny Watanabe noted previous classes set up scholarships as their final gift to the college, saying, "of course, we wanted to be different." He announced the class gift for the Class of 2015 will be a time capsule, placed in the new permanent building, containing a koa mortar and pestle as well as some of the original soil from the building groundbreaking and blessing, which was held last December. Watanabe also presented the class yearbook to Dean Pezzuto.

The following awards were presented to students from the graduating class:

Recognition of The Pharmacy Curriculum Outcomes Assessment (PCOA) Highest Achievement: Brienne Blakesley

The Pharmacy Curriculum Outcomes Assessment (PCOA) is administered by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP), who also administer the NAPLEX or Pharmacy licensing exam. The PCOA provides data on students' knowledge in four major content areas. Thus, the high scoring students demonstrate their broad knowledge of both the scientific and clinical aspects of the pharmacy curriculum. Brienne



Dr. Edward Fisher presented the award to Brienne Blakesley. Blakesley also scored in the 100th percentile nationally, meaning that she scored at or higher than 100% of the examinees in the third program year in the normed reference sample.

Lilly Achievement Award: Frederick Taylor *The Lilly Achievement Award recognizes scholastic achievement in the professional curriculum and academic achievements made in*



Rick James (right) accepted the award for Frederick Taylor from Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananutik pharmaceutical research. The honoree will receive the 69th edition of the Physicians' Desk Reference textbook.

Natural Medicines Graduation Award: Andrea Brauer



Francine Amoa (right) accepted the award for Andrea Brauer from Dr. Forrest Batz.

This award is presented to outstanding graduates and residents worldwide who have shown an interest in an evidence-based approach to patient care. The honoree will receive one-year complementary access to Natural Medicines (formally known as the Natural Standard and Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database).

recipient must be a graduate of the Class of 2015; must be in the top 25 percent of his/her class academically and intend to enter practice upon graduation; and shall demonstrate high personal motivation and possess a unique ability to communicate drug information. The honoree will receive a custom-framed lithograph



Mylan representative Drew Crider presented the award to Kristina Lo.



Dr. Lara Gomez (right) presented the award to Nicole Young.

entitled "Pharmacy: A Tradition of Healing" and a \$250 grant to be used towards educational materials. Kristina Lo's name also will be listed amongst this year's recipients in professional pharmacy journals during July and August.

TEVA's Outstanding Student Award: Davis Hanai

This award is presented to a graduating senior who consistently demonstrated exceptional qualities throughout his or her academic year. Davis Hanai will receive a plaque and a \$250 honorarium. He also will have his name on a perpetual plaque, which will hang in the new permanent building for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy.

Wolters Kluwer Award of Excellence in Clinical Communication: Nicole Young

This award recognizes exceptional pharmacy students who demonstrate strong written and verbal clinical communication skills. The honoree will receive a complimentary one-year subscription to Facts & Comparisons eAnswers online drug reference and a one-year subscription to the Lexi-Complete drug information mobile app.

Mylan Pharmaceuticals Excellence in Pharmacy Award (presented by Mylan representative Drew Crider: Kristina Lo

This award recognizes high academic achievement and personal motivation of top students in pharmacy colleges or schools throughout the U.S. To be considered for the award, the



Ericson Ganotisi (right) accepted the award for Davis Hanai from Dr. Daniela Guendisch.

John and Mimi Pezzuto honored with scholarship fund in their name



Dean and Mrs. Pezzuto

Long-time supporters of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo have established a new scholarship fund in the name of the couple who helped build the College.

Dr. Hany Guirguis and Adele Etinas, co-owners of Mina Compounding Pharmacy, have set up a scholarship fund to be provided to student pharmacists in John and Mimi Pezzuto's name. The scholarship was announced at the annual graduate award luncheon, held at Hilo Yacht Club May 14.

"There is a couple behind the creation of this College and we need to recognize them forever," said Guirguis, whose company has donated \$80,000 to DKICP over the last four years and supplemented it with an additional \$20,000 this year. Plans are being developed to continue the support in the future as well.

Guirguis and Etinas were co-owners of Mina Pharmacy, an independent pharmacy that included 11 locations throughout Hawai'i before being purchased by CVS Pharmacy. Since the sale of Mina Pharmacy, the pair set up a new corporation, Mina Compounding Pharmacy, which specializes in preparing a pharmaceutical product to fit the need of a particular patient. Guirguis and his wife, Madeleine, have attended a graduation luncheon to present a ceremonial check every spring since the first class of PharmDs

graduated in 2011.

John Pezzuto is the founding Dean for the College of Pharmacy, and his wife, Mimi, who is a licensed pharmacist in Illinois and

his research that identified the cancer-preventive component of grapes and grape products known as resveratrol.

After the research report was published in Science Magazine in 1997, many more stories in scientific journals as well as mainstream media focused on the discovery that gave real promise to the fight against cancer. According to the Web of Science Core Collection, his work on resveratrol has been cited more than 3,000 times.

Mrs. Mimi Pezzuto specializes in pharmaceutical history, managed care and the art of compounding. The curator of the College's historical collection, she has amassed decades of Hawaiian health information that will serve as data for many future student pharmacists.

Her background includes Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association as a Senior Consultant and Manager of Pharmacy Programs for HCSC Corporation (Blue Cross and

Blue Shield of Illinois and Texas), where she was part of a team that managed drug benefits for 2.3 million members and interfaced with all divisions of HCSC. Prior to that, she was a manager for a large U.S. retail chain, and has extensive retail experience.

The scholarship fund will be administered by the University of Hawai'i Foundation.



Dean John Pezzuto accepts donation from Dr. Hany Guirguis.



Dean John Pezzuto (center) presented tin replicas of a previous Kawili La'au cover to donors Dr. Hany and Mrs. Madeleine Guirguis.

Hawai'i, has been an instructor at DKICP since moving to Hilo with their three children in 2006.

When Dean Pezzuto arrived in Hawai'i, the College of Pharmacy had no offices, no staff, no students, and no assurance of a future. He methodically assembled a staff of world-renowned faculty who would build the school into what is now a contender for one of the top-25 ranked colleges in the U.S.

Dean Pezzuto is well known for

Class of 2015 Graduation Celebration

On the evening of Friday, May 15, the night before officially receiving their Doctor of Pharmacy degrees, the Class of 2015 joined their families, faculty, friends and colleagues for a celebration banquet at the UH Hilo Campus Center Dining Room.

"Your success is our success," Dean Pezzuto stated in front of the celebratory crowd who gathered to honor the grads-to-be. Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Edward Fisher served as Master of Ceremonies for the recognition ceremony.

Highlights of the evening were speeches by Class President Daniel Watanabe and two of the four valedictorians, Brianne Blakesley and Kristina Lo. At the end, every classmate present was able to speak on their own behalf, which included many words of appreciation and a few tears, in front of their peers, family and faculty.

The graduating class selected Dr. Evelyn Ahhing-Faiuaso from American Samoa as the winner of the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE) Preceptor for 2015. Dr. Ahhing-Faiuaso is the chief pharmacist at American Samoa's only hospital. (See photo of Dr. Ahhing-Faiuaso by Dr. Carolyn Ma below.)

In addition, the class honored Dr. Cherie Chu, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, was selected by the students to win the Faculty Preceptor of 2015.



Class President Daniel Watanabe



Two of the four valedictorians, Kristina Lo (left) and Brianne Blakesley. The other two valedictorians were Davis Hanai and Akio Yanagisawa.



Dean John Pezzuto and Dr. Cherie Chu, winner of Faculty Preceptor of 2015 award.



Dr. Carolyn Ma offers 'herstory' of American Samoan pharmacy

(Excerpted from her speech at the 2015 Graduation Celebration)

I want to offer my congratulations to the class of 2015 for their achievement and I have very happy to share this time with you after these many years of hard work and perseverance. Great achievements often take time, one step at a time, and tonite I am able to honor our APPE preceptor of the year Evelyn Faaiuso who represents the qualities of an outstanding APPE preceptor but also represents how, step by step has achieved much to be proud of. Evelyn could not be here tonight, so I am going to take this opportunity to explain the beginnings story of American Samoa.



Many of you know that our mission for this college is not only to bring quality health care to the people of this state, but to the entire Pacific and efforts began with Dr. Jarvi in starting the pre-pharm program for us in the South Pacific.

Evelyn Faaiuso, who, is native Samoan, who graduated from Creighton University, School of Pharmacy in 1987 with a BS degree, who in that same year, returned home to American Samoa to take care of her elderly parents and also joined the Lyndon B. Johnson Tropical Medicine Hospital, as the first Samoan woman pharmacist. She practiced in this setting for a few years then returned to the states to work at Costco Pharmacy in Oregon and then later in Hawaii and served as the Pharmacy manager for several Costco Pharmacy locations in Honolulu. In 2003, she continued her pharmacy education through the Non-Traditional PharmD Program from Creighton University. In addition, she is an officer of US Army Reserves, who retired after serving almost 30 years of active and reserve duty; she held various positions as an Adjutant Officer and a Pharmacy Officer. In 2005, she was re-activated back to active duty and served as a Chief of the Outpatient Pharmacy in Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu from 2005 to 2007, at which time she returned to American Samoa again and rejoined LBJ as the Chief Pharmacist.

I met Evelyn in 2008, strangely enough, as part of a group with the former UH football coach, June Jones and his football camp and Medical mission. It was quite an interesting picture, here I was, sitting among the likes of football great Jessie Sapolu, Jack Thompson and Maa Tanuvasa and I am sure they didn't understand how and why I was there, you know, nurd pharmacist lady. My connection to this foundation was through a woman named Ellie Taft, a nurse manager at Kapiolani Womens and Children on Oahu. Ellie was the organizer of the medical mission for many years and as a coach's wife, understood as best as anyone can from an outside perspective, the culture and health care problems of Samoa, high obesity rate, chronic disease of diabetes, a large portion of their youth go on and she forewarned me in her invitation to me to join the mission, hat if I was to embark on this idea of trying to recruit students from Samoa,

that I would have to make a commitment to this small island country for at least 10 years, because as she described to me, many before me, had come with big promises and hopes and after one or two challenges, moved on to other endeavors.

We discussed the status of pharmacy practice in her country, the challenges and what she envisioned. At that time, there was pretty much only a dispensary for outpatient prescriptions and some inpatient dispensing, all about in the size of 1/3 of this room. Their hospital is a 125 bed hospital with several clinics for adults and pediatrics. Evelyn talked about her dream of having a more sophisticated inpatient system, an IV room, and pharmacists that could go on rounds in the hospital. Evelyn also introduced me to medical director who also shared his dreams and then suggested that I interview a young woman, his daughter a stunning, beautiful, intelligent woman, by the name of Francine, who was exploring the option of becoming a pharmacist. And during that trip, we talked about bringing students down to help her, would there be housing, how would they get their food and supplies and the various areas they could work in.

As promised in the following year, Summer 2009, I returned, with two other faculty and two students in the inaugural class with the June Jones group, and in this second trip, we helped with the mission but then we also stayed longer to give some lectures on medication safety, went into clinic and the hospital, performed some brown bag sessions and had the students work in their dispensary, or pharmacy, that was purely outpatient, some inpatient, no IV room. Shortly after our mission, in Sept. of 2009, the devastating earthquake and tsunami that washed over the island, killing many and leveling villages. But Evelyn, as promised accepted our students in the inaugural year of APPE rotations in 2010.

In the years since, we have sent 18 students down to AS for APPE rotation. Evelyn exceeds what we expect from an APPE preceptor. Probably not known to all of you, but the college takes very seriously our responsibility to give you exceptional practice sites, but that these practice sites are safe and that you will be appropriately taken care of. We check out the safety of

neighborhoods that pharmacies have fire alarms and exits, and the road that you drive to get to a site is safe and not prone to accidents. As an international location, Evelyn has totally fulfilled this responsibility for us.

Not only does she teach our students about pharmacy, but she gives them projects, she has them interact with physicians and nurses and supervises their work, but unlike our other APPE preceptors, she watches over them from the day they land to the day they leave, she arranges for housing, welcomes them into her home, feeds them, and even on occasion sends out search parties for students lost on a an innocent Sunday hike. Tonite we honor her for her care and mentorship of our students, but I also honor her for her slow but sure progress to improve pharmaceutical care in her small island country. Today, there are 2 pharmacists in AS, they have an IV room, and tomorrow, we will have the first two AS natives who will graduate from our program in this year's class. I know that Evelyn had a strong hand in mentoring them.

In Evelyn's words:

"The last 8 years in American Samoa working as the Chief Pharmacist at LBJ has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career. I stepped into a time capsule and brought myself back to an age where technology had yet to reach its full potential. I was greeted with challenges to bring the standard care of practice into the 20th century.

The opportunity as a preceptor has allowed me to share this truly unique experience in clinical pharmacy with the students from the DKICP. Students receive first-hand experience with the healthcare disparities we face in American Samoa from lack of healthcare professionals and essential resources. I hope the student's experiential education on our island shores has allowed them to also gain real-world experience especially in a different culture and its traditions that tremendously affect our lifestyles and greatly impacts our health care.

I hope the American Samoa clinical rotation intrigues our young Pacific Islanders enough to return home to serve the community where they are desperately needed. I am very honored and proud to have precepted all the students opting to spend their elective with us, especially to the PharmD graduates, Francine Amoa and Emily Lin as our first women from American Samoa to be graduating from DKICP with their doctorate in pharmacy. I welcome them to join our team."

Dean Pezzuto to continue collaborative efforts

Like many researchers with similar credentials, Dean John Pezzuto will insist he stands "on the shoulders of giants" when talking about his impressive career. This well-known quote from Isaac Newton displays the humility and recognition of the many collaborative efforts Dean Pezzuto has shared.

This is good news for DKICP, where Dean Pezzuto founded the College of Pharmacy. Although he plans to leave UH Hilo in August to assume his new duties as Professor and Dean of the Arnold and Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at Long Island University (LIU) located in Brooklyn, it is good news because he plans to remain active with faculty through their research, continuing the collaborations he started when the first faculty were hired in 2006.

While Dean Pezzuto is well known for his research that identified the cancer chemopreventive component of grapes and grape products known as resveratrol, his labs work with researchers who may be studying other natural product solutions to fight cancer, as well as learning about other deadly diseases such as tuberculosis.

According to Dr. Eun-Jung ("Amy") Park, who along with Lab Manager Dr. Tamara Kondratyuk, has worked in the Pezzuto lab since coming to Hilo in 2008, this form of teamwork leads to more significant



Pezzuto Lab Manager Drs. Tamara Kondratyuk (left) and Eun-Jung ("Amy") Park at work.

results.

"If I had to use one word to describe our work, it would be that it is synergistic," Dr. Park said. "Every other lab has their own expertise, giving us many opportunities to help explore, synthesize and target other diseases."

After Dean Pezzuto's research report on resveratrol was published in *Science Magazine* in 1997 (Jang M, Cai L, Udeani GO, Slowing KV, Thomas CF, Beecher CW, Fong HH, Farnsworth NR, Kinghorn AD, Mehta RG et al: Cancer chemopreventive activity of resveratrol, a natural product derived from grapes. *Science* 275: 218-220, 1997), over 15,000 reports have appeared in the scientific literature studying this compound, as well as countless stories in mainstream media. According to the Web of Science Core Collection, his work on resveratrol has been



cited more than 3,000 times, and his work as a whole has been cited over 100,000 times.

"Further studies on resveratrol and its synthetic derivatives have been performed in our group," Dr. Park said. "In fact, according to the PubMed search engine, a myriad of publications appear with a gradual increase every year by 2014. With each of these publications comes the opportunity for more collaborations."

One such example is work being conducted with Dr. Mark Cushman's group in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, College of Pharmacy at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN. With Dr. Cushman, Dr. Pezzuto's group elucidated the anti-cancer or cancer chemopreventive activities of not only resveratrol derivatives, but also derivatives of phenazines and indenoisoquinolines

"We evaluated the biological activities of a panel of resveratrol derivatives that have been synthesized by Dr. Cushman's group by performing the assays," Dr. Park said. "As a result, the biological effects of sulfate-conjugated resveratrol metabolites are reported and compounds with the improved potency and selectivity have been found with the inhibitory

effects on aromatase, NFκB, QR2, or nitrite production, and with the induction effect of QR1

Another collaborative effort has the potential to unlock anti-inflammatory secrets of various bacteria in the ocean. With Dr. William Fenical from the Center for Marine Biotechnology and Biomedicine at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, the Pezzuto lab has tested novel or known compounds isolated from marine sediment-derived bacteria.

But it may be the educational aspect of the Pezzuto lab that has the most lasting effect. A constant stream of visiting scholars come to UH Hilo to be trained in how to test components that they then pass on to more researchers all over the globe (see insert).

Internally, DKICP faculty members have had a myriad of opportunities to expand their own expertise from partnering with Dean Pezzuto. Faculty such as Drs. Supakit Wongwiwatthanakul (Pharmacy Practice), Leng Chee Chang and Dianqing Sun (Pharmaceutical Sciences) have benefited from work conducted in the Pezzuto lab.

According to Dr. Sun: "It has been my great honor and privilege to collaborate with John, who has had a very fine and remarkable scientific research career in natural product drug discovery field. His scientific insight, standard, integrity, and legacy are outstanding and inspirational. John has been a great mentor, collaborator, and friend. I hope we will be able to continue our collaborations into the future."

Since joining UH Hilo in 2006, Dean Pezzuto published many papers in the scientific literature, organized meetings, presented lectures, and has been involved in many other scholarly activities. A partial listing follows. No doubt this led to his election as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and being the recipient of the Volwiler Research Award from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.



Among the visiting scholars learning and working in the Pezzuto lab at UH Hilo were Dr. Khalid Rahman from Quaid-i-Azam University in Pakistan and Dr. Parimelazhagan Thangaraj from Bharathiar University Coimbatore in India.

Visiting scholars to Pezzuto lab and affiliations

Denise Coutinho Endringer, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Federal University of Minas Gerais, **Brazil**

Asad Ghufuran, Faculty, Ph.D. Scholar, Environmental Sciences, Department of Plant Science, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, **Pakistan**

Suaib Luqman, Ph.D. Scholar, Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Lucknow, **India**

Mauro Morais, Ph.D. Scholar, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences of Araraquara, Sao Paulo State University - UNESP, **Brazil**

Ihsan-ul-Haq, Plant Molecular Biology Lab, Department of Biochemistry, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, **Pakistan**

Fred Sebisubi, Principal Pharmacist, Makerere University, **Uganda**

Nighat Fatima, Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Biotechnology, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, **Pakistan**

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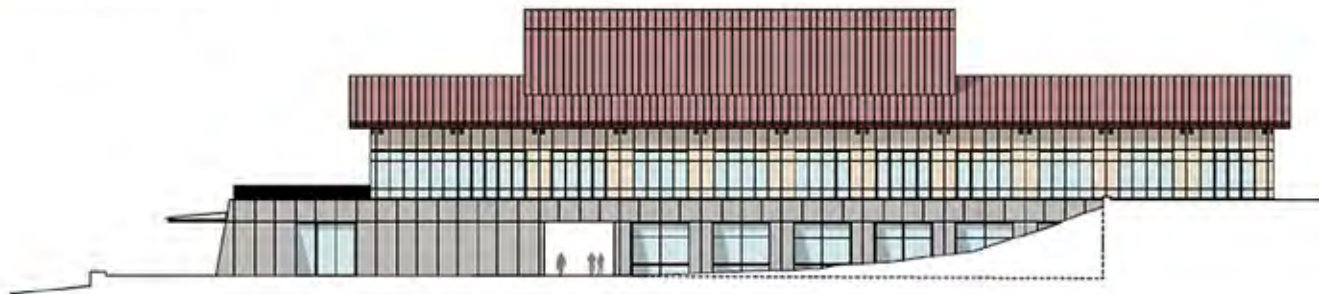
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- Yao, G.M., Kondratyuk, T., Pezzuto, J.M., and Chang, L.C. Bioactive Sulfated Sesterterpene Alkaloids from the Marine Sponge *Fasciospongia* sp. International Pharmacognosy Meeting and 49th Annual American Society of Pharmacognosy Meeting, Athens, Greece, August 3-8, 2008.
- Pezzuto, J.M. Presentation at Rotary Club of Kona Mauka, October 14, 2008.
- Pezzuto, J.M. Medical Service Representatives of Hawaii (MSRH), November 3, 2008, Honolulu, Hawaii.
- Pezzuto, J.M. and Morris, K.R. Influence of Mother Nature's Pharmacopeia on Everyday Health and Wellbeing. Frontiers in Cancer Prevention Research. Seventh Annual AACR International Conference. Washington, D.C. November 16-19, 2008 (Plenary Session).
- Pezzuto, J.M. National Grape and Wine Initiative (NGWI) Grape Health Workshop, San Francisco, California, December 2-3, 2008 (Moderator and Speaker).
- Pezzuto, J.M. Soliciting Nature's help for the prevention of cancer. Hecht Symposium, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, April 3-4, 2009.
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- Choi, Y., Sturdy, M., Maloney, K., Nam, S.J., Mesecar, A.D., Pezzuto, J.M., Fenical, W.; Orjala, J., and van Breemen, R.B. Determination of relative affinities of staurosporine derivatives for quinone reductase-2 using ultrafiltration of LC-MS. 57th ASMS Conference on Mass Spectrometry Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 31 to June 4, 2009.
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- Park, E-J, Pezzuto, J.M., Morrell, A., and Cushman, M. Induction of RXR transcriptional activity and apoptosis in HL-60 human leukemia cells by natural product-based 3-amino-6-(3-aminopropyl)-5,6-dihydro-5,11-dioxo-1H-indeno[1,2-c]isoquinoline dihydrochloride. 50th Annual American Society of Pharmacognosy Meeting, Honolulu, Hawaii, June 27 to July 1, 2009.
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- Pezzuto, J.M. Chemoprevention of Human Cancer. Paluma I Ki Ola (Healthcare Conference). University of Hawaii at Hilo, May 21, 2010.
- Kondratyuk, T.P., Park, E-J, Marler, L.E., Burns, B.E., Asolkar, R.N., Fenical, W., and Pezzuto, J.M. Marine phenazines inhibit invasiveness of MDA-MB-231 breast cancer cells through extracellular matrix. 51st Annual American Society of Pharmacognosy Meeting, St. Petersburg, Florida, July 10 to 14, 2010.
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- Chen, L., Cushman M., Pezzuto, J.M., and van Breemen, R.B. Human metabolism of AM6-36, a retinoid X receptor-alpha ligand, American Chemical Society National Meeting, Denver, Colorado, June 5-9, 2011.
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- Fatima, N., Ahmed, S., Kondratyuk, T.P., Park, E.J., Marler, L.E., Yoon, U.J., Qazi, M.A., Pezzuto, J.M., Chang, L.C. Cancer chemopreventive potential of endophytic fungi isolated from *Taxus baccata*. 52nd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy. San Diego, CA, July 30-August 3, 2011.
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- Pezzuto, J.M. The promise of resveratrol. Recent Advances in the Chemistry of Natural Products, University of São Paulo at São Carlos, Brazil, October 28, 2011.
- Pezzuto, J.M., Cushman, M., Fenical, W., Mesecar, A. and van Breemen, R.B. The challenges and promise of cancer chemoprevention: The role of natural products. 3rd Brazilian Conference on Natural Products (BCNP), Ouro Preto, MG, Brazil, October 29-November 2, 2011.
- Pezzuto, J.M. The phenomena of resveratrol. 50th Annual Meeting of the Phytochemical Society of North America, Kohala Coast, Hawaii, December 15-20, 2011.
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- Marler, L., Mayhoub, A., Cushman, M., and Pezzuto, J.M. Thiadiazole and thiazole Derivatives of resveratrol as inducers of quinone reductase 1. 50th Annual Meeting of the Phytochemical Society of North America, Kohala Coast, Hawaii, December 15-20, 2011.
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- Pezzuto, J.M. The Extraordinary Life of a Simple Stilbene: Resveratrol. 13th Congress of the International Society for Ethnopharmacology, Graz, Austria, Sept. 2-6, 2012.
- Pezzuto, J.M. Resveratrol and clinical development. 27ème Seminaire en Sciences Pharmaceutiques Programme Doctoral en Sciences Pharmaceutiques, Drugs from Nature: from Discovery to Clinic, Zermatt, Switzerland, Sept. 3-7, 2012.
- Pezzuto, J.M. and Park, E-J. Cancer prevention. 27ème Seminaire en Sciences Pharmaceutiques Programme Doctoral en Sciences Pharmaceutiques, Drugs from Nature: from Discovery to Clinic, Zermatt, Switzerland, Sept. 3-7, 2012.
- Pezzuto, J.M. Biological evaluation of resveratrol and derivatives. Resveratrol 2012, University of Leicester, Leicester, UK, December 5, 2012.
- Sang-ngern, M., Yoon, U.J., Park, E-J., Kondratyuk, T.P., Miklossy, G., Simmons, C.J., Turkson, J., Pezzuto, J.M., and Chang, L.C. Anticancer potential of *Physalis peruviana* (poha). Annual meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy, July 14-17, St. Louis, MO.
- Pezzuto, J.M. The promise and challenges of cancer chemoprevention. Lecture presented at Shanghai University (June 9, 2014) and Zhejiang University (June 10, 2014), PRC.
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- Pezzuto, J.M. Resveratrol: A highly permiscuous molecule leads the way to monogamous interactions. 14th International Congress of Ethnopharmacology ISE 2014, Sociedad Latinoamericana de Fitoquímica SLF, Puerto Varas, Chile, September 23-26, 2014.
- Pezzuto, J.M. The remarkable life and times of resveratrol (the "Ohdang Plenary Lecture of 2014), Fall Annual Convention of the Pharmaceutical Society of Korea, Gyeongju, Korea, October 23-24, 2014.
- Yu, X., Park, E-J, Kondratyuk, T.P., Pezzuto, J.M., and Sun, D. Synthesis and evaluation of 2-arylindole derivatives as anticancer and cancer chemopreventive agents. Resveratrol 2014 Conference, Big Island, Hawaii, Dec. 2014.
- Pezzuto, J.M. Natural products as a vital source for the discovery of cancer chemotherapeutic and chemopreventive agents. 5th Kuwait International Pharmacy Conference-2015 ("Kuwait International Pharmacy Conference"), Kuwait City, Kuwait, February 1-3, 2015.
- Meetings or Symposia Chaired/Organized
- National Grape and Wine Initiative (NGWI) Grape Health Workshop, San Francisco, California, December 2-3, 2008 (Moderator, Speaker and Guest Editor for proceedings published in the *Journal of Nutrition*).
- Member, Scientific Committee, 3rd Brazilian Conference on Natural Products (BCNP), Ouro Preto, MG, Brazil, October 29-November 2, 2011.
- Member, Scientific and Organizing Committees and Local Host, 50th Annual Meeting of the Phytochemical Society of North America, December 10-15, 2011, Fairmont Orchid, Hawaii
- Member, Scientific Committee, Resveratrol 2012, University of Leicester, Leicester, UK, December 5-7, 2012.
- Member of the Congress Scientific Committee, Sociedad Latinoamericana de Fitoquímica (SLF) and the International Society for Ethnopharmacology (ISP), Puerto Varas, Chile, September, 2014.
- Member, Scientific and Organizing Committees, Resveratrol 2014, to be held on the Big Island, Hawaii, December 2014.

Complete Works Reprinted or Abstracted in
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- Cancer Prevention, Naturally. The difficult search for cancer-preventing natural products takes several paths. *Science & Technology, Chemical & Engineering News*, June 21, 2010.
- Grape Expectations: Unraveling Resveratrol's Potential. *American Institute for Cancer Research Newsletter*, p. 12, Summer 2011 (issue 1/2).
- Patents/Disclosures
- M.S. Cushman, A. Maiti, and J.M. Pezzuto. Casimiroin, Analogs Thereof, and Methods for Treating Cancer. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/153807, filed February 20, 2009.
- M.S. Cushman, J.M. Pezzuto, and A. Maiti. Chemotherapeutic Flavonoids, and Syntheses Thereof. December 12, 2007, Purdue Reference Number 64681.00. WO, PCT International Serial No.: PCT/US2007/087283, Barnes & Thornburg Docket Number 3220-204578.
- M.S. Cushman, J.M. Pezzuto, and A. Maiti. Chemotherapeutic Flavonoids, and Synthesis Thereof. U.S. Patent No. 8,946,287 B2, February 3, 2015.
- Grant Reviews
- Reviewer, Subcommittee E (Cancer Epidemiology, Prevention and Control), National Cancer Institute/NIH, January 31-February 1, 2006.
- Chair, California Table Grape Commission Scientific Advisory Panel, 2006 Research Program Proposal Review Meeting, Fairmont Hotel, Chicago, IL, February 27, 2006.
- Reviewer, Teleconference with NCI Parent Committee, April 10, 2006.
- Reviewer, Research proposal submitted to the Swiss National Science Foundation, May 2006.
- Reviewer, Rapid Access to Intervention Development (RAID), National Cancer Institute/NIH, May 24, 2006.
- Reviewer, Cancer Prevention, Control, and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute/NIH, Special Emphasis Panel/Scientific Review Group 2006/10 ZCA1 RPRB-5 (O3) (S), June 19-21, 2006.
- Reviewer, Cancer Prevention, Control, and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute/NIH, Special Emphasis Panel/Scientific Review Group 2006/10 ZCA1 GRB-1 (O2), June 20-21, 2006.
- Reviewer, Avon-NCI Progress for Patients Program, June 2006.
- Chair, California Table Grape Commission Scientific Advisory Panel, 2007 Research Program Proposal Review Meeting, Omni Hotel, San Francisco, CA, March 5, 2007.
- Reviewer, Novel Cancer Therapies SBIR/STTR, 2007/05 Council ZRG1 ONC-D 02 B, March 12-13, 2007.
- Reviewer, National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine Special Emphasis Panel, ZAT1 SM (07), June 20-27, 2007.
- Reviewer, Grant application, Grant Agency, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Czech Republic, September 2007.
- Reviewer, Grant application, International Foundation for Science (IFS), Stockholm, Sweden, October 2007
- Member, Scientific Advisor for International Foundation for Science (IFS), Stockholm, Sweden, 2007-present
- Member, Internal Advisory Committee, University of Guam/Cancer Research Center of Hawaii Partnership, 2007-present.
- Review of Program Project applications, National Cancer Institute, Rockville, MD, January 29-31, 2008.
- Chair, California Table Grape Commission Scientific Advisory Panel, 2008 Research Program Proposal Review Meeting, San Francisco, CA, March 3, 2008.
- Reviewer, Grant application, Austrian Science Fund, Vienna, Austria, June 2008.
- Standing Member, Subcommittee E (Cancer Epidemiology, Prevention and Control), National Cancer Institute/NIH, 2003-2007 (the study section meets three-times/year).
- Reviewer, Grant application, International Foundation for Science (IFS), Stockholm, Sweden, October 2007
- Reviewer, Program Project applications, National Cancer Institute, Rockville, MD, Jan. 29-31, 2008
- Reviewer, Grant applications, California Table Grape Commission, San Francisco, CA, March 2008
- Reviewer, Grant application, Austrian Science Fund, Vienna, Austria, June 2008
- Reviewer, Research grant application, Global Research Network Program 2008, Division of International Affairs, Korea Research Foundation, November 2008
- Reviewer, Research grant application, AMRC, Cancer Research UK, Dec. 2008
- Reviewer, Grant applications, California Table Grape Commission, San Francisco, CA, March 2009
- Reviewer, Research grant application, Cancer Society of New Zealand, Jan. 2009
- Reviewer, Application for First IFS Research Grant, International Foundation for Science, Stockholm, Sweden, April 2009.
- Reviewer, Research project submitted to Ohio Cancer Research Associates, Columbus, Ohio, May 2009.
- Reviewer, National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel, NCI-ARRA Competitive Revisions and GO Grants - Pre-Clinical, Drug Discovery & Imaging, July 2009.
- Theme reviewer for anti-cancer agents, Scientific Committee of the 57th International Congress and Annual Meeting of the Society for Medicinal Plant and Natural Product Research, Geneva, Switzerland, August 2009.
- Member, Scientific Program Committee, 50th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy, Honolulu, HI, July 2009.
- Reviewer, RC4 Community Infrastructure Grants, Healthcare Delivery and Methodologies (HDM) Integrated Review Group, NIH (ZRG1 HDM-D meeting). February 2010.
- Reviewer, Grant application, North Carolina Biotechnology Center, March 2010.
- Reviewer, Grant applications (2), International Foundation for Science (IFS), Stockholm, Sweden, April 2010.
- Reviewer, three program project applications for Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota, August 2010.
- Reviewer, Grant applications (2), International Foundation for Science (IFS), Stockholm, Sweden, December 2010.
- Review of Revised Grant Application, North Carolina Biotechnology Center, January 2011.
- Review of Grant Application, Cancer Research UK, London, January 2011.
- Reviewer and Committee Chair, Grant applications, California Table Grape Commission, March 2011.
- Reviewer, Grant Application, Austrian Science Fund, Vienna, Austria, March 2011.
- Reviewer, Special Emphasis Panel, National Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine, NIH, Natural Products RFA ZAT1 SM(23), March 31-April 1, 2011.
- Reviewer, Grant Application, Research Grant Council (RGC) of Hong Kong, April 2011.
- Reviewer, Special Emphasis Panel/Scientific Review Group, Chemo/Dietary Prevention Study Section, NCI, June 9-10, 2011.
- Reviewer, Special Emphasis Panel, National Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine, NIH, Natural Products RFA ZAT1 SM(24), July 21-22, 2011.
- Reviewer, Special Emphasis Panel/Scientific Review Group, Chemo/Dietary Prevention Study Section, NCI, February 9-10, 2012.
- Reviewer and Committee Chair, Grant applications, California Table Grape Commission, March 2012.
- Reviewer, National Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine, National Products RFA, ZAT1 SM(27), NIH, July 19-20, 2012.
- Reviewer and Committee Chair, Grant applications, California Table Grape Commission, March 2013.
- Reviewer, Research Grant Council (RGC) of Hong Kong (two proposals), March 2013.
- Reviewer, Grant application, International Foundation for Science (IFS), Stockholm, Sweden, May 2013.
- Reviewer, Special Emphasis Panel, National Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine, NIH, Natural Products RFA ZAT1 SM(23), March 31-April 1, 2011.
- Reviewer, National Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine, NIH, ZAT1 HS-13 Clinical Studies of Complementary and Alternative Medicine, July 9, 2013.
- Reviewer (stage 2), Special Emphasis Panel, National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM/NIH) together with the Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS/NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI/NIH), Mechanistic Research on CAM Natural Products (RFA-AT-11-001), Sept. 13, 2013.
- Reviewer, National Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine, NIH, ZAT1 HS-14 Training, Education and AREA grants. October 25, 2013.
- Reviewer, 2013/14 Centres of Research Excellence (CoREs) funding round, Royal Society of New Zealand, January 2014.
- Reviewer, Grant Application, Austrian Science Fund, Vienna, Austria, March 2014.
- Reviewer and Committee Chair, Grant applications, California Table Grape Commission, March 2014.
- Reviewer, two grant applications submitted to the International Foundation for Science (IFS), Stockholm, Sweden, April 2014.
- Reviewer, grant application submitted to the Scientific Research Support Fund, Amman-Jordan, April 2014.
- Reviewer, Special Emphasis Panel/Scientific Review Group, Oncological Sciences Grant Applications [ZRG1 OTC-N (80)], NCI, June 24, 2014.
- Reviewer, Special Emphasis Panel, Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE), NIGMS, July 2014.
- Reviewer, National Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine, NIH, ZAT1 SM 34 Botanical Dietary Supplement Research Centers (BDSRC) (P50), December 17-18, 2014.
- Reviewer, National Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine, NIH, ZAT1 SM 35 Centers for Advancing Natural Products Innovation and Technology Centers (CANPIT) (U41), December 19, 2014.
- Reviewer, grant application submitted to the International Foundation for Science (IFS), Stockholm, Sweden, April 2015.
- Reviewer, two grant applications submitted to the National Science Center, Kraków, Poland, April 2015.
- Reviewer, grant application submitted to the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong, April 2015.
- Reviewer, ZCA1 SRB-L (O1): NCI Omnibus R03 & R21 SEP-6 Review Committee, June 9-10, 2015.
- Reviewer, "Training and Education" review meeting held by the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM/NIH), July 1, 2015.
- Miscellaneous External Reviews
- Reviewer, Candidate for promotion and tenure, University of Pittsburgh, February 2006.
- Reviewer, Book proposal submitted to Jones and Bartlett Publishers, May 2006.
- Reviewer, Research project submitted to the Fonds National de la Recherche, June 2006.
- Reviewer, Candidate for full professor with tenure, University of Illinois at Chicago, September 2007
- Reviewer, Candidate for full professor with tenure (new appointment), The Ohio State University, October 2007
- Chair, Farnsworth Research Achievement Award session, 50th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy, Honolulu, HI, July 2009.
- Reviewer, Candidate for Academia Sinica Investigator Award, Office of Academic Affairs, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan, July 2009.
- Member, Selection Committee, Eighth AACR-Prevent Cancer Foundation Award for Excellence in Cancer Prevention Research, 2009-2010.
- Member, Selection Committee, Nineteenth AACR-American Cancer Society Award for Research Excellence in Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention, 2009-2010.
- Review of book proposal submitted to *The University of Arizona Press*, Feb. 2010.
- Reviewer, Promotion and tenure case, University of Illinois at Chicago, August 2010.
- Review of complete manuscript submitted to *The University of Arizona Press*, January 2011.
- Review of promotion dossier to rank of full professor Petra University, Jordan, January 2012.
- Review of promotion dossier to rank of full professor for Sultan Qaboos University, Oman, February 2012.
- Provided evaluation and nomination for recipient of the TÜBITAK Science Award, Turkey, March 2012.
- Review of promotion dossier to rank of full professor University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan, May 2012.
- Review of promotion dossier to rank of full professor Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea, May 2012.
- Review of promotion dossier to rank of associate professor with tenure, University of Rhode Island, Sept. 2012.
- External Examiner of Ph.D. dissertation, University of Pretoria, June 2013.
- Review of promotion dossier to rank of full professor, University of Mississippi Medical Center, September 2014.
- Review of candidate for promotion to Senior Scientist, NCI intramural program, March 2015.
- Committees Member, Subcommittee E (Cancer Epidemiology, Prevention and Control), National Cancer Institute/NIH, 2003-2006.
- Member, AACR 2004 Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention Awards Committee, 2009-2011.
- Member, Landon Foundation-AACR Innovator Award for Cancer Prevention Research Scientific Review Committee, 2013-2015.
- Member, AACR Volwiler Research Award Committee, 2015 (chair in 2016).

North Elevation



UHH College of Pharmacy
10.03.2013

Construction of permanent building undergoing necessary steps

Construction for the permanent building for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy is expected to be complete by May 2017, according to DKICP Outreach Director Gerald De Mello.

“Assuming all the final permit approval is completed by July 2015, the advertising for bids will be sent out in August 2015, with award for construction expected in October,” De Mello said. “Construction is estimated to take 20 months.”

To be complete, the new building plans are up to code, including meeting strict LEED silver certification requirements, according to WCIT Architects of Honolulu, who have designed the permanent structure.

“The building design is currently targeting 52 points to achieve LEED silver certification, including procedural accounting deliverables required by the program to comply with more stringent design metrics as well as incorporating building integrated design features,” said Sean Baumes, project architect with WCIT. “For example, the roof overhangs and perforated metal screen facing the existing modular buildings shade the façade from solar gain and create a sheltered outdoor space for students and faculty to connect to the verdant natural setting of the campus.”

A modified shared parking lot is planned to serve the DKICP campus, thus limiting the area of disturbed site, and storm water also will be managed on site to limit the impact to the existing infrastructure, he said.

“Given the lab program of the college, a function which is inherently energy intensive, the mechanical system has been configured to optimize efficiency,” Baumes said. “For instance, waste heat from the ventilation system is recovered to generate hot water needed for other building functions. Shaded windows have been incorporated into many of the spaces, including the labs, to not only use natural day lighting to reduce energy demand but also allow building users to have views out to the landscape beyond.”

The permanent home for DKICP will include: two lecture halls, six breakout rooms, two large conference rooms, a student lounge as well as a faculty lounge, 33 private offices and 27 work stations for staff and post docs, biology and chemistry wet labs with associated support spaces, an analytical lab, and planned space for a nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) instrument as well as a vivarium.

Japanese consortium pays visit to DKICP

Chancellor Tsuzuki Kimiko (second from left) visited DKICP May 8 with her team Asuka Tsuzuki and Mikie Tsuzuki to explore student exchange possibilities. They represent the Tsuzuki Education Group, a consortium of more than 20 universities and colleges in Japan, including three colleges of pharmacy. The group met with Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Edward Fisher (far left) and Professor and Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences Kenneth Morris (far right).



Faculty, staff gather at research meeting to approve new strategic plan



A college research meeting was held May 7 at the Hilo Yacht Club to discuss the new strategic plan, in effect 2016-2020. The plan, which was developed by several committees of faculty and other stakeholders, is a requirement by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) and replaces the original strategic plan that expires this year.

Symposium puts student research center stage

Research from several DKICP labs was presented at a Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences Symposium in the afternoon of May 8. The afternoon event took place on the pharmacy modular campus.

Assistant Professors Linda Connelly and Dana-Lynn Koomoa-Lange have been organizing versions of the symposium since 2011. This year's symposium featured PhD students in the talks, as well as a poster session highlighting undergraduates working in faculty labs, post-doctoral associates and staff members

Presenting research posters were:

Mourad Ali (Post-doctoral Researcher, Koomoa-Lange Lab), "Intracellular Polyamines levels Potentially Regulate TRPM7 Expression and Kinase Activity in Neuroblastoma Cell Lines."

Yuko Imaizumi (Hawai'i Community College undergraduate student, Connelly Lab), "Use of co-culture to investigate the role of macrophages in breast cancer metastasis."

Mailani Puli (UH Hilo undergraduate student, Koomoa-Lange Lab), "Anti-proliferative effects of Native Hawaiian plants on Neuroblastoma cells."

Khalid Rehman (Visiting Researcher, Pezzuto Lab), "Antioxidant potential and Anticancer Characteristics of

selected medicinal plants from Pakistan."

Ashleigh Renaud (UH Hilo undergraduate student, Connelly Lab), "Osteoprotegerin Production in Breast Cancer Subtypes."

Tarra Swenson (HCC undergraduate student, Pezzuto Lab), "In vitro evaluation of cytotoxic activity from *Psychotria nilgiriensis* extracts"

Dillon Tacdol (UH Hilo undergraduate student, Koomoa-Lange Lab), "Dual effects of FTY 720 on Intracellular Calcium Levels in Neuroblastoma Cells."

Parimelazhagan Thangaraj (Visiting Researcher, Pezzuto Lab) "Antioxidant and anticancer potential of extracts from *Psychotria nilgiriensis* Deb. & Gang."

Stephanie Tsang Mui Chung (Post-doctoral Researcher, Connelly Lab), "Level of Osteoprotegerin expression is breast cancer subtype specific."

Christina Wales (Research Assistant, Jacobs Lab), "c-Myc is critical for apoptosis in 4-hydroxynonenal-treated colorectal cancer cells."

Presenting talks were PhD students:

Marites Calibuso-Salazar, (Major Professor: Ten Eyck), "The effect of fluoxetine on *c-Fos* and synaptophysin expressions in the hypothalamic paraventricular organ during brain development"

Micah Glasgow, (Major Professors: Mahavir Chougule and Kenneth Morris), "Preparation and Characterization of Hybrid DFMO/Etoposide Loaded Nanocarriers for the Treatment of Neuroblastoma."

Kehau Hagiwara, (Major Professor: Anthony Wright), "Marine Microbial Natural Product Biodiscovery Around Hawaii Island."

Mayuramas Jan Sang-Ngern, (Major Professor: Chang), "Potential Anticancer Agents Derived from *Physalis peruviana*."

Nathan Sunada, (Major Professors: Leng Chee Chang and Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit), "Antibacterial Potential and Anti-inflammatory Activity of *Waltheria indica* L."

Nalini Yadav, (Major Professors: Linda Connelly and Aaron Jacobs), "Investigation of the mechanisms whereby adipocytes can up-regulate pro-angiogenic signaling in macrophages."

Susanne Youngren-Ortiz (Major Professors: Mahavir Chougule, Kenneth Morris), "Optimization of STAT6 siRNA loaded gelatin nanocarriers."



Student pharmacists travel to Maui to assist in Teen Health Camp

By Kimberly Ann Victorine, Class of 2016

On Friday February 20, I boarded a plane headed to Kahului, Maui with Mailani Puli, a former Pre-Pharmacy student, graduating this spring with a biology degree in cell and molecular biology, and was recently accepted into a dual PharmD and PhD Program at the University of the Pacific; Rachel Loo, the UH Hilo Site Coordinator for the Ke Ola Mau Health Careers Pathway Program; Sherise Tioganco, a kinesiology graduate; & Shaun Perry, a current kinesiology student; to prepare for an event collaboration between Nā Pua No'ēau, the Ke Ola Mau Health Careers Pathway Program and the Teen Health Camp with Health Career Opportunities Program (HCOP) and JABSOM first and second year medical students. The goal of the event was to expose students to many different areas within the health care field, through hands on activities and interactions with professionals & current students.

The event was held on Saturday February 21 at the UH Maui College and drew about 61 students ranging from grades 8 through 12, which included about 48 Native Hawaiians. Students spent the day rotating among various workshops including "Stitch it up" (suturing activity), "Casting Call" (students got to cast their own arms), "Local Grindz" (nutrition), "Decisions We Make" (life decisions), "Daily Doses" (pharmacy), "Kinesiology" and "Dental" (created a dental mold of their teeth).

Mailani and I spent the day doing a workshop entitled "Daily Doses." We spent time talking with students about our personal experiences in pharmacy and how we fell in love with the field. We also did two hands-on activities. The first involved making play-dough, to simulate the role of a



compounding Pharmacist; and the second involved students counting M&Ms by five, using a tray and spatula to simulate the role of pharmacy technicians and pharmacists in the community retail setting. Students were also taught what goes on a prescription label, and created a label for their play-dough and M&M jars. We also set up an area that displayed information about DKICP, and handed out flyers that helped guide students in the appropriate steps to take for a career in pharmacy. Lastly, we brought a DKICP white coat, and allowed students to take pictures wearing the white coat in front of a backdrop that included the DKICP name and logo to show their friends and family.

Feedback from students included the following, with evaluation scores reflecting the highest rating of five:

"Thank you for the great experience! It was fun and worth coming to! I didn't know that a pharmacist would have to be in school for so long." LOL!

"Retail pharmacist is what I'm interested in and pharmacists are considered doctors."

Spring awards banquet highlights student efforts

Students were in the spotlight at the 2015 Spring Awards Ceremony on May 6 at Auntie Sally's, recognizing scholarship winners, organizations and leaders along with a special gift to Dean and Mrs. Pezzuto from the three class presidents. The students also voted for their favorite teachers of the year in six different categories.

"I wish I could say it's been an easy journey building this college, but we've made it this far, one hurdle at a time," said Founding Dean John Pezzuto in one of his final addresses to the student pharmacists, faculty and staff. "A lot of people had doubts and thought it was a pipe dream to put a college of pharmacy on the Big Island. But I was confident. And as I look back at those times, initially I think, 'those were the good old days.' Now I want everyone to think that these are the good old days. This college will see new challenges, but it will be time for this college to prevail. This college is well positioned for greatness."

After an enthusiastic talent contest, won by Arnold Sano and Leilani Isosaki (Class of 2016), Associate Dean for Academic Services Edward Fisher closed the ceremony with this appreciation: Special thanks to Jynelle Tangonan and Daryl Sakado for organizing the talent show and decorations, Fatemeh Kordkheili, Arnold Sano, and Jeremy Lozano for coordinating the slideshow, Jairus Mahoe for helping to transport the podium, Floral Resources for their floral donations, Caps Rubbish Service for assisting with cleanup, Pacific Sound, the DKICP IT Department, and last but not least, the Office of Student Services.

Student Choice Award for Teaching:
(For the first year, in addition to an engraved koa plaque, the winners will receive a token honorific monetary award provided from the Taniguchi Memorial Fund sponsored by KTA Superstores):

Class of 2018 chose Drs. Linda Connelly and Forrest Batz;
Class of 2017 chose Drs. Aaron Jacobs and Supakit Wongwiwatthananut;
Class of 2016 chose Drs. Aaron Jacobs and Elizabeth Ackerman

IPPE Preceptor of the Year: Dr. Randal Nakamura, Kuakini Medical Center

Recognition of 2014-15 DKICP Student Ambassadors:
Allan Higa, Mark Allen Bibera, Christopher Diaz, Walter Domingo, Nicholas Ferreira, Blake Johnson, Shaun Lasky, Kelsea Mizusawa, Jynelle Tangonan

Recognition of 2014-15 DKICP UHSA Senator:
Abraham Jose

Recognition of PCOA Highest Achievement for the Class of 2016: Eric Sanders



2014-15 Scholarships - From Left to Right: Andy Wong, Amy Anderson, Sisay Girmay, Francesco Console, Rhea Castro, Brandon Tuzon, Christopher Diaz



The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy Merit Award Recipients - From Left to Right: Tina Liu, Kim Roseman, Lena Asano, Cierra Gauvin, Lillian Tran, Caleb Malinski, Thao Le, Okezie Irondi, Kelsea Mizusawa, Eric Tsuji, Brenda Yuen, Walter Domingo, Leilani Isozaki



2015-16 Scholarships - From Left to Right: Niaz Nafisi, Chelsea Aipoalani, Tina Liu, Nadine So, Sarah Osselame, Lena Asano, Kelsea Mizusawa, Samantha Hanabaga, Christopher Diaz, Walter Domingo, Jairus Mahoe, Matt Chen, Zi Zhang, Shuan Lasky



DKICP Student Organization of the Year - American Pharmacists Association - Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) - From Left to Right: Rhea Castro, Mari Cid, Ryan Shiroma, Melissa Iida, Thuy-Tien Pham, Karen Christian, Joyce Tapuro, Hannah Shin, Madeline Fu, Leilani Isozaki, Matt Chen, Kelsey Chang, Fatemeh Kordkheili, Moani Hagiwara, Leanne Drusen, Jenni Ueno, Shaun Lasky, Dann Hirayasu



US Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Practice Award:

Eric Tsuji

Student Leader of the Year: Kevin Wang

Student Organization Award: American Pharmacist Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP)

Scholarships for 2014-15 academic year:

Walgreens Diversity and Inclusion

Excellence Scholarship: Christopher Diaz

Walgreens Diversity Scholarships: Rhea Castro, Brandon Tuzon, Anissa Marzuki

Safeway Pharmacy Scholarships: Amy Anderson, Sisay Girmay, Andy Wong

The UH Hilo DKICP Class of 2013

Scholarship: Francesco Console

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy Merit Award from the Class of 2018: Cierra Gauvin, Jonathan Kataoka, Miyuki Miller, Kerri Nakatsu

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy Merit Award from the Class of 2017: Lena Asano, Caleb Malinski, Kelsea Mizusawa, Kim Roseman, Lillian Tran, Brenda Yuen

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy Merit Award from the Class of 2016: Walter Domingo, Alexander Guimaraes, Okezie Irondi, Leilani Isozaki, Thao Le, Tina Liu, Jason Perreira, Eric Tsuji

Scholarships for the 2015-16 academic year:

UH Hilo DKICP Alumni Association Scholarship: Shaun Laksy

Mr. Nagakatsu Kumao Otsuka and Dr. Raymond Masashi Otsuka Memorial Scholarship: Jairus Mahoe

Edwin and Georgiana Kam Endowed Excellence Scholarship: Ronnijean Delenia, Christopher Diaz

Elwin & Valerie Goo Endowed Excellence Scholarship: Kelsea Mizusawa, Sarah Osselame

Grace Mizuko Miyawaki Pharmacy Scholarship: Matt Chen

Haga Family Endowed Scholarship: Walter Domingo

Hawaii Independent Pharmacies, Inc. Endowed Excellence Scholarship: Lena Asano, Samantha Hanabaga, Nadine So, Chelsea Aipoalani, Cierra Gauvin, Carli Owan, Tina Liu

The UH Hilo DKICP Class of 2013 Scholarship: Zi Zhang

Walmart Scholarship: Niaz Nafisi

DKICP faculty member sets up scholarship in memory of father, grandfather

Dr. Anthony Otsuka, a faculty member from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP)



is honoring his own heritage in Hawaii as well as helping students with a scholarship fund in honor of his father and grandfather.

Dr. Otsuka grew up on Maui and has been a member of DKICP's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences since 2010. He commemorated the scholarship to his grandfather, Mr. Nagakatsu Kumao Otsuka and his father, Dr. Raymond Masashi Otsuka.

His grandfather was born in 1865 into a samurai family. He came to the U.S. in 1890 and settled in Wailuku, Maui in 1905 to become the official Japanese court interpreter and founder of The Maui Record, a Japanese/English/Fillipino newspaper. Active as a community leader, Mr. N.K. Otsuka was involved with creating the volunteer fire department, Japanese school, and was elected as president of the newly formed Wailuku Japanese Association.

His adopted son and father of Anthony, R. M. Otsuka, was born in 1910. He received his medical degree from Rush University Medical Center and interned at Cook County Hospital, both in Chicago. He returned to Maui and became the X-ray physician at Maui Memorial Hospital and several Maui clinics, while maintaining a dermatology practice from 1953 until his death in 1965. According to his obituary, his classmates at Maui High School remembered him as "an

accomplished pianist and organist." An avid supporter of physical fitness, he founded the Maui Barbell Club with Olympian Tommy Kono.

Anthony Otsuka proved himself to be a chip off the block. He went to Kihei Elementary school and distinguished himself at H. P. Baldwin High School to the extent of receiving a scholarship from Massachusetts

Institute of Technology (MIT), where he earned a bachelor's degree in Chemistry in 1972. In choosing a career in Science, Anthony recalls, "I was influenced by scientific writers such as Isaac Asimov and chemist Bruno Zimm, and the general effects of the Sputnik era."

He received his PhD at the University of California, San Diego, and was awarded an NIH-funded postdoctoral position at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, England where he worked with Sydney Brenner, who later received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2002.

"For me, work in the lab was business as usual," Anthony says. "Both my PhD advisor, John Abelson, and Sydney had the philosophy that the way to make competent and independent scientists was to throw them in the lab and let them sink or swim. All his postdocs had the freedom to create their own projects and benefit from the active scientific minds around them."



He accepted faculty positions at UC Berkeley and later Illinois State University where he rose to the rank of full professor. Today, at DKICP in Hilo, he looks forward to retiring in December this year and spending his time playing the piano, writing music, and studying Japanese and Chinese. He also has a passion for photography and video recording.

"I created this scholarship to give back to the people of Hawai'i and to further the education of our young people," Anthony Otsuka says. "The decision to create a scholarship was inspired by Dean Pezzuto's speech at the DKICP building groundbreaking ceremony, in which he said, 'I believe in the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. I realized that I, too, believe in our College and its vital role in improving the health care of our citizens.'"

The inaugural Otsuka Memorial Scholarship was presented to Jairus Mahoe, Class of 2016. The scholarship fund will be administered by the University of Hawai'i Foundation.

Faculty Seminar Series

Dr. Jon-Paul Bingham



Dr. Jon-Paul Bingham (right), associate professor and graduate chair, Department of Molecular Biosciences and Biological Engineering at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, presented a research seminar entitled "The things you can learn from snails, the avenues for novel peptide drugs and

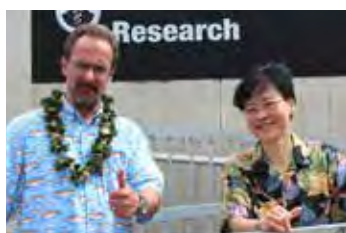
tools" April 30 on the DKICP campus. Dr. Bingham, who works with DKICP's Dr. Daniela Guendisch (left), associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received his bachelor's degree and PhD from Griffiths University in Queensland, Australia, and conducted post doctoral fellowships at the University of California-San Francisco as well as Yale School of Medicine. He states his main interest is with the discovery of novel biologically active peptides from venomous creatures and furthering their biological application(s) via bioengineering.

Dr. Timothy Blackwell

Dr. Timothy S. Blackwell, professor and director, Division of Allergy, Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine, at Vanderbilt University, presented "New Insights into Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis" on DKICP campus March 19. Dr. Blackwell is a consultant with Dr. Aaron Jacobs, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, through his Hawaii Community Foundation grant from the Leahi Fund. Dr.



Blackwell's research interests include transcriptional regulation of cytokine and chemokine production, particularly through the NF- κ B transcription factor pathway. His laboratory investigates how manipulating specific signaling pathways can alter lung carcinogenesis, impact the biology of acute lung injury, and regulate pulmonary host defense functions. He is also interested in pathways that lead to resolution of inflammation and mechanisms by which abnormal repair of tissue injury leads to fibrosis.



Stephen Grabacki

Ghee Tan (right), associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and guest speaker Stephen Grabacki, Graystar Pacific Seafood, Ltd., jointly presented a seminar on "Commercial Fishing and Marine Biodiscovery: A New and Novel Partnership" on Thursday, April 2. (Photo by Aaron Jacobs)

Dr. John Michael O'Brien

Dr. John Michael O'Brien, PharmD, MPH, presented "Pay for performance and sustaining value-based pharmacist services" on the DKICP campus on April 27. Dr. O'Brien serves as Payment Model Advisor for the Pharm2Pharm Health Care Innovation Award, funded through the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation.

Based in Washington DC, Dr. O'Brien is a health policy expert with experience in the health insurance industry, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA).

Dr. O'Brien holds a doctor of pharmacy (PharmD) degree from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



Collaboration with nursing yields more effective Rx



DKICP faculty members Mimi Pezzuto (in back with lei) and George Karvas (far right) presented a special workshop to nursing students on writing prescriptions with Kimberly Victorine (black tee shirt, Class of 2016) on May 15. The class was intended to decrease patient wait times by ensuring the prescriptions are legible and contain everything the pharmacist needs to properly fill them.

Jarvi, Hara honored with awards at campus-wide celebration

Two members of DKICP were recognized with awards at the UH Hilo 2015 Awards and Recognition Celebration on campus Thursday, May 14.

Dr. Susan Jarvi, professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and director of the Pre-Pharmacy Program, was given the Award for Excellence in Scholarly/Creative Activities. Nadine Hara, budget officer in the office of the Dean of the College, was given the Professional Staff Award.

Jarvi was presented the award for being a faculty member in honor of her "outstanding achievement in scholarly and/or creative endeavors, including publication of well-reviewed books, publication in refereed journals, or performances or exhibitions at the state or national levels at UH." She was nominated mainly in recognition of her work on rat lungworm disease, said Dean John Pezzuto.



From left, Nadine Hara, Dean John Pezzuto, Dr. Susan Jarvi

"Sue is a leading global expert on this debilitating disease that has generated particular interest and concern on the Big Island," Pezzuto said. "In addition to her basic (genetic analysis, mechanisms of transmission, etc.) and applied research (diagnostics), Sue has been instrumental as a community advocate and educator."

For example, she is responsible for creating an educational tool, in the form of a coloring book, which is widely distributed to elementary school children. Her work has attracted a great deal of attention, as exemplified by



Nadine Hara receives leis from her son Tyran and mother Lena Hashimoto, with daughter Taelyn in the background

stories in the media and conferences on the topic. When questioned on the subject during a recent visit to the Big Island, Senator Brian Schatz cited her work.

Jarvi earned her masters degree in veterinary and animal sciences at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and her Ph.D. in biology from Northern Illinois University. She was awarded postdoctoral fellowships at the Beckman Research Institute of the City of Hope National Medical Center and the Molecular Genetics Laboratory of the Smithsonian Institution.

In his speech introducing her to the University, Dean Pezzuto compared her subject of study to “all the nasty stuff we see in science fiction movies.”

“Rats, feces, eggs, slugs, and human infections that can result in worms invading the human brain. The consequences, of course, can be dire. Although most of us may not like to think about this, Sue Jarvi has the stamina to study this organism’s life cycle and genetics.”

Hara was presented the award for being a professional staff member “who has made major professional contributions to her unit and to the university as a

whole, and has made a positive impact on the welfare of students and colleagues at UH Hilo.”

“Nadine is an indispensable asset for the College and for the University,” Dean John Pezzuto said. “Her work is impeccable. She is reliable, dedicated, enthusiastic, innovative, intelligent and personable. She is a leader and a doer.”

As budget officer for the College, Hara has played an instrumental role in building infrastructure, creating procedures, establishing goals and implementing the strategic plan, he said. For purposes of professional accreditation, she provides financial reports to show progress, stability and projections, and prepares financial reports on an annual basis.

Hara earned a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from the University of Hawai`i at Hilo and has worked with the University of System for 13 years, most of

which has been in the professional level of fiscal management. Prior to coming to DKICP, she worked for at the Hawai`i Community College Business Office, UH Hilo Upward Bound Program and the Office of Research at UH Hilo.

In his speech to introduce her, Dean Pezzuto said: “Nadine finds herself on the front line and more often than not she is the first one to present the problem of the day. But there’s an important difference. Nadine is able to see the big picture. She understands all of the intricacies, nuances, and dare I say idiosyncrasies, of UH Hilo. She not only presents the issues of the day but she also presents a solution. And those solutions usually make sense. Like a ray of sunshine on a cloudy day.”



From left, Dean John Pezzuto, Chancellor Donald Straney, Dr. Susan Jarvi, Vice Chancellor Matthew Platz

Statewide collaboration helps hospitals maintain safety

By Roy Goo, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, based on Kaua'i



Roy Goo - Kaua'i



Cherie Chu - Oahu



Anita Ciarleglio - Maui



Allen Shih. - Hawaii Island

The Hawaii Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaborative (HASC) has gotten off the ground with the majority of hospitals in the state participating.

This initiative has been made possible thanks to the support from DKICP particularly our faculty at various sites around the state and the Office of Continuing Education which has generously helped to facilitate and provide continuing education credits for the educational and training components of the collaborative.

The Hawaii Department of Health has released the following website on the Disease Outbreak Control Division: <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/dib/hawaii-antimicrobial-stewardship-collaborative-hasc/>

Faculty from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy are on track to help health care facilities reduce the

incidence of multi-drug resistant organisms and the incidence of *Clostridium difficile* associated colitis. Drs. Roy Goo (Kauai), Anita Ciarleglio (Maui), Cherie Chu (Oah'u) and Allen Shih (Big Island of Hawai'i) have been working with the Hawai'i Department of Health to establish Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs (ASP) in nearly every hospital throughout the state.

ASPs are designed to improve patient outcomes and lower healthcare associated costs, as well as slowing the development of antimicrobial resistance by the utilization of appropriate antibiotics.

Studies from the Center for Diseases (CDC) show that 30-50% of antibiotics prescribed in hospitals are unnecessary or inappropriate. By insuring that patients in Hawai'i receive the best antibiotic for their particular infection, for the proper duration of time and at the dose tailored to their

specific needs, these programs should show shorter lengths of stay and quicker recovery, decreased costs to both the patient and the hospital, and a decrease in the rate of development of resistant pathogens.

With Hawai'i being a hub for visitors from around the world, there is always the potential for the spread and development of drug resistant organisms, and because these organisms do not isolate themselves to one community or one island it is important that there is an organized state-wide effort to address this growing issue.

Collaborations such as these show the efforts of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy have put Hawai'i on track with being compliant with this future requirement to keep Hawai'i on the cutting edge of medical care.

Everyone pitches it to beautify pharmacy campus

Students, faculty and staff rolled up their sleeves on April 22 by cleaning up the DKICP campus and removing all of the weeds in recognition of Earth Day. Plants and soil were donated by the Class of 2017. (Photo by Tracey Niimi)





From left: Kimberly Ann Victorine, Donna Branco Pacheco, Daylynn Branco Kyles (Founder of Aloha Ilio), Kasia Lynn Quintal

Student pharmacists make, sell lollipops for dog rescue program

By Kimberly Ann Victorine, Class of 2016

While visiting Mrs. Mimi Pezzuto in her lab one day with fellow classmate and friend Kasia Lynn Quintal, we saw her in the process of making delicious rose water candy. With Valentine's Day just around the corner, and Mrs. Pezzuto's Advanced Compounding Class scheduled to learn about candy and gummy dosage forms, an amazing community service idea was born. On February 11, I was able to join Mrs. Pezzuto's Advanced Compounding class to make li hing mui lollipops in her lab. Community pharmacist from Longs Drugs Ponahawaii Marq Sims and Dr. Carolyn Ma were also present for class that day. With the help of students in Mrs. Pezzuto's class, we were able to make and package about 75 lollipops. The lollipops were then sold to students on campus for \$2.00 each.



From left: Francesco Console, Visiting Compounding Pharmacist and Preceptor from Longs Drugs Ponahawaii Marq Sims, Zi Zhang and Mari Cid

On March 7th, Kasia Lynn Quintal and myself presented a check for \$150 to the founder of Aloha 'Ilio Rescue, a local dog rescue program. Since the event, I

was able to purchase paw print lollipop molds, and will be working with Aloha 'Ilio Rescue to make lollipops for them to sell at their monthly adoption days held on the first Saturday of each month in front of Shiigi Drug in Hilo.



STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Student pharmacist attends psychiatric pharmacy annual meeting

For the first time, a student from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy attended the College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP) annual meeting. Joann Phan (Class of 2018) was one of 15 students who received a travel grant from the CPNP foundation, which included funding for registration fees and part of the travel costs for her attendance at the 2015 Annual Meeting from April 17-22.

Given Phan's particular interest in psychiatric pharmacy, the conference was a good opportunity for her to learn more about the field. A psychiatric pharmacist is a pharmacist with a broad knowledge of psychiatric medications. Similarly, a neurologic pharmacist is a specialist in neurologic medications. By working alongside physicians, both psychiatric and neurologic pharmacists have significant roles in providing drug treatment recommendations to the physicians as well as monitoring the effects of these medications. According to the Board of Pharmacy Specialties, more than 600 pharmacists are certified as psychiatric or neurologic pharmacists in the United States. Since there are less than a handful of psychiatric pharmacists in Hawaii, attending this conference offered Joann an invaluable close-up look at the role of the psychiatric pharmacist. It also provided her with the opportunity to meet other students, pharmacists, and healthcare professionals and to expand her network.

At the conference, Joann attended the student-programming track, where she was able to ask directors and supervisors from different practice areas questions about the roles of psychiatric and neurologic pharmacists. Practice

areas for these fields are wide-ranging, from drug research and development to direct patient contact to mentoring and teaching pharmacists and other healthcare professionals. Particular areas of focus include substance abuse, child molestation, academic detailing, developing drug for pharmaceutical industry, working with veterans, and primary care. From the student-programming track, Joann learned that even though psychiatric and neurologic pharmacists are specialized pharmacists, their roles are not limited and they can be involved in many areas. This event provided Joann ideas as to which area within psychiatric pharmacy that she wants to pursue in the future.

The sessions at the meeting were informative and offered valuable insights. One of Joann's favorite topics was the social stigma of psychiatric disorders. This talk was given by Dr. Michael Friedman, who discussed the occurrence of stigma amongst healthcare professional and how it impacts patient care. He concluded by offering tactics for healthcare professionals so they can identify and manage personal biases. Mental illness stigma amongst healthcare professionals is common and it makes a negative impact on patient care. As a student pharmacist, it was substantial for Joann to learn about this topic early on so she

can see the effect of personal biases on patients. She hopes she can make a good impact in her patients by learning how to manage and prevent such stigma.

Another of Joann's favorite activities at the CPNP conference was meeting with her CPNP mentor. All of the students who attended had an opportunity to meet with a mentor to ask questions and receive advice. Since Joann wanted to learn more on what psychiatric pharmacists do on a daily basis, this was an excellent opportunity to get firsthand information about the field. Joann's mentor is Dr. Lisa Goldstein, an assistance professor at the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy. At their meeting, Dr. Goldstein not only provided her additional information about the role of psychiatric pharmacists

in a clinical setting, but also specified her important role in the academic setting. Additionally, Dr. Goldstein provided her insight into the residency program. From this meeting, Joann had a better understanding on what she should do now as a student pharmacist in order to move towards her goal.

The CPNP annual conference was a good place for Joann to learn about the field of psychiatric and neurologic pharmacy. At this conference, she not only gained knowledge on a number of topics related to psychiatric and neurologic pharmacy, but also met with many successful professionals within the field that she can learn from and expanding her networking at the same time.



PCCA offers remote compounding boot camp

By Samantha Hanabaga, Class of 2016

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy's National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) Student Chapter proves its uniqueness and significance on campus in providing student pharmacists the opportunity to further develop a career in community pharmacy when it hosted its third Professional Compounding Centers of America (PCCA) Remote Compounding Boot Camp on the weekend of March 14.

As a course offered by PCCA, a nationally well known compounding pharmacy company, the NCPA student chapter was delighted to have two representatives from PCCA, Dr. Bindhu Batra, PharmD and Dr. Madison Peach, PharmD, RPh., who facilitated the course. This intensive compounding boot camp was like no other. During the two full days of camp, 25 student pharmacists were immersed with lectures, hands-on laboratory experience, real-life applications, and insights to a career path in compounding pharmacy.

Student pharmacists were amazed on the type of information and the amount of things that were covered in just a weekend. By the end of this compounding boot camp, each student pharmacist took home their pharmacy artwork of eleven different dosage forms, ranging from lollipops, lip balm, troches, and topical foams and gels. In addition, student pharmacists received a certificate of completion for this introductory compounding course, which make them eligible for additional future advance compounding courses provided by PCCA.



PCCA, who are dedicated to educate and inspire students to a career path in compounding pharmacy, which all in turn develops high-quality and well-rounded student pharmacists at the DKICP. This compounding boot camp undoubtedly holds prominent value for future student pharmacists and for the NCPA student chapter at the DKICP.



Through this compounding boot camp, student pharmacists learned to personalize medicine, from the dose, flavor, dosage form, and excipients to fit the needs of the specific patient. They also got the chance to interact with compounding pharmacy professionals from the institute of



Pharmacy fraternities collaborate to help community

Student pharmacists from Kappa Psi and Phi Delta Chi spent one Saturday in April at the Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Elementary and Intermediate School in Papaikou. The two fraternities worked on gardening and landscaping at the schools that are located about 10 miles from Hilo. According to Tracey Niimi, student support specialist: "The college is proud of the two fraternities proving they can co-exist and collaborate like this. It sets an amazing example not only for students here but across the nation." (Photo by Dorothy Mercado of Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Elementary and Intermediate Schools)

Phi Delta Chi shows respect, appreciation to faculty, staff

Phi Delta Chi-Gamma Theta chapter spotlighted their decorating skills at their semi-annual Faculty & Staff Appreciation Breakfast on DKICP campus Friday, May 8. Using a Harry Potter theme, the elaborate decorations were courtesy of all the members of PDC, the Office of Student Services, and IT Specialist Blaine Bautisa. According to the fraternity, which are recognized regularly as amongst the most dedicated and hardworking on campus: "The fraternity wanted you to know that your humility, tenacity, and commitment to the students and college does not go unnoticed and are hosting this breakfast as a token of our appreciation."



Students help support community through Relay for Life

Student pharmacists participated in Relay For Life (RFL) at UH Hilo March 13-14 with a booth on the lower campus selling food and raising money for the American Cancer Society (ACS). Although donations will be accepted through August, DKICP is in third place out of 21 teams. As of early May, the event has raised more than \$17,000; DKICP itself had collected more than \$2,000.

Two students who are personal survivors of cancer participated this year: Katie Post and Michelle Noelani Kai Taylor (both in the Class of 2018). Katie was a speaker during the Luminaria ceremony, where she shared her personal experience with breast cancer, and the ACS.

"We cannot forget that 'Relay' is not just about the overnight party, but the struggles that cancer survivors must face," said Katie, who also was the lead team captain with the help of Zachary Downs (Class of 2018). "This is why we Relay... to raise money for the ACS and make the struggles a little bit less of a challenge, or easier to face. Or find a cure."

This year the UH Hilo RFL theme was "Relay Through the Decades" because the American Cancer Society celebrated their 30th year of RFL. DKICP's individual tent theme was the

"1920's", and onsite fundraisers this year included food sales and a photo booth.

"We had 44 virtual and physical team members," Katie said. "We received generous donations to support our team and onsite fundraisers, including: donations of food to sell, numerous monetary donations, flowers from Rho Chi, Starbucks donated coffee to our team, and Safeway donated a gift card for our 'Miss'ter Relay participant, Mat Eng, (Class of 2018)."

The group was recognized with the Rising Star Award by the Colleges Against Cancer team for Relay for Life at the Mahalo Dinner on April 29 for raising more than \$1,000.

Dr. Ghee Tan, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, helped advise and support the group and helped document the event with several photos. Other supporters included Kerri Nakatsu and Matt Chen (both in Class of 2018).

"Next year, we hope to get more help, and raise more money than we have this year," Katie said.



Katie Post (left) and Zachary Downs accepted an award on behalf of DKICP's Relay for Life group for collecting more than \$1,000. (Photo by Tracey Niimi.)



Students had fun while they helped the greater UH Hilo community at the 2015 Relay for Life. (Photo by Ghee Tan.)

Leadership symposium covers essential topics to succeed

By Arnold Sano, Class of 2016

On behalf of the Phi Lambda Sigma, Delta Lambda Chapter, I would like to thank everyone who participated in the PLS Leadership Symposium, held April 25. As the first leadership symposium of its kind to be held at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP), our goal was to foster leadership development in student pharmacists of all classes. I hope that everyone enjoyed the workshops and gained insight that will help them both on campus and as Pharmacists. I would also like to extend a special thanks to Drs. Edward Fisher, Roy Goo, Christina Mnatzaganian, Ms. Shelly Clark, Mr. Tracey Niimi, Alysia Osugi, and Le Du for guest presenting at the symposium.

The day was broken into one-hour workshops and offered attendees the opportunity to select certain workshops of their interest. The opening session began with Dr. Fisher, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Dr. Goo, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, presenting their take on leadership and how it has helped their successful careers in Pharmacy.

Other workshops included a President's Roundtable, Treasurer's Training, Residency Talk, Personalities, Characteristics, and Leadership, Organizational Leadership, Meeting Etiquette and Robert's Rules of Order, and a CV workshop.



The President's Roundtable was an informal discussion between past and current presidents of the successes and pitfalls this past academic year. Presidents learned a lot about successfully running a student organization and left inspired for the new year. Meanwhile at the Treasurer's Training, newly elected Treasurers were presented with the roles and responsibilities of the office of the Treasurer and given tools to allow them to be successful in their new position. The Residency Talk, presented by Dr. Mnatzaganian, and fourth-year students Alysia Osugi, and Le Du, was one of the most heavily attended sessions and gave attendees a glimpse into the world of residencies, including the benefits of applying, looking for a program that suits the student, and the application process. Shelly Clark associate director of residence life at UH Hilo, guest presented about love languages and how to effectively communicate with your coworkers. Following the breakout sessions, attendees reconvened for a talk by

our student support specialist, Tracey Niimi, on organizational leadership and effectively running a student organization at DKICP.

After a delicious bento lunch, students were introduced to Robert's Rules of Order and Meeting Etiquette where they learned ways to keep meetings from running too long and tools to help stay on track. Individual organizations were also given time to meet and thinking about what their goals and activities would be for the next school year. The day wrapped up with a CV workshop, presented by Alysia Osugi and gave attendees the opportunity to peer review other CV's as well as have faculty and PLS members give pointers.

Overall, it was a day full of fellowship and learning about leadership that will continue with all attendees even into their careers as pharmacists. PLS hopes to continue hosting the symposium and continue to foster and recognize leadership in the profession of pharmacy and at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy.

DKICP participates in 2015 Merrie Monarch Royal Parade

By RonniJean Delenia, Jeremy-Rick Lozano, Jaime-Rose Tangonan
2015 Merrie Monarch Parade Chairs



Students from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) were privileged to participate in this year's 46th annual Merrie Monarch Royal Parade, where the class of 2017 presented a float fitting to their profession made of pill bottles and plants native to Hawaii.

The annual Merrie Monarch Festival is arguably Hilo's biggest event of the year. It is a weeklong celebration honoring Hawaiian culture through hula competition, art fairs, and a majestic parade through downtown Hilo.

Student pharmacists from DKICP and the Pre-Pharmacy club of UH Hilo proudly marched in the parade displaying their school banners while donning pill bottle costumes.



It was an honor to partake in this Hilo tradition. Community involvement is very important to DKICP students and we strive to serve our community whenever possible. Our annual presence at the Merrie Monarch parade is a display of our gratitude for Hawaii's support and a reminding promise that we will be ever present to serve our community.



FACULTY & STAFF

UH Board of Regents awards tenure/promotion to 7 DKICP faculty

Julie Ann Luiz Adrian, Department of



Pharmacy Practice, received tenure and promotion to associate professor. Dr. Adrian received her bachelor's in agriculture from UH

Hilo and her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine (DVM) from Oklahoma State University. She has found that the development of the veterinary medicine rotation component of the Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences curriculum useful and beneficial to students' pharmacy education and roles as pharmacists.

Mahavir Chougule, Department of



Pharmaceutical Sciences, received tenure and promotion to associate professor. Dr. Chougule received his bachelor's in

pharmacy from Amravati University in India, and his Master's in pharmaceutical technology and Ph.D. in pharmacy from the University of Boroda in India. He was a post-doctoral fellow at Florida A&M University. He investigates the use of therapeutic agent, siRNA, proteins and targeted nanotechnology based formulations for treatment of cancer, and pulmonary disorders including lung cancer and asthma.

Linda Connelly, Department of



Pharmaceutical Sciences, received tenure and promotion to associate professor. Dr. Connelly received her bachelor's of

science in biology from the University of Glasgow, and her Ph.D. in molecular pharmacology from the Wolfson Institute for Biomedical Research, University College in London. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of California-Los Angeles as well as at Vanderbilt University in Tennessee. She studies breast cancer, and her lab tries to gain a better understanding of the signaling that leads to metastasis of breast cancer.

Lara Gomez, Department of Pharmacy Practice, received tenure and promotion



to associate specialist. Born and raised in Hilo, Dr. Gomez received her PharmD degree from the University of New Mexico

and completed an infectious disease residency at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center. As director of clinical education, she cultivates rotation placement for nearly 320 students a year, maintains relationships with preceptors at clinical rotation sites, and teaches in the Pharmacy Law and Ethics course.

Roy Alan Goo, Department of



Pharmacy Practice based on the island of Kaua'i, received tenure and promotion to associate professor. Dr. Goo was born and raised on the island of Oahu and obtained his doctor of pharmacy degree from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA. He completed a residency at Tripler Medical Center in Honolulu. He is currently working with the Hawai'i Department of Health to develop antimicrobial stewardship programs at

hospitals across the state.

Daniela Guendisch, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received



tenure and promotion to associate professor. Dr. Guendisch received her undergraduate degree in pharmacy

as well as her Ph.D. in pharmaceutical chemistry from the University of Tübingen, Germany. She was a post-doctoral fellow with Edythe London, NIH/NIDA, Brain Imaging Center, Baltimore. Her lab is developing novel ligands for ion channels with one emphasis on nicotinic acetylcholine receptors (nAChRs) (design, synthesis and structure-activity relationship studies (SAR)) as potential therapeutics or as diagnostic tools for in vivo imaging (PET, SPECT).

Sheri Tokumar, Department of

Pharmacy Practice



based on O'ahu, received tenure and promotion to associate professor. Dr. Tokumar received her Pharm.D. at the

University of Michigan and completed residencies at the University of California-San Francisco as well as the University of Kentucky. After her training, Dr. Tokumar worked as a clinical pharmacist at Cedars-Sinai and at the University of California San Diego Medical Center in various intensive care units. Her current practice site is in the Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit at The Queen's Medical Center on Oahu. She lectures in the areas of infectious diseases, critical care and cardiology and enjoys teaching in both the didactic and clinical setting.

DKICP bids a fond aloha and mahalo to Jean Cruz

Jean Cruz, who has taken care of faculty and post-doctoral associates in DKICP's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences since 2008, has retired, effective the end of May. Much beloved by faculty, staff and students, Jean was considered a friend, confidant and counselor to many of her DKICP 'ohana.

Ironically, Jean was born in the hospital where her office was ultimately located when she took the job with the then-fledgling pharmacy college. Prior to coming to UH Hilo, she was a clerk at Hawai'i Community College, worked at the front desk at the Marriott Resort in Waikoloa, in the Admitting Department at Hilo Medical Center and also at KTA for several years.

Jean graduated from Hilo High School and attended Rollins College in Florida and UH Manoa. Her family traces their roots to 15th-century Hawaii and Ahiakumai Kī'eki'e, queen of the island of Hawai'i, and to Kameiamoku, favored wife of Kamehameha. More recently, her 'ohana are a well-known Hawaiian (kama'aina) musical family. Her grandmother, Helen Desha Beamer, was a legendary Hawaiian composer, often called "Sweetheart Grandma," who



originated the Beamer style of hula.

Jean has a son and two daughters, and several grandchildren on the mainland, whom she plans to spend much of retirement time with as often as possible.

As she took her leave, she said she wanted to especially thank the Pezzuto and the Morris families, as well as each and every faculty and staff member who showed her appreciation through the years: "I really am indebted to all of you because you each welcomed me and supported me all these years - truly am grateful. I will always be proudest of my time with DKICP and especially ending my career on such a high note. 'Mahalo plenty to an awesome faculty and amazing staff - I treasure our friendships and wish you all continued success at DKICP - IMUA!"

Faculty Briefs



Leng Chee Chang, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, filed a Provisional Patent with the University of

Hawaii Office of Technology Transfer and Economic Development (OTTEP) entitled "Natural Product inhibitor of cancer cells" with co-inventors Pezzuto JM, Turkson J, Mayuramas Sang-Ngern.

Linda Connelly, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was invited to take part at a National Institute of Health (NIH) grant review in Raleigh, N.C. in June at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to review applications

related to breast cancer risk and susceptibility. Dr. Connelly also had a review paper accepted in *Molecular Cancer* entitled "Osteoprotegerin in breast cancer: beyond bone remodeling" with co-authors Weichhaus, M and Tsang Mui Chung, S. In addition, Dr. Tsang



Mui Chung, a post-doctoral researcher in Dr. Connelly's lab, presented a poster session entitled "Level of Osteoprotegerin expression is breast cancer subtype specific" at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) annual meeting in Philadelphia in April.

Deborah Juarez, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy

Practice, was lead or co-author on several peer-reviewed published manuscripts: 1) "Risk-Adjusted In-Hospital Mortality Models for Congestive

Heart Failure and Acute Myocardial Infarction: Value of Clinical Laboratory Data and Race/Ethnicity." In *Health Services Research*. Lead author: Eunjung Lim, JABSOM. 2) "Hawai'i State Legislator Views on E-cigarettes and Likelihood of Legislative Action." In *Journal of American Pharmacy Association*. Lead author: Deb Juarez; co-author **Alex Guimaraes** (student pharmacist). 3) "Mortality and length of stay in diabetes-related potentially preventable hospitalizations



for Asian American, Pacific Islander, and white elders in Medicare in Hawai'i from December 2006 to 2010." In *Prev Chronic Dis*. Lead author: Mary Guo, Office of Public Health Studies. Dr. Juarez also gave an oral presentation entitled, "Change in health status related to inability to afford medications and Asian American ethnicity" at the Mountain West Clinical Translational Research Infrastructure Network (CTR-IN) conference in June.

Russell Molyneux, affiliate faculty,



was awarded \$5,000 by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) to support the work of an international panel of experts,

chaired by Dr. Molyneux, designed to specify "Recommended Methods for the Structural Identification of Biologically Active Compounds in Food and Flavor Chemistry." The outcome will be published in the journal *Pure and Applied Chemistry* as an official IUPAC recommendation. He has also co-authored "Targeted Metabolomics: a New Section in the *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*" by James N. Seiber, Russell J. Molyneux, and Peter Schieberle.

Karen Pellegrin, director of strategic planning and continuing education, is an



invited member of the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy Medication Therapy Management (AMCP MTM) Advisory Group. The group said Pellegrin was chosen because her "proven leadership in Managed Care and MTM and ability to think both creatively and strategically will assist AMCP with understanding the opportunities and challenges our membership faces with regards to MTM and how AMCP can enhance its support to this important topic." Dr. Pellegrin also was the author of a manuscript entitled "Ben & Jerry's CEO Pay Cap and Corporate Social Responsibility: Sweet

Justice or Frozen Fiduciary?" accepted in the peer-reviewed journal *Sage Business Cases*.

Dean John Pezzuto was a co-author on the following publications:



Pezzuto, J.M. and Pezzuto, M.F. Academic pharmacy strikes Hawaii (Part 1). *Hawaii J. Med. Public Health* 74: 33-36, 2015; Pezzuto, J.M. and Ma, C.S.J.

Academic pharmacy strikes Hawaii (Part 2). *Hawaii J. Med. Public Health* 74: 120-128, 2015; Park, E.-J and Pezzuto, J.M. The pharmacology of resveratrol in animals and humans. *Biochim Biophys Acta*, 1852: 1071-1113, 2015; Cragg, G.M and Pezzuto, J.M. Natural products as a vital source for the discovery of cancer chemotherapeutic and chemopreventive agents. *Med. Principles Pract.*, in press; Park, E.-J., Murphy, B.T., and Pezzuto, J.M. Marine organisms in cancer chemoprevention. In: B.J. Baker (ed.), *Marine Biomedicine – from Beach to Bedside*, CRC Press, in press. A book in currently being prepared under contract with Springer: *Grapes and Health*. J.M. Pezzuto (Ed.), Springer-Verlag GmbH, Heidelberg, for publication in 2015. One patent has been issued: M.S. Cushman, J.M. Pezzuto, and A. Maiti. Chemotherapeutic Flavonoids, and Synthesis Thereof. U.S. Patent No. 8,946,287 B2. He served as a reviewer for the following applications for funding: grant application submitted to the International Foundation for Science (IFS), Stockholm, Sweden; two grant applications submitted to the National Science Center, Kraków, Poland; grant application submitted to the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong; ZCA1 SRB-L (O1): National Cancer Institute Omnibus R03 & R21 SEP-6 Review Committee; "Training and Education" Review Committee, National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM/NIH). He presented an invited lecture entitled "Natural products as a vital source for the discovery of cancer chemotherapeutic and chemopreventive agents" at the

5th Kuwait International Pharmacy Conference-2015 ("Kuwait International Pharmacy Conference"), Kuwait City, Kuwait.

Judi Steinman,

psychopharmacology program coordinator, was a co-author in an article published in the American Society for the Advancement of Pharmacotherapy's magazine *The Tablet* entitled "Hawaii FQHC Update." Her coauthor was Kathleen M. McNamara.



Aaron Jacobs, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical



Sciences, and his lab published a study entitled "ERK-dependent phosphorylation of HSF1 mediates chemotherapeutic

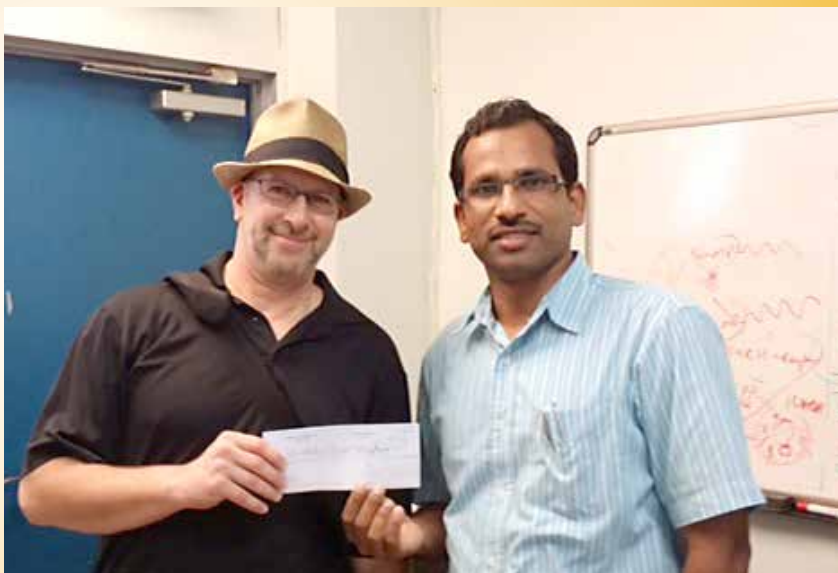
resistance to benzimidazole carbamates in colorectal cancer cells" in *Anticancer Drugs* 2015 (epub ahead of print). Lab technician **Christina Wales** was the lead author, with co-authors Taylor FR, Higa AT, McAllister HA and Jacobs AT.

Dianqing Sun, associate professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a \$50,000 grant from George F. Straub Trust of Hawaii Community Foundation to develop novel small molecule agents for the treatment of *Clostridium difficile* infections. Also Dr. Sun gave a talk entitled "Synthesis and biological evaluation of nature-inspired new chemotherapeutic agents" at the 11th Sino-US Chemistry and Chemical Biology Professor Conference held at Soochow University, Suzhou, China, June 21-23. In addition, Dr. Sun was invited by National Institutes of Health to serve on two special emphasis panels in Bethesda, Maryland in July for reviewing grant applications related to Non-Traditional Therapeutics that Limit Antibacterial Resistance.



Local medical professional supports DKICP research

After visiting the research laboratory in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences run by Dr. Mahavir Chougule (right), local dermatologist Dr. Robert S. Shapiro made a donation to support nanotechnology-based medicines for the treatment skin and pulmonary diseases.



Student Awards

Nalini Yadav, PhD candidate, was awarded the "Best Overall" poster presentation at the Biomedical Sciences and Health Disparities Symposium, held at John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) April 15-17. The title of her



Nalini Yadav

research was entitled, "Role of Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor from Adipocyte-Exposed Macrophages in Breast Cancer Metastasis."

Her major professor is Linda Connelly, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Mayuramas "Jan" Sang-Ngern was selected to receive for a 2015 American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP) Student Research Award. ASP Student Research Awards are designed to recognize outstanding research in the general area of natural



Mayuramas "Jan" Sang-Ngern

products. The competition is open to all graduate and undergraduate students working with a member of the ASP. Her major professor is Leng Chee Chang, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

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APPE Preceptor of the Year 2015: Dr. Evelyn Ahhing-Faaiuasoa

In her own words:

I graduated from Creighton University, School of Pharmacy in 1987 with my bachelor's degree in pharmacy. At the same year, I was commissioned as a second lieutenant in Medical Service Corp as a pharmacist. During this period, I requested

a delay of service with my military commitment so I can return home to American Samoa to take care of my elderly parents. This was the year I joined LBJ Tropical Medical Center as my first job

as a young pharmacist. This was also one of most challenging and exciting year of my career as I was the first Samoan woman pharmacist and to follow and work with a first ever Samoan pharmacist in American Samoa.

A few years later, I returned to the states and worked as a staff pharmacist at Costco Pharmacy in Oregon and later transferred to Hawaii and served as the Pharmacy manager for several Costco Pharmacy locations in Honolulu. In 2003, I continued my education through the Non-Traditional PharmD Program from Creighton University. Furthermore, as an officer of US Army Reserves, I retired after serving almost 30 years of active and reserve duty; I held various positions as an Adjutant Officer and a Pharmacy Officer. In 2005, I was re-activated back to active duty and served as a Chief of the Outpatient Pharmacy in Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu from 2005 to 2007. I retired from the US Army Reserves as a Major in September 2012.



Drs. Emily Lin (from left), and Francine Amoa accept the Preceptor award for Dr. Evelyn Ahhing-Faaiuasoa from Dr. Carolyn Ma and Dean John Pezzuto.

The last eight years in American Samoa working as the chief pharmacist at LBJ has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career. I stepped into a time capsule and brought myself back to an age where technology had yet to reach its full potential. I was greeted with challenges

to bring the standard care of practice into the 20th century.

The opportunity as a preceptor has allowed me to share this truly unique experience in clinical pharmacy with the students

from UH Hilo's DKICP. Students receive first-hand experience with the healthcare disparities we face in American Samoa from lack of healthcare professionals and essential resources. I hope the student's experiential education on our island shores has allowed them to also gain real-world experience especially in a different culture and its traditions which tremendously affects our lifestyles which greatly impacts our health care.

I hope the clinical rotations in American Samoa intrigue our young Pacific Islanders to return home to serve the community where they are desperately needed. I am very honored and proud to have precepted all the students opting to spend their elective with us, especially to the PharmD candidates, Francine Amoa and Emily Lin as our first women from American Samoa to be graduating from UH Hilo's DKICP with their doctorate in pharmacy. I welcome them to join our team.



IPPE Preceptor of the Year 2015: Dr. Randal S. Nakamura

Dr. Randal S. Nakamura is a clinical pharmacy specialist at the Kuakini Medical Center in Honolulu. He earned his bachelor's degree in medical technology from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. He then received his doctorate of pharmacy from the University of Southern California.

At Kuakini, he participates in daily multidisciplinary round in critical care and plans to become board certified in critical care pharmacy. He is also a key member of teams that implement and support CPOE, Bedside Barcode Medication Scanning, and Pyxis Med Station and Cerner integration.

Dr. Nakamura's professional interests include critical care pharmacy, medication use processes, antimicrobial stewardship, and informatics. He enjoys traveling, playing volleyball, and spending time with friends and family.

He says: "The most rewarding part of being a preceptor is seeing the students develop over the course of the rotation."

Rotation Report

By Dr. Davis Hanai, Class of 2015

As the first student from the DKCIP to take advantage of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) experiential APPE rotation, I was asked to share my experiences with other students who may be interested in pursuing this rotation.

ASHP corporate headquarters is located near the Washington DC metro area (most other national headquarters including APhA, NCPA, FDA, NIH, etc. are in this area) in Bethesda, MD. This equates to being a rotation full of options for networking, sightseeing, professional development, and engaging in national pharmacy issues. The experiential is a national association management rotation, so please be aware it will not be heavy on clinical knowledge. ASHP staff work diligently to empower and support pharmacists and pharmacy students in their day to day activities, and this rotation allows you to assist with this goal.

I was placed in the office of member relations in the pharmacy student forum, so most of my projects involved thinking of ways to better engage pharmacy students in ASHP and advertising programming specific for pharmacy students. Most students are placed under the pharmacy student forum, but other options are available if you express a specific interest like affiliate relations (working with state affiliates), legislation, or one of the pharmacy sections. I also worked on a medication safety database for the medication safety division during my externship.

Overall, I would rank this rotation among one of my best, especially because it was so different and challenged me to think in new ways and step out of my comfort zone. One of the greatest benefits of this rotation is you will get a thorough and in-depth understanding of topics important to the pharmacy profession (on a more national scale). Of course I attended



many meetings related to provider status legislation, but I also learned about other hot topics I was not as familiar with such as track and trace legislation, informatics trending topics (e.g., smart pumps that can communicate with the EHR), pharmacist involvement with capital punishment, FDA's involvement with homeopathic medications, international

residencies, residency accreditation changes, and much more.

Another important part of this rotation is setting up meetings with many of the staff throughout ASHP. This is done to give student externs the chance to better understand how ASHP functions. Being on the shy side, this was where I had to step out of my comfort

zone, but it was made easier going with the other extern on rotation, a student from North Dakota State University. This is actually probably one of the best aspects of this rotation in retrospect because it is a great networking opportunity and a chance to be inspired by some of the most engaged advocates for pharmacy you will ever meet. As I mentioned earlier, the majority of the national organization headquarters are in the DC area, so many of the people you will meet are among the most influential (or are connected to) members in the pharmacy community.

Some things to consider before applying for this rotation is that it is a rolling admission/acceptance, so the

earlier you apply the better chances you will have. Also the DC area is quite expensive (rent is comparable or more expensive than Honolulu prices), so factor in rents and public transportation into your budget, I used airbnb to find a place. There are loads of educational, historical, and fun things to do in the area (all the Smithsonian museums are FREE), so it might be good to have an off block next to your rotation. Some important time frames to consider are:

- 1) Mid-September ASHP's Policy week: great if you are interested in national legislative activities and advocating for the pharmacy profession
- 2) Early February Student Legislative Day: students from SSHP's around the

country gather to support provider status legislation.

3) Late March-Early April: Sakura (cherry blossoms) blooms in the national mall area (it worked out great for me to see these while I was there, but there are also cherry blossoms in Waimea).

I learned a lot during this rotation and felt I became more connected with the pharmacy profession. I would recommend anyone interested to consider this rotation. Another part of my rotation (could be a plus or a minus for you) was I was asked to blog my experiences on ASHP connect. You can view them at <http://connect.ashp.org/blogs/davis-hanai/?sopoc=1> if you want to learn more.

College of Pharmacy names Spring 2015 Dean's List

The following students from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo have been named to the Dean's List for spring semester, 2015. Those students in bold for the Class of 2016 are the students that have been on the list for each didactic semester. Students from the Class of 2015 were on APPE rotations this year and therefore not eligible for the Dean's List.



Class of

2016: Amy Anderson, Julianne Aquino, **Allen Bagalso**, Lance Cabanting,

Zackrison Campbell, David Choe, Jared Crowther, **Chau Dang**,

Yen Dao Barnes, Thuy-Tien Diep, **Walter Domingo**, Line Ornella Fassu Siankam, Bryce Fukunaga, Sisay Kenfe Girmay, **Jerilyn Gudoy**, **Alexander Guimaraes**, Moani-Lehua

Hagiwara, Samantha Hanabaga, Venus Ho, John Hoang, Melissa Iida, Okezie Irondi, **Leilani Isozaki**, **Blake Johnson**, Camilla Kim, **Micah KimHan**, Cindy Kuo, **Thao Le**, Nancy Le, **Quynh Le**, **Uoc Le**, Albert Lee, **Tina Liu**, Shanon Makanui, Anissa Marzuki, Aryn Meguro, Joseph Nguyen, Raymond Okaniwa, **Joson Perreira**, Yolette Quach, Kasia Quintal, **Eric Sanders**, Arnold Sano, Katrina Spinola, **Huong-Thy Ta**, Andy Takahata, **Mireya Talavera**, Jynelle Tangonan, **Christopher Thai**, Carlo Tiano, **Eric Tsuji**, **Brandon Tuzon**, Kimberly Victorine, Andy Wong

Class of 2017:

Sean Abreu, Lena Asano, Megan Calderwood, Rhea Castro, Nicole Chin, Francesco Console, Terri Anne Corpuz, Ronni Jean Delenia, Christopher Diaz, Andy Diep, Audrey Fung, Gibe Gelan, Melissa Giachetti, Dann Hirayasu, David Khan, Mickey Ku, Shaun Lasky, Jaclyn Lee, Lauren Levine, Caleb Malinski, Sean Menda, Kevin Meno, Kelsea Mizusawa, Lauryn Mow, Loc Ngo, Phuc Nguyen, Asal Rafie Delijani, Kimberlee Roseman, Nadine So, Jaime-Rose Tangonan, Lillian Tran, Hoa Vo, Brenda Yuen, Zi Zhang

Class of 2018:

Chelsea Aipoalani, Tiffany Alberg, Joshua Belcher, Robby-Sean Cayetano, Matt Chen, Jane Choi, Karen Christian, Mathew Eng, Sara Evanko, Jennifer Fujio, Cierra Gauvin, Jui-Yu Kao, Macie Kim, XuanLam Le, Jessica Lee, Jin Yong Lee, Nicolette Lew, Miyuki Miller, Christopher Nakagawa, Kerri Nakatsu, Phuong Nguyen, Vicky Nguyen, Megan Olaguer, Marina Ortiz, Carli Owan, Joann Phan, Niko Pogorevcnik, Lauren Sato, Andrew Skorheim, Lauren Skorheim, John James Taman, Michelle Taylor, Lucilla Tong, Ha Tran, Paolo Vinh Tuan Truong, Quan Truong, Seungyeun Yoo

Tribute to Dean and Mrs. Pezzuto

By Dr. Jessica Toyama
President of UH Hilo's College of Pharmacy Inaugural Class of 2011

I have never met someone as kind, humble, and deeply committed to his vision of seeing a program succeed as Dean Pezzuto. He embarked on a journey nearly ten years ago, moving his entire family across the Pacific Ocean with a firm determination to improve health care in Hawaii by establishing the first College of Pharmacy.



Jessica Toyama

Throughout our four years in the program, our inaugural class has grown very close to him, along with his wife, Mrs. Pezzuto. It was so unique to have the Dean's wife as part of the faculty, and we'd sit in awe during lectures listening to her share stories of pharmacy's history. Whenever Dean Pezzuto addressed our class, he drew us in with his intellect and sense of humor. They were our role models, our leaders, bravely guiding us toward the uncertain future, but we felt at ease and were confident that a bright future lay ahead us knowing that they were leading us at the forefront. Accreditation after accreditation and at last to our final accreditation, graduation, Dean Pezzuto's fierce



leadership overcame any and all hurdles.

Our memories of Dean Pezzuto outside of the classroom are what we will cherish the most, however. Dean and Mrs. Pezzuto graciously opened their home to the entire College 'ohana, both students and faculty, at least twice a year for Thanksgiving dinner and again in the spring for the Dean's Annual Luau. The Luau became a



fun tradition where the Dean would roast a huge pig in his backyard imu, various awards would be presented, and everyone enjoyed themselves one last time before final exams.

Participating in the Merrie Monarch Parade was also a fun tradition that our College proudly marched in annually. The day before the parade, a group of us stayed at Dean Pezzuto's house late into the evening to decorate our float.

Dean and Mrs. Pezzuto, as well as their daughter Elisabeth, joyously helped us with the decorations, fed us grilled hamburgers, and marched alongside us the next day. Dean Pezzuto's kindness towards us, in addition to his unwavering determination to see this college succeed, made him a leader whom we all respected and adored.

Dean Pezzuto, we could not thank you enough for your diligence and

unstinting support in establishing an exceptional pharmacy program of which we are all proud alumni. The people of Hawaii thank you for your dedication and many sacrifices that have resulted in positive outcomes and improved health care in the islands. Your courage, compassion and humility embodies the true spirit of aloha. You will be deeply missed and we wish you the very best in your future endeavors. A hui hou and mahalo nui loa.

Dr. Jessica PM Toyama, summa cum laude of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKCIP) inaugural class of 2011, is a licensed pharmacist employed by Walgreens as pharmacy manager in Wahiawa, O'ahu. Born and raised in Aiea, O'ahu, she graduated from Moanalua High School, and received her bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Washington in Seattle. In addition to licensure in Hawaii, she holds certification in Hawaii Basic Life Support CPR, American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Diabetes, Hawaii Basic Tobacco Intervention Skills and Hawaii Immunization. Dr. Toyama was secretary of the University of Hawaii Alumni Association, and a member of the first Rho Chi Honor Society cohort at the DKCIP. In 2014, she received the Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award from Hawaii Pharmacists Association (HPhA), where she is now a Board member. An active advocate for DKCIP, Dr. Toyama has continued to represent the College by submitting testimony to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents as well as the state legislature, and delivers speeches on behalf of the inaugural class, for which she served as president.



John Pezzuto and Daniel K. Inouye

*Aloha & Mahalo
John & Mimi Pezzuto,
John Henry, Elisabeth and Michael*

Lezuto Family
Hui Hou

