

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 2016 • Volume 8, Issue 4



## Building the Future



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# Message from Interim Dean, Dr. Carolyn Ma



Two highly significant events occurred during the spring of my tenure as interim dean: the first students with the highest degree ever awarded for science (PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences) from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo completed their program at DKICP, and a contractor was assigned to begin construction of our permanent home. This in no way undermines the importance of this Class of 2016 group of PharmD's who celebrated their own significant event. Indeed, those two milestones serve to punctuate their accomplishments, and assure everyone involved that we continue to meet or surpass expectations in this, our ninth year of existence.

I had the pleasure of meeting this new group of PhD's as they started their journey at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy in 2011, the same year our inaugural PharmD class graduated, a time of great optimism for the College. I can say with great humility that it was a personal thrill to celebrate this event in the role of dean in this, a new time of great optimism.

The Class of 2016 has distinguished itself in many ways, and it has paid off as they move on to begin their careers. Our PharmD graduates receive numerous job offers from employers, many of which are in high profile companies with limitless opportunities for a successful career advancement across the country. In terms of highly competitive post-graduate residency placements, another record high of 17 students placed into post-graduate pharmacy residencies across the state and the U.S. Most significantly, repeated placements have taken place in highly regarded residency programs, all of which indicate to me that their talents and skills are highly sought after.

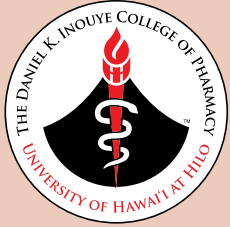
Our students' exceptional performance in our six short years of graduating classes, assures me that our students will always be champions whose "kuleana," or responsibility is to look after the pharmaceutical safety and the health of the community. The word "ku'u" in Hawaiian means literally "my or mine" but there is a deeper meaning to the word that embodies the aloha, or bond, that the students have developed to this profession, this college and to this place they called home for just a short while.

And now, because the permanent building is on the way to becoming a reality, they will always have a home to return to for special events, further education and other celebratory moments. I humbly thank the graduates, parents, spouses, aunts and uncles and significant others, for entrusting us as we endeavor to shape the future of health care. Mahalo nui loa.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Ma". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr. Carolyn Ma  
Interim Dean



## Kāwili Lā'au

Summer, 2016  
Volume 8, Issue 4

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the University of Hawai'i at Hilo



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On the Cover: Drs. Susanne Youngren-Ortiz and Mayuramas "Jan" Sang-ngern were the first students in the entire Pacific region to earn PhDs in pharmaceutical sciences at UH Hilo's Commencement May 14 (Photo by Robbyn Peck). Building rendering supplied by WCIT Architecture.



## University awards pharmacy building contract to Big Island's Isemoto Contracting

On April 16, the University of Hawai'i awarded the task to build the permanent home for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy to local Big Island construction company Isemoto Contracting Co. The company was named just weeks before the university was at risk of the funding lapsing at the end of the legislative fiscal year.

After receiving five construction bids that came in over budget, University officials decided to scale back plans slightly by converting research lab space into instructional lab space, which is less expensive to build, according to University of Hawai'i spokesman Dan Meisenzahl. The changes were enough to lower Isemoto's original bid, which was \$32.6 million. UH Hilo is planning to renovate the current modular buildings into world-class research facilities right next to the permanent building site.

The \$31.3 million project is estimated to take 20 months.

UH Hilo is contributing an additional \$1.3 million for the 45,000-square-foot building, Meisenzahl said.

Isemoto Contracting Co. Ltd. is a privately held general contractor founded in 1926. The Hilo-based company has been involved in a number of construction projects on the UH Hilo campus over the years, including the Student Life and Event Center.

"I would like to recognize the unwavering support from our students, who are the reason we work so diligently to provide the kind of education that will help them be competitive not only nationally but internationally. We are also appreciative of the strength of our acclaimed faculty and the loyalty from not only individuals in the community but from the Friends of Pharmacy group that banded together when this all began. It will be invigorating to focus on what the future will bring." -- Carolyn Ma, DKICP Interim Dean

## Senator Inouye's vision

**(Reprinted with permission from 2016 UH Research Review)**

"Build it and they will come" is often attributed to the famous baseball film *Field of Dreams*, but it also fittingly describes the remarkable story of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

In the movie, the main character set out to build a baseball field in an Iowa cornfield. For UH Hilo, its protagonist was the late U.S. senator from Hawai'i and his dream to establish a pharmacy school in Hilo.

"Building a high-quality college of pharmacy on Hawai'i island was part of

Senator Inouye's vision to encourage better health care throughout the Pacific region and throughout the neighbor islands of Hawai'i," said Donald Straney, UH Hilo chancellor. "His vision was that each neighbor island would harbor a center of excellence, that every island should have its own specialty. The specialty for Hawai'i island envisioned by Senator Inouye was our own college of pharmacy."

Opening its doors to an initial cohort of 90 students in August 2007, DKICP's humble beginnings were literally and figuratively true. Spread across



Chancellor Donald Straney addressed DKICP faculty and staff about progress on building (Photo by Tracey Niimi)

more than five different locations, the administration was housed in a county building a few miles away that was built in 1920, research labs were located seven miles out of town in buildings constructed in the 1960s and temporary classrooms were located on the campus outskirts.



Despite these less than ideal arrangements, DKICP flourished to become one of the fastest growing programs in the UH System with enrollment reaching 360 students in its first five years of existence. In 2012, a year after graduating its inaugural class and in its first year of eligibility, the college was ranked as one of the top five new schools of pharmacy by *U.S. News & World Report*. Much of this success can be attributed to the leadership of Dr. John Pezzuto, former founding dean of DKICP.



“Despite the many challenges and hurdles that Dean Pezzuto and his staff have had to overcome in establishing a college of pharmacy from the ground up, they have successfully met every benchmark set,” said Matthew Platz, vice chancellor for academic affairs at UH Hilo. “His knowledge, leadership and vision made it very possible for us to set our sights on becoming one of the top 25 pharmacy schools in the nation.”

DKICP has added to its doctor of pharmacy program with a bachelor of arts in pharmacy studies, a master of science in clinical psychopharmacology and a doctor of philosophy in pharmaceutical sciences.

As the only college of pharmacy in the Pacific region accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, DKICP is responsible for more than \$50 million of



(Renderings supplied by WCIT Architecture)

economic activity per year in the state, according to an independent study by UH Hilo Economic Professor David Hammes. Also contributing to economic development is the work being done by faculty researchers to expand the state’s research capacity. UH Hilo’s researchers are working on drug development to fight malaria; ways to reverse the progression of cancerous tumors; understanding diseases of the central nervous system; the cellular process implicated in many diseases; disease tolerance in native Hawaiian bird populations;



antitumor drug development; and drugs for use in tuberculosis and malaria. These projects, funded by the National Institutes of Health, allow UH Hilo to collaborate with UH Mānoa on biomedical research, strengthening research capacity not only for the DKICP but for the entire state.

DKICP is also working to save millions of dollars in Hawai‘i health care costs. One of its most successful programs is Pharm2Pharm, a pharmacist-care system established in 2012. The \$14.3 million federally funded program is designed to



reduce medication-related hospitalizations and emergency room visits by establishing teamwork between hospital and community pharmacists in rural counties of Hawai‘i Island, Maui and Kauai. The program, developed by Karen Pellegrin, founding director of the Center for Rural Health Sciences, is expected to save more than \$27 million across the state.

This past April, UH Hilo awarded a \$31.3 million contract to proceed with the construction of a permanent building to house the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. The 45,000 square foot building is expected to be completed 20 months after construction begins.

Build it and they will come.

# DKICP awards first PhDs in pharmaceutical sciences in Pacific region



*PhD students with their major faculty posed at Commencement included (from left in front) Interim Dean Carolyn Ma, Mayuramas “Jan” Sang-ngern and Susanne Youngren–Ortiz (first to graduate with PhD), and soon-to-be PhDs Nalini V.S. Yadav, Kehau Hagiwara, and Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit. (Back row) Faculty mentors Drs. Leng Chee Chang, Linda Connelly, Aaron Jacobs and Mahavir Chougule (Photo by Robbyn Peck)*

The first students in the entire Pacific region to earn a Doctor of Philosophy, Pharmaceutical Sciences took part in the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo’s Commencement activities.

All were part of the inaugural group of elite students who began work on their Ph.D. at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) in 2011. The doctorate in pharmaceutical sciences is the first program of this type to be offered by the University of Hawai‘i, and the only program of this nature to be offered in the state of Hawai‘i and the Pacific region.

Susanne R. Youngren-Ortiz, Mayuramas “Jan” Sang-ngern and Nalini V. S. Yadav, who each defended their dissertations prior to Commencement, received their diploma on stage at the May 14 Commencement. Kehau Hagiwara, who plans to defend her dissertation this summer, also participated in the Spring event because there is no summer commencement at UH Hilo. PhD candidate Micah Glasgow also plans to defend his research this summer.

Dr. Youngren-Ortiz, is from Merrillville, Indiana, a town in the greater-Chicago area. She received a bachelor’s degree in pharmaceutical sciences with specialization in Industrial and Physical Pharmacy and minors in both statistics and chemistry from Purdue University’s College of Pharmacy. Her major professors are Drs. Mahavir Chougule and Kenneth Morris. She is joining Akorn Pharmaceuticals as a formulation scientist and will be responsible for developing the final product formulation, process procedures and packaging of sterile injectable and ophthalmic products.

In the first defense of a PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences dissertation at UH Hilo, Dr. Youngren-Ortiz defended her research project, entitled “Development and Evaluation of siRNA Loaded Gelatin Nanocarriers” on April 6. Her project approach focused on improving the delivery mechanism of current asthma therapies. She also published and worked on other projects dealing with selenium loaded nanoliposomes for asthma therapy, hybrid albumin-chitosan nanocarriers

containing onconase for mesothelioma therapy, and inhalable aerosolized nanoliposomal and gelatin nanocarrier formulations.

Dr. Sang-ngern, originally from Thailand, came to UH Hilo with a bachelor's in chemistry from Rajabhat Surathane University, Thailand and a master's degree in pharmaceutical chemistry and phytochemistry from Mahidol University, Thailand. Her major professor at DKICP is Dr. Leng Chee Chang. She received a full scholarship from The Office of the Civil Service Commission (OCSC) in the Thai Royal Government. While at UH Hilo, she was the recipient of a travel award from the American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP) annual meeting in 2013-2014, and won the prestigious Student Research Award from the 2015 ASP meeting. After graduating, she will work as a lecturer at the School of Cosmetic Science, Mae Fah Luang University, Thailand. She would like to do research in natural product chemistry that can grow in the same environment system as in Thailand. She also hopes to build international research collaboration and networking in order to expand her experience in studying abroad. She says she would like to continue her relationships with the multi-culture of Hawai'i, where she says she was really happy to live for almost five years during the program.

Dr. Sang-ngern defended her research project, entitled "Evaluation of Natural Products Derived from *Physalis peruviana* (poha) and *Sterculia foetida* as Anticancer Agents" on April 7. She regularly employed modern spectroscopic,

chromatographic, and microbial culturing techniques to conduct the research.

Dr. Nalini V. S. Yadav is from Atlanta, Georgia. She earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics & a bachelor's degree in biology from Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, as well as a master's in biotechnology from Fort Valley State University in Fort Valley, Georgia. Her major professors at DKICP are Drs. Aaron Jacobs and Linda Connelly. While at UH Hilo, she served on the Graduate Council and was the recipient of the Dr. Hans and Clara Zimmerman Health Scholarship. She plans to continue investigating breast cancer by obtaining a research position with either a scientific corporation or a governmental institution, such as the CDC, or possibly a postdoctoral position with a university.

She defended her research project, entitled "The Role of Inflammatory Signaling in Cancer: The Adipocyte-Macrophage Interaction and Breast Cancer Metastasis," on May 6. She focused on investigating the mechanism behind the impact of obesity on the spread of breast cancer as well as increased mortality after the diagnosis of breast cancer. The intention is to show ways to treat obese women with breast cancer as well as obese patients diagnosed with other forms of cancer.

(See the Spring 2015 Kawili La'au, pages 6-9 for more about the research: [http://pharmacy.uhh.hawaii.edu/news/ newsletter/kawililaau/documents/kawili\\_laau\\_spring2015.pdf](http://pharmacy.uhh.hawaii.edu/news/ newsletter/kawililaau/documents/kawili_laau_spring2015.pdf))



*Susanne R. Youngren-Ortiz*



*Mayuramas "Jan" Sang-ngern*



*Nalini V. S. Yadav*



*Kehau Hagiwara*



*Micah Glasgow*

# Congratulations Class of 2016

Soon-to-be graduates returned to Hilo from their respective rotation sites and celebrated the official kickoff for 2016 graduation celebrations during a luncheon held at the Hilo Yacht Club on May 12.

Interim Dean Carolyn Ma welcomed the students and faculty to the beautiful ocean setting and accepted the Class of 2016 yearbook from President Okezie Irondi. (see related speech)



Interim Dean Carolyn Ma and Okezie Irondi Class of 2016 President

President Irondi also announced the class gift of \$1740 toward the DKICP Alumni Association Scholarship.

DKICP alum Dr. Aaron Chun represented the University of Hawai'i Alumni Association when he reminded the audience they would soon be DKICP alum and urged them to continue the camaraderie they developed.

"I have been actively involved for the past year and can personally speak of the impact that the alumni association has," he said. "The Alumni Chapter promotes fellowship among members of the association, the pharmacy profession, pharmacy students and members of all recognized allied health care professions."

The Alumni Association currently offers scholarships and supports activities like the annual Career Fair, P4 Interview Day on Oahu and the Graduation Recognition Celebration.



Dr. Daniela Gundisch and Leilani Isozaki

After a demonstration of what to expect the following day, the following students received the annual awards:

Leilani Isozaki was given TEVA's Outstanding Student Award by Dr. Daniela Gundisch, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. The award is presented to a graduating senior who consistently

demonstrated exceptional qualities throughout his or her academic year.

Eric Tsuji was presented the 2016 Mylan Excellence in Pharmacy Award by Dr. Aaron Jacobs, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. The award is given for academic achievement, professional motivation and a demonstrated ability to



Dr. Aaron Jacobs and Eric Tsuji



Student services staff organized commencement activities



Walter Domingo and Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit

communicate drug information.

Walter Domingo received the Lilly Achievement Award by Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit, interim associate dean for academic affairs and associate professor. The award recognizes scholastic achievement in the professional curriculum and academic achievements made in pharmaceutical research.

Sisay Girmay was given

the National Medicines Graduation Award by Dr. Forrest Batz, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice. This award is presented to outstanding graduates and residents worldwide who have shown an interest in an evidence-based approach to patient care.



Sisay Girmay and Dr. Forrest Batz

The event concluded with photos and social exchanges. The students were then back to campus and preparations for graduation.

(Photos by Arnold Sano, Class of 2016)



# Take care of health care needs of others

(Excerpted from Dean Carolyn Ma's Luncheon Address)

Today, this luncheon will honor a few students with some specific awards. As I mentioned at this year's spring awards last week, there isn't enough time to mention all the incredible works and achievements from our students. Even though you are the sixth class to graduate from this college, you as students have led the many organizations, health fairs and service-related activities. Your work in your PY2 year law class and through APHA, led to the change of the intern law licensing for our state, which I am happy to inform you, will be signed by the governor this summer and enacted with this fall's incoming class of 2020 students.

In 2007, when this college first started, I recall saying, one day, people will specifically say that they want a UH Hilo pharmacy graduate working in their pharmacy or seek them out for post-graduate residency programs. Many of you have received several job offers and already know where you will be working after you become licensed. As many as 17 of you are headed for first year residency across this state and this country. Significantly, your classmates filled the majority of residency positions in Hawai'i, and we have repeated placements in program across the U.S. You have become a highly sought after commodity. And although much smaller but not certainly not any less mighty, the PhD program is experiencing the highest number of applications this year, signifying that PhD applicants are coming to realize the competitiveness and high quality of our graduate program.

Your bonds to each will be forever unique. For the PharmD students you have for the most part, taken all the same classes, the same exams, and even sat in the same seats for years, presented a plethora of SOAP notes, presentations, group projects. For the PhD students, innumerable lab hours, failed as well as successful experiments and living through a nerve-wracking dissertation and defense of your original research. All this and whatever else went on outside of the classroom (I don't want to know!) will solidify these friendships for a lifetime. You have chosen, not only your profession and research area well, but certainly in the choice of this specific college. I am certain, based upon feedback from our former alumni, preceptors and colleagues who benefit from your talents and skills, you compete at the highest level of this profession and researchers across this country. Some of you may question whether you will have a job either today or in the future. Trust me, from an old pharmacist, in this profession, you will always have pharmacy work at your door, your choice in the work is where and how. Whether through direct patient care or in the discovery of a drug that may cure a life threatening disease, I hope your work will continue to be centered around taking care of the health care needs of others. For the student pharmacist graduates, your license, that coveted piece of paper that you have worked so hard achieve for so many years, will help you take care of you and your family, pay your mortgage, put food on the table and pay for your children's education.

But if I have one piece of advice for you, your license is a privilege, and to keep in mind that for every patient you counsel, every medication order your review, or medication you release, for every piece of advice you give another health professional, your license allows only you this privilege and a privilege that I know you will never take lightly.

## A mahalo from APPE Preceptor of the year, Dr. Selma Yamamoto

Dr. Selma Yamamoto was honored at the Class of 2016 Graduation Celebration dinner for being chosen by the graduates to be their Preceptor of the Year for the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) program. This training gives fourth-year student pharmacists practical, hands-on experiences in their final year of the professional PharmD program.

Overcome with emotion that night, Dr. Yamamoto was still able to express her gratitude for the chance to influence the next generation of pharmacists through Dean Carolyn Ma. In the fashion set by other altruistic educators, she gave the spotlight to others who helped her along the way, including her family as well as the parents of her students, many of whom were present that night.

"Thank you to all the parents who have allowed their children the opportunity to be a part of this fabulous educational institution, and the opportunity for all of us to engage with them. My parents, gave me that same opportunity with their financial and emotional support many years ago, for which I am graciously thankful. Your children challenge us to be better educators and practitioners." – Dr. Selma Yamamoto.

She was able to eloquently thank practically everyone she came into contact with at DKICP, naming every one of the 20 students she worked with from the Class of 2016: Albert Lee, Mireya Talavera Yen Dao Barnes, Leilani Isozaki, Cindy Kuo, Samantha Hanabaga, Sarah Osellame, Kimberly Victorine, Kathy Lee, Kevin Flores, Carlo Tiano, Venus Ho, Jairus Mahoe, Eric Sanders, Julianne Aquino, Kasia Quintal, Jamie Mizusawa, Andy Wong, Yolette Quach, Shanon Makanui, saying:

"You have entertained, inspired and challenged me, but ultimately enriched my life. Mahalo for your generosity!"



# Graduation Recognition Ceremony 2016

The night before officially receiving their Doctor of Pharmacy degree, members of the Class of 2016 joined their families, faculty, friends and colleagues for a celebration banquet at UH Hilo Campus Center Dining Hall (Sodexo). They were there on Friday May 13 to forget about pharmacy board licensing exams, forget about deciding what comes next, and to do one thing: celebrate.

This night, the Class of 2016 had the honor to share their moment with the family of the late Senator Gilbert “Gil” Kahele, a champion for DKICP who passed away in January. His wife, Mrs. Linda Kahele, and their son, Senator Kai Kahele, were invited guests at the dinner so they could receive the Advancement of Pharmacy Excellence (APEX) Award that was given to the late senator posthumously.

“Senator Gilbert Kahele believed wholeheartedly in DKICP and our mission,” Dean Ma told the crowd. “He never wavered in his efforts to seek funding for our permanent home. The Capitol improvement initiative was always his highest priority in the Senate and he worked tirelessly in concert with his colleagues in the State House.”



*Class of 2016 President Okezie Irondi*

In a thank you note to the College, the family wrote: Until his last breath, Gilbert strived to make Hawai‘i a better place for us all and his memory and legacy will live on in our hearts, our minds, and in the place we all call home, Hawai‘i.

Dean Ma also acknowledged Hawai‘i Island Representatives Clift Tsuji and Richard Onishi, who were present at the dinner, for their support in gaining funding from the state budget for DKICP’s

permanent building.

Bringing the program back to the graduates, Dean Ma announced two preceptors who had been voted by the class to be honored. After spending their last year as students conducting the fourth-year Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE)



*Dr. Dana-Lynn Koomoa-Lange presented celebratory hula in honor of Class of 2016*

rotation experience, the students honored Anita Ciarleglio, faculty in residence at Maui Memorial Hospital, as Faculty Preceptor of the Year and Selma Yamamoto, pharmacy manager at The Queen’s Medical Center, as APPE Preceptor of the Year. (See related remarks).

Of special note for the evening was the opportunity to honor the first two students to earn a PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences from Hawai‘i: Susanne R. Youngren-Ortiz and Mayuramas “Jan” Sang-ngern. Highlights of the remainder of the evening followed tradition with speeches by class president, Okezie Irondi, and valedictorian, Thao Le, and every classmate present was given the chance to speak on their own behalf in front of their peers, family and faculty.

Before the night wore on, Dr. Dana-Lynn Koomoa-Lange performed a meaningful hula called “Ka Manu O’o” that she dedicated to the graduates. Composed of two songs, “Ka Manu” and “Manu O’o,” the beautiful, traditional dance has a strong connection to Hilo.

Director of Student Affairs Daryl Masanda, who served as Master of Ceremonies, closed the evening thanking Pacific Floral Exchange and Chris Iha for their floral and foliage donations and to all of the faculty and staff who assisted with this annual event. (Photos by Tracey Niimi)



*(From left) Gerald DeMello, Dean Carolyn Ma, Mrs. Gilbert Kahele, Senator Kai Kahele, Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit*



## The Class of 2016 begin their professional lives

Student pharmacists from the Class of 2016 entered the Edith Kanaka'ole Multi-purpose Stadium in Hilo at 9 a.m. May 14 and exited just a little before noon after being bestowed with the right to use "Dr." before their names. Pharmacy graduates were among 632 candidates for degrees and certificates at University of Hawai'i at Hilo's Spring 2016 commencement.

DKICP marked a historical milestone as it awarded the first Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences degrees ever to be received in Hawai'i and the Pacific region (see related story). Another milestone during commencement: at one point during the ceremonies, the 500th doctoral degree from UH Hilo was awarded, the majority of which have been from DKICP.

Charles R. "Chipper" Wichman, Jr., president and chief executive officer, National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG), delivered the keynote address. The student speaker was Carrie Soo Hoo.

Families and 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 garb of their graduating institution and marched in with the students.

The event was coordinated by the highly skilled Commencement Committee from UH Hilo's Conference Center and the music was the traditional "Pomp and Circumstance," deftly produced by the Hilo High School Viking Band. (Photos by Tracey Niimi)





Photo by Robbyn Peck

Patiently waiting for others getting undergraduate degrees, certificates and master's degrees, students from the professional DKICP program filled the first four rows in the center, the biggest venue in Hilo. When it was time for them to enter the stage, they walked, one by one, as their name was called, first to Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananut, who took the ceremonial hood from over their arm. Then to Interim Dean Carolyn Ma, who placed it over their heads, signifying success at completing the program. Then on to Chancellor Donald Straney, who presented them with their diplomas.

Afterwards, it was the parents and families turn to claim time with the new



graduates. Many stayed at the stadium to pose for pictures, receive masses of colorful flower leis and make plans for more celebrations.

And now the Class of 2016 can get down to the business of beginning a

career as a pharmacist while holding on to the memories of four great years at UH Hilo. (Photos by Tracey Niimi)



# Spring awards banquet highlights student achievements

Students were in the spotlight at the 2016 Spring Awards Ceremony on May 4 at Aunty Sally's, which recognized scholarship recipients, organizations and leaders. Six professors and one preceptor were also recognized for teaching excellence awards.

Dr. Carolyn Ma, Interim Dean, began the evening by thanking the Student Services Office and announced that students reported volunteering a total of 2,968 hours during the past year and also conducted a total of 2,974 cholesterol, A1c glucose and blood pressure screenings in the past year.

A total of seven acts competed in the annual talent show, judged by faculty members Mr. George Karvas, Drs. Linda Connelly Aaron Jacobs and Paula Zeszotarski. Goody Cacal (Class of 2018) and Torrence Ching (Class of 2019) were the evening's winners with their "Good Boy" hip hop performance. Other entertainment acts included Joyce Tapuro and Jaclyn Lee's "JJ Project" drum, guitar and singing performance; Irene Kao and Tyler Hirokawa's guitar and



Goody Cacal and Torrence Ching, Talent Show Winners

singing performance; Nick Tsoi's solo guitar and singing performance; Karen Christian's "Lightshow"; Faith Hicks and Nikki Lew's "Flippin' it back" gymnastics; and students from the Class of 2018's "Student Council Sugar" skit.

Tracey Niimi, student support specialist and master of ceremonies for the event, closed

the ceremony by thanking all of the student volunteers as well as Floral Resources and Noel Nakamura for the floral donations.



Teachers of the Year - Dr. Aaron Jacobs, Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit, Dr. Linda Connelly, Mr. George Karvas, Dr. Elizabeth Ackerman.

## Student Choice Award for Teaching:

Class of 2018: Dr. Linda Connelly and Mr. George Karvas

Class of 2017: Dr. Aaron Jacobs and Dr. Supakit

Wongwiwatthananukit



DKICP UH Hilo Student Association members

Class of 2016: Dr. Aaron Jacobs and Dr. Elizabeth Ackerman

**IPPE Preceptor of the Year:** Wendi Kido, RPh, Walmart (Amy Este, RPh, the Health and Wellness Director at Walmart accepted the award on her behalf)

## Recognition of 2015-16 DKICP Student

**Ambassadors:** From the Class of 2017: Mark Allen Bibera, Rhea Castro, Christopher Diaz, Nicholas Ferreira, Shaun Lasky, Kelsea Mizusawa. From the Class of 2018: Karen Christian, Mathew Eng, Kelli Goo, Jessica Lee, and Vicky Nguyen



USPHS Lauryn Mow with Interim Dean Carolyn Ma

## Recognition of DKICP UH Hilo Student Association (UHSA) Members:

Abraham Jose (UHSA Vice President), Nicholas Nguyen (DKICP Senator), David Khan (Executive & Graduate Senator), and Jessica Penaranda (Senator at Large)

## Recognition of Pharmacy Curriculum Outcomes Assessment (PCOA) Highest Achievement for the Class of 2017 (98<sup>th</sup> percentile):

Shaun Lasky and Caleb Malinski  
Ka Lama Ku Malama 'Ohana Award - Taking Care of Families and the Community: Lauryn Mow

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

Lauryn Mow  
**Kahele Student Leader of the Year (renamed this year in honor of the late Senator Gilbert Kahele):**

Shaun Lasky

## Student Organization Award:

Delta Iota Chapter of the Rho Chi Society

## Scholarships for 2015-16 academic year:

**Walgreens Diversity and Inclusion Excellence Scholarship:** Huong-Thy Ta

**Walgreens Diversity Scholarship:** Rhea Castro

**Safeway Pharmacy Scholarships:** Karen Christian

**Scholarships for the 2016-17 academic year:**

## Scholarship winners:



Student Leader of the Year - Shaun Lasky

Cacal

### **Aloha Shoyu Pharmacy**

**Scholarship:** Sydney Barney and Cathlyn Goo

**Elwin & Valerie Goo Endowed Excellence Scholarship:** Nadine So and Seungyeun Yoo

**Grace Mizuko Miyawaki Pharmacy Scholarship:** Lauryn Mow

**Haga Family Endowed Scholarship:** Lena Asano and Kerri Nakatsu

**Hawaii Independent Pharmacies, Inc. Endowed Excellence Scholarship:** Christopher Diaz, Matt Chen, and Rachel Randall

**Edwin and Georgiana Kam Endowed Excellence Scholarship:** Chelsea Aipoalani and Carli Owan

### **The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy Merit Award:**

**From the Class of 2017:** Brenda Yuen, Caleb Malinski, Kelsea Mizusawa, Kim Roseman, Lena Asano, and Lillian Tran

**From the Class of 2018:** Cierra Gauvin, Kerri Nakatsu, Miyuki Miller, Christopher Nakagawa, and Carli Owan

**From the Class of 2019:** Dennis Le, Nancy Wong, David Pham, Kara Paulachak, and Athena Borhauer

**UH Hilo DKICP Alumni Association Scholarship:** Goody

**Mr. Nagakatsu Kumao Otsuka and Dr. Raymond Masashi Otsuka Memorial Scholarship:** Joann Maithy Phan and Gam Phan

**The UH Hilo DKICP Class of 2013 Scholarship:** Nadine So

**John M. and Mimi F. Pezzuto Excellence Scholarship:** Shaun Lasky, Rhea Castro, and Abraham Jose



Amy Este accepted IPPE Preceptor of the Year award on behalf of winner Wendi Kido.



## UH Hilo celebrates scholarships, supporters at annual event

The University of Hawai'i at Hilo and UH Foundation held the 16th annual distinguished awards banquet on Feb 27 at the Campus Center Dining Room. The banquet celebrated the generosity of members of the local community who are doing their part in making higher education accessible for everyone. Attending the UH Hilo Scholarship Celebration included (from left): Dean Carolyn Ma, student pharmacists Zi Zhang and Shaun Lasky; donor Mary Chan; Lillian Tran, Lena Asano, and Ronnijean Delenia. (Photo by UH Hilo student photographer Siobhan Cogan)

# An Update on Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs in Hawai'i Hospitals

By Jen Dacumos, PharmD, MBA

Pharmacy Manager, Hawai'i Pacific Health

(Reprinted with permission from the Hawaii Pacific Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE))

Improving the use of antibiotics is an important patient safety and public health issue as well as a national priority. Past research has shown that 20-50% of all antibiotics prescribed in U.S. acute care hospitals are either unnecessary or inappropriate. Like all medications, antibiotics have serious side effects, including adverse drug reactions and *Clostridium difficile* infections.

Patients who are exposed unnecessarily or inappropriately to antibiotics are placed at risk for these events with no clinical benefit. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that more than two million people are infected with antibiotic-resistant organisms, resulting in approximately 23,000 deaths annually. The misuse of antibiotics has also contributed to the growing problem of antibiotic resistance, which has become one of the most serious threats to public health.

A growing body of evidence demonstrates that hospital based programs dedicated to improving antibiotic use, commonly referred to as Antibiotic Stewardship Programs (ASPs), can both optimize the treatment of infections and reduce adverse events associated with antibiotic use. In 2014, the CDC recommended that all acute care hospitals implement ASPs. There is also anticipation that both the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid and The Joint Commission will publish regulatory measures related to hospital-based ASPs sometime in 2017.

Last Spring, the Hawai'i Department of Health and **the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo** launched the Hawai'i Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaborative (HASC). The primary goals of HASC are to:

- Assist facilities in implementing and sustaining ASPs.
- Reduce target antimicrobial use as measured by Days of Therapy (DOT) or Defined Daily Doses (DDD) per 1,000 patient days. Target antimicrobials have been identified as the Carbapenems (meropenem, ertapenem, imipenem and doripenem) and linezolid.
- Reduce healthcare-onset *C. difficile* infection rates per 10,000 patient days by 15%.

Participating facilities are: Castle Medical Center, Hilo Medical Center, Kahuku Medical Center, Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital, Kona Community Hospital, Kuakini Medical Center, Maui Memorial Medical Center, North Hawai'i Community Hospital, Pali Momi Medical Center, Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific, Straub Clinic & Hospital, The Queens Medical

Center, Tripler Army Medical Center, Wahiawa General Hospital, and Wilcox Memorial Hospital. HASC leadership holds educational conference calls or webinars at least once per quarter. Ongoing communication and technical assistance visits by project staff to help facilities identify, develop, and refine existing ASP practices is also offered.

If you are looking for more information on hospital based ASPs, the CDC website is an excellent first stop. The CDC has published Core Elements of Hospital ASPs, which can be summarized as follows:

- Leadership Commitment. Dedicating necessary human, financial and information technology resources.
- Accountability. Appointing a single leader responsible for program outcomes. Experience with successful programs shows that a physician leader is effective.
- Drug Expertise. Appointing a single pharmacist leader responsible for working to improve antibiotic use.
- Action. Implementing at least one recommended action, such as systemic evaluation of ongoing treatment need after a set period of initial treatment (i.e. "antibiotic timeout" after 48 hours of therapy).
- Tracking. Monitoring antibiotic prescribing and resistance patterns.
- Reporting. Regularly reporting information on antibiotic use and resistance to the appropriate healthcare team(s) and stakeholders.
- Education. Educating clinicians about resistance and optimal prescribing practices.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart/healthcare/implementation/core-elements.html>.

(Recently published in *Hawai'i Journal of Medicine & Public Health*)



Roy Goo, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice based on Kaua'i, is among DKICP faculty on multiple islands taking the lead on this statewide initiative to help develop antimicrobial stewardship programs (ASPs) with the Department of Health.



# Update on collaborations in Thailand

Since 2011, DKICP has sent 17 students to conduct their Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE's) rotations at two universities in Thailand -- Chulalongkorn University (clinical rotation) and Rangsit University (pharmaceutical technology and industrial pharmacy rotation)]. Six faculty members have gone to the same Thai universities as visiting scholars/professors or conference speakers and also collaborated on joint research projects. Two Thai preceptors from Chulalongkorn University came to UH Hilo for training and two deans from Thai university also visited DKICP.

Upon becoming a member of the US-Thai Consortium in 2014, we have executed MOU's between the University of Hawai'i at Hilo DKICP and four Thai schools of pharmacy: Chulalongkorn University (2011), Rangsit University (2013), Silpakorn University (2014), and Siam University (2014). The arrangement and collaboration includes at least the following areas: (1) Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPEs); (2) Pharmaceutical care and medication-therapy management; (3) Pharmaceutical sciences research; and (4) Organization of joint research projects, including conferences and meetings. Other areas of study may be added upon mutual agreement.

"Through these MOU's, it helps us broaden our reputation for global pharmacy education and help our students gain international, inter-professional perspectives both culturally and educationally. Overall, this partnership gives our respective students a wider global perspective through multiple student and faculty exchanges and visiting lecturers. Research collaboration projects, practice and innovation collaborations, and faculty and preceptor development programs would be mutual benefits between the Thai schools of pharmacy and the DKICP." – Supakit Wongwiwatthanakit, associate professor and interim associate dean of academic affairs

Please watch for our next report from Thailand after Interim Dean Carolyn Ma and Interim Associate Dean Supakit Wongwiwatthanakit return from the 2016 US-Thai Pharmacy School Consortium, May 30 – June 3, in Bangkok and Khon Kaen, Thailand.



## Aloha Shoyu extends support to DKICP students through scholarship fund

Hawai'i-based soy sauce company, Aloha Shoyu, has extended their contribution to a scholarship fund to help pharmacy students in the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy.

The company, which makes soy sauce, vinegars and glazes, has funded a scholarship for pharmacy students since the 2011-12 academic year, when the first student to benefit was Denise D. Kobashikawa, Class of 2014. Since then, other students receiving the scholarship were Kristi Anne S. Nishek (Class of 2015), Brandon H. Tuzon (Class of 2016), and Daniel K. Leong (Class of 2015).

Two members from the Class of 2019 will receive the Aloha Shoyu scholarship for the 2016-17 academic year. They are Sydney Barney and Cathlyn Goo.

Aloha Shoyu is operated by Brian Tanigawa, who grew up in Pearl City on O'ahu and graduated from Iolani School. He received his degree in pharmacy from Purdue University before DKICP opened its doors at UH Hilo in 2007.

"I think I would have considered staying closer to home," he recalled. "But at the time, I was looking for more exposure and experience."



Gerda Tom (left), Senior Executive Account manager for Aloha Shoyu, met with Interim Dean Carolyn Ma

Currently, Mr. Tanigawa resides in Las Vegas, NV where the company recently completed a production facility that services their mainland customers. The Tanigawa family was one of five families who started Aloha Shoyu in 1946 in Kalihi, Hawai'i, and the company is one of today's market leaders in soy sauce sales in Hawai'i. Now their products are sold in all 50 states.

Gerda Tom, Senior Executive Account manager for Aloha Shoyu, met with Dean Carolyn Ma in Hilo on March 14.

"This is a very important partnership because it not only helps our students with costs such as tuition, books and fees but because of Mr. Tanigawa's professional experience, we can discuss critical issues in health care," Dean Ma said. "We hope to be able to continue our discussions on further ways we can partner with Aloha Shoyu."

*The scholarship is administered through the University of Hawai'i Foundation, a nonprofit organization that raises private funds to support the University of Hawai'i System. The mission of the University of Hawai'i Foundation is to unite donors' passions with the University of Hawai'i's aspirations by raising philanthropic support and managing private investments to benefit UH, the people of Hawai'i and our future generations. If you are interested in supporting the students and programs at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, please contact the UH Foundation office at UH Hilo at 808-932-7692. You also can make a secure, tax-deductible gift online at [www.uhfoundation.org/GivetoPharmacy](http://www.uhfoundation.org/GivetoPharmacy).*

## National honor society initiates new members

The Delta Iota chapter of the Rho Chi Society from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy inducted 19 new members at an initiation banquet, held at UH Hilo's Campus Center Dining Hall April 25. The dinner was sponsored by Walgreens, and Denay Jones, store manager and Dr. Erin Samura, pharmacy manager, both from Hilo Walgreens were present to congratulate the new members..

Rho Chi is the only academic honor society in pharmacy. Inductees must be full-time students who have completed not less than one half of the required professional didactic coursework and ranked in the highest 20 percent of their class.

Dr. Lawrence Brown, the immediate-past president of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), was the keynote speaker. His attendance was co-sponsored by the Hawai'i Pharmacists Association.

Dr. Brown is associate dean of student affairs and professor of pharmacoeconomics and health policy at the Chapman University School of Pharmacy located in Irvine, California. Prior to this position he served as associate professor and director of Graduate Studies in Health Outcomes and Policy Research for the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy. He received his PharmD from the University of the Pacific and a PhD in Social and Administrative Pharmacy from the University of Minnesota. He is a member of Kappa Psi, Phi Lambda Sigma and Rho Chi.

"Dr. Brown has demonstrated his leadership role through many accomplishments, such as advocating and promoting pharmacist provider status in health care, pharmacist-provided medication therapy management,

patients' perceptions of pharmacists and pharmacists' roles in health care systems to advance the profession of pharmacy. With his tremendous leadership experience and productivity, this will inspire our pharmacy students, graduate students, and academicians," said Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit, faculty adviser and associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice.

Dr. Wongwiwatthananukit presented the initiation of the chapter members, which included the DKICP original candle lighting ceremony, recital of the pledge and passing out the new member Rho Chi pins.

PharmD students who were initiated include: Chelsea Aipoalani, Jennifer Fujio, Cierra Gauvin, XuanLam Le, Miyuki Miler, Christopher Nakagawa, Kerri Nakatsu, Vicky Nguyen, Megan Olaguer, Carli Owan, Joann Phan, Lauren Sato, Lauren Skorheim, John James Taman, Ha Tran, Paolo Vinh Tuan



Dr. Lawrence Brown

Truong, Quan Truong.

PhD students newly inducted were Nishhant Gandhi, Micah Glasgow, Nathan Sunada, Lissa Tsutsumi and Nalini Yadav.

Faculty members initiated this year were Dr. Aaron Jacob and Dr. Elizabeth Ackerman.

New officers who will hold office until August 2017 are:

- Paolo Truong –President
- Quan Truong – Vice-President
- Lam Le –Treasurer
- Vicky Nguyen –Secretary
- Cierra Gauvin –Historian



Interim Dean Carolyn Ma honored students with the highest scholastic achievement for each PharmD course in the spring and fall 2015 calendar year with Rho Chi Recognition Award Certificates. Included were: Ashley Uehara for Pharmaceutical Calculations, Pharmaceutical Immunology; Rachel Randall for Drug Action 1; Nancy Wong for Drug Action 1, Pharmacy Self-Care 1, Biochemistry – biomolecules, Pharmaceutics 1; Athena Borhauer for Pharmacy Communications and Culture; Quan Truong for Foundation of Integrated Therapeutics and OTC drugs, Pathophysiology, Biochemistry – metabolism, Pharmaceutics II, Biostatistics, Drug Information, Integrated Therapeutics I, Evidence-based Medicine and Critical Literature evaluation; Christopher Nakagawa for Pharmacokinetics; Caleb Malinski for Integrated Therapeutics III; Kelsea Mizusawa for Integrated Therapeutics III, Pharmacy Law and Ethics, Complementary Medicine; Hoa Vo for Integrated Therapeutics II and Integrated Therapeutics III; Audrey Fung for Health care system; Melissa Giachetti for Wellness and Disease Prevention; Brenda Yuen for Pharmacy Practice Management and Marketing; Shaun Lasky for the certificate of appreciation for having the highest tutoring hours spent with P1 and P2 students; Nicole Chin for the certificate of appreciation for having the highest tutoring hours spent with P1 and P2 students; Christopher Diaz for the certificate of leadership in honor of the outstanding contributions made towards the goals of the chapter; Kelsea Mizusawa for the certificate of leadership in honor of the outstanding contributions made towards the goals of the chapter.

Rho Chi was established in 1922 and is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies. The Rho Chi Society encourages and recognizes excellence in intellectual achievement and advocates critical inquiry in all aspects of pharmacy. The Society further encourages high standards of conduct and character and fosters fellowship among its members. The Society seeks universal recognition of its members as lifelong intellectual leaders in pharmacy, and as a community of scholars, to instill the desire to pursue intellectual excellence and critical inquiry to advance the profession. (Photos by Tracey Niimi)



*Back Row (from left): Cierra Gauvin, Vicky Nguyen, XuanLam Le, Quan Truong, Paolo Truong, Christopher Diaz, Kelsea Mizusawa, Brenda Yuen, Audrey Fung, Trenton Aoki Front Row (from left): Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananut, Dr. Erin Samura, Dr. Carolyn Ma, Dr. Lawrence Brown, Ms. Denay Jones*



## HPhA holds annual meeting in Honolulu

The Hawaii Pharmacists Association (HPhA) held their two-day annual meeting at the Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu April 23-24 with many students and faculty representing DKICP in attendance. The meeting included a swearing in of new members, and also gave them an opportunity to present original research posters, including fourth-year Bryce Fukunaga and Kasia Quintal, who presented a poster about the DKICP APPE Hawaii Narcotics Enforcement Division (NED) elective rotation. HPhA is a volunteer organization representing pharmacy practice in the State of Hawai'i and is comprised of pharmacists in various practice settings ranging from retail to hospital to industry, pharmacy students, pharmacy technicians and academia.



## Merrie Monarch Parade

Students, staff and faculty alike participated in the 53rd annual Merrie Monarch Festival Parade April 2 with a float and unbridled community enthusiasm. (Photo by Tracey Niimi)



# Research Collaborations

## Labwork gives students practical experience

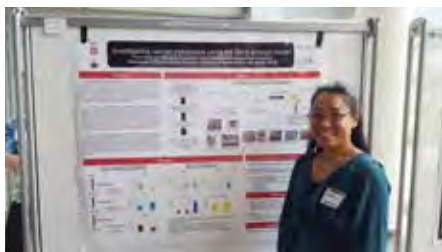
Several students who work in DKICP labs took part in the 2016 Biomedical Sciences and Health Disparities Research Symposium April 21-22, an annual poster session showcasing research at the University of Hawai'i. The symposium was held at the Sullivan Center in the UH Cancer Center on UH Manoa campus on O'ahu.

All the undergraduate students who worked in DKICP labs funded by the IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) program presented a poster during the undergraduate poster session at this annual symposium. The UH Hilo students included were Codi Kualii (working in Professor Dana Koomoa-Lange's lab), Mikayla Jones and Rachael Gristock (working in Dr. Aaron Jacobs' lab), Ashleigh Renaud (working in Dr. Linda Connelly's lab), Alexandria Blacksmith (working in Dr. Sue Jarvi's lab), and Ashley Fukuchi (working Dr. Leng Chee Chang's lab). Students from Hawai'i Community College included Yuko Imaizumi (working in Dr. Linda Connelly's lab) and Valerie Balken (working in Leng Chee Chang's lab).

Ashleigh Renaud was judged to be in the top five INBRE student poster presentations and was selected to receive full funding to attend the national conference in Washington DC in June. She performed research throughout the year then presented a poster entitled "Investigating the role of osteoprotegerin production in colon cancer."



Rachel Gristock



Yuko Imaizumi



Mikayla Jones

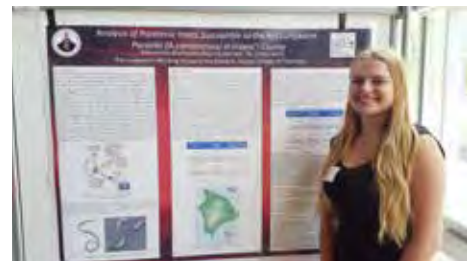
Ashleigh works in the Connelly lab on projects looking at the role of Osteoprotegerin (OPG) in cancer. She has performed cell culture studies with human breast cancer cells and was an author on a paper published in the journal *Cancer Medicine* in 2014.

During the past year Ashleigh has been working on her own independent project to discover if OPG has a tumor-promoting role in colon cancer. She has been culturing human colon cancer cells and measuring the RNA and protein expression of OPG to identify which cell lines should be studied. She also used siRNA to knock down OPG expression to look at what happens to cell behavior when OPG levels are reduced. Dr. Connelly's post-doc Stephanie Tsang Mui Chung has been assisting Ashleigh in the lab.

Ashleigh is working on completing her bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry and plans to apply to graduate school after her husband, student pharmacist Shaun Lasky, graduates.

Ashleigh was a member of Dr. Connelly's pre-pharmacy class along with her husband a few years ago and ended up coming to work in the lab.

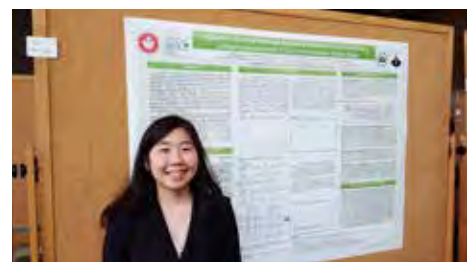
"I think it is great that both Ashleigh and Shaun found their future paths through the College of Pharmacy, one in pharmacy and one in pharmaceutical research." – Dr. Linda Connelly



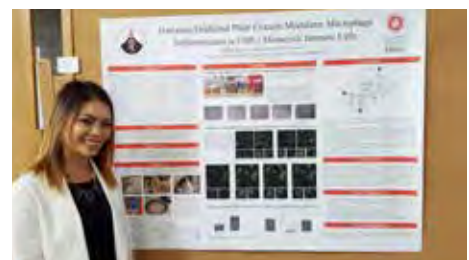
Alexandria Blacksmith



Ashleigh Renaud



Ashley Fukuchi



Codi Kualii

# Lunchtime exhibit highlights student research

The 2016 DKICP Student Research Exhibit was held on in Classroom One on April 25. Objectives were to provide a venue for DKICP students to present research posters that have been created during the current academic year as well as to encourage and inspire other DKICP students to participate in research opportunities.

Presenters showcased their research and/or talked about what they do as the work in faculty labs. Participants and the titles of their research included:

**Abraham Jose, Kelsea Mizusawa,**

**Lauryn Mow:** Comparative effectiveness of the A.L.O.H.A. Project didactic training versus the integrated mixture of the didactic and experiential training programs on knowledge, confidence, and empathy of pharmacy students

**Logan Kostur:** Physalis peruviana effects on nFKB inhibition in benign prostatic hyperplasia cells.

**Mayuramas Sang-ngern (Dr. Leng**

**Chee Chang's lab):** Anticancer potential of withanolides and its derivatives from Physalis Peruviana (POHA)

**Ashley Fukuchi (Dr. Leng. Chee Chang's lab):** Evaluation of antioxidant activity of Fucose-containing sulfated polysaccharides (FCSPs) from Hawaiian marine algae

**Valer Povaliaev (Dr. Dianqing Sun's**

**lab):** Solid Phase Synthesis of an Epimer of Macrocyclic Hexapeptide Desotamide

**Deniz Bicakci, Matt Chen (Dr. Susan**

**Jarvi's lab):** Rat Lung Worm Disease Research

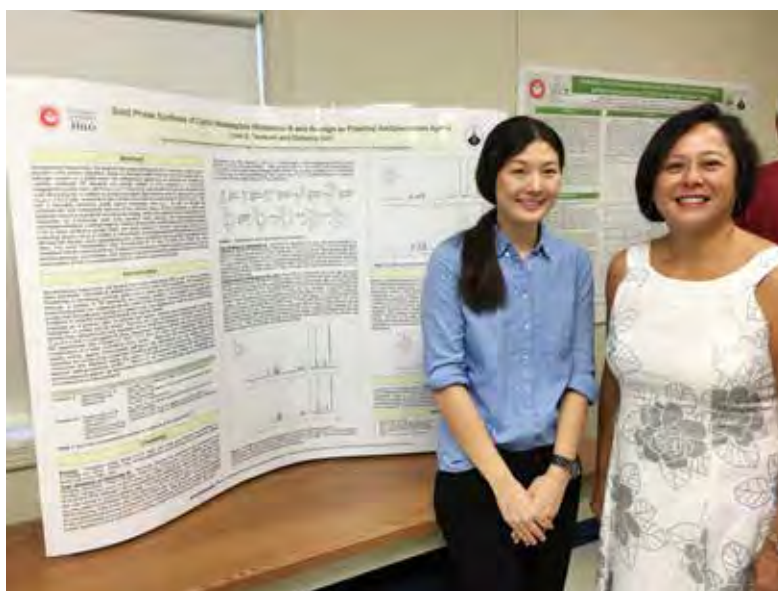
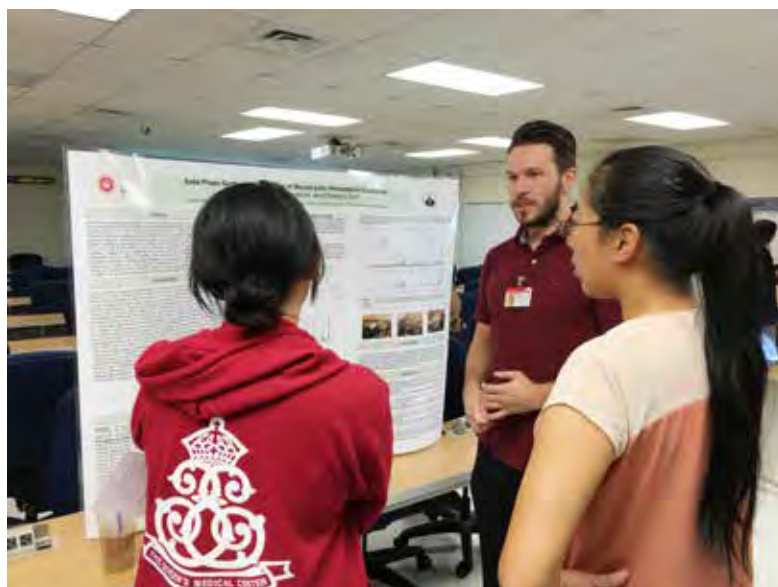
**Ashleigh Renaud (Dr. Linda Connelly's**

**lab):** Investigating the Role of Osteoprotegerin Production in Colon Cancer

**Lissa Tsutsumi (Dr. Diaqing Sun's lab):**

Solid Phase Synthesis of Cyclic Hexapeptide Wollamide B and Analogs as Potential Antituberculosis Agents

(Photos by Tracey Niimi and Dr. Dianqing Sun)



## U.S. Senator Brian Schatz talks to UH health care educators, students

Pharmacy Practice Associate Professor Deborah Taira and two fourth-year students, Allan Higa and Shanon Makanui, were invited to attend a dinner with Senator Brian Schatz on Wednesday, May 4 at the Pacific Club in Honolulu. This was the Inaugural Event for the Richard S. and T. Rose Takasaki Social Policy Discussion/Dinner series hosted by the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work.

They were joined by faculty and students from medicine, social work, law, public policy, nursing, and public health. The event was an informal dinner and discussion of the role of social policy in improving the lives of our citizens.

In response to questions, Senator Schatz discussed his views on reducing income inequality, making college education more affordable, increasing the age of cigarette sales to 21, enabling Medicare payment for tele-health, and making federal health data more transparent and accessible.



## Lt. Gov. Shan Tsutsui visits DKICP

Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui (third from left) paid a fact-finding visit to UH Hilo on April 1 that included a short tour of DKICP campus. On hand to greet him included Jerry Chang, director of University Relations; Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and associate professor; student pharmacists Robert McHugh, Joann Phan and Deniz Bicakci; and Susan Jarvi, professor and chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. (Photo by Tracey Niimi)

## Legislators hear about DKICP research

Susan Jarvi, professor and chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was invited to address the Hawai'i Island state legislators to raise awareness and seek funding for rat lungworm education and research on April 6 at the state capitol in Honolulu. Additional UH faculty attending included: Dr. Vivek Nerurkar, Department of Tropical Medicine; Dr. Richard Yanagihara, the Department of Pediatrics and Pacific Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases; Dr. Kenton Kramer, the Department of Tropical Medicine, Medical Microbiology and Pharmacology, who has expertise in Parasitology; Dr. William Gosnell, also from the Department of Tropical Medicine, Medical Microbiology and Pharmacology with expertise in Bacteriology and Immunology; and from the Department of Health, Joe Elm, Field Investigations Supervisor. The legislators who listened to the talks were Representatives San Buenaventura, Clift Tsuji, Mark Nakashima, Richard Onishi, Cindy Evans, Nicole Lowen, Della au Belatti (Health Chair) and Richard Creagan. Senators included Russell Ruderman, Josh Green, Lorraine Inouye and Kai Kahale.



# Nationwide campaign urges diabetes education

DKICP participated in the annual American Diabetes Association Alert Day campaign on March 22 at the Hawai'i State Capital. The event informs the public about the seriousness of diabetes and includes blood pressure, body mass index and diabetes risk test screenings. Pictured from left: Michael Chae, regional director of Northern California & Hawaii American Diabetes Association; Wes Sumida, Department of Pharmacy Practice; Megan Araujo, first-year JABSOM medical student; Uoc Le, fourth-year student pharmacist; Dr. Dee-Ann Carpenter, assistant professor, Department of Native Hawaiian Health and clinical division chief, Lau Ola Clinic, Dept. of Native Hawaiian Health as well as clinical assistant professor, Department of Medicine, John A. Burn School of Medicine, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Leslie Lam, Hawai'i marketing director of the American Diabetes Association; Ashley Morisako, first-year JABSOM medical student and Jake Yoshino, a volunteer high school student who helped out at the event.



# Campus leadership group recognizes two from DKICP

Student pharmacist Lauryn Mow (Class of 2017) received the "Ka Lama Ku Malama O'hana Award - Taking Care of Families and the Community" at a recognition ceremony held on campus May 3. The award was presented on campus from UH Hilo's Ka Lama Ku Student Leadership Development Program.

Also at the event, Ashlen Kinilau from the Class of 2019 was recognized as a member of the Kanilehua Living Learning Community Peer Mentors, which won the "Ka Lama Ku Malama Plaque Award - Taking Care of Others and Community."

The Student Leadership Development Program recognizes the contributions students have made in their formal and informal leadership roles on campus and acknowledge those individuals who show strong evidence of future leadership potential. The Student Leadership Development Program, located in UH Hilo's Campus Center,



On hand at the ceremony were (from left) Interim Dean Carolyn Ma, San Le (Class of 2019), award winner Lauryn Mow (Class of 2017), Michelle Nieves (Class of 2018) and Dr. Forrest Batz. (Photo by John Oshima)



LLC Peer Mentors with the Malama Plaque Award are (front row, l-r) Abcde Zoller, Ashlen Kinilau (DKICP Class of 2019) and Kiana Soloria who received a Malama Aina Leadership Certificate. (Back row) Bronson Palupe and Austin Awana.

is based upon native Hawaiian cultural values of Ka Lama Ku and "Leading with Aloha."

In his nomination letter, Dr. Batz said Ms. Mow "demonstrates academic excellence, community engagement/service and effective leadership with the Spirit of Aloha." She has helped organize and deliver services at a number of community health fairs and health screenings, including the annual DKICP Health Fair and the award-winning DKICP ALOHA (A Life of Healing and Awareness) Project. After serving as co-chair of the DKICP Tobacco Prevention Project (TPP), she became chair of the project for the 2015-2016 academic year.

The event was co-sponsored by UH Hilo Campus Center Student Leadership Development Program, the UH Hilo Campus Center Fee Board & Student Activities Council.



# High school students from Maui Upward Bound Program learn about DKICP

George Karvas, a registered pharmacist who is an instructor for the Department of Pharmacy Practice, gave an overview of pharmacists' responsibilities to approximately 30 high school students from Maui College's Upward Bound Program when they visited the DKICP campus on March 16. This Federal TRIO outreach educational program prepares low-income first-generation high school students for college. The group received a warm welcome from Tracey Niimi, student support specialist, and student pharmacists from the National Community Pharmacist Association (NCPA) explained a few compounding techniques, leading a suspension demonstration and a hands-on capsule activity. Blaine Bautista, information technology specialist, staged the simulation manikin to



breathe and speak during the campus tour and informed the students that pharmacists can be in clinical and hospital settings. About half of the

students disclosed they didn't realize there was a college of pharmacy in the State of Hawai'i prior to this visit. (Photo by Tracey Niimi)



## White Shoe Wednesday

A few student pharmacists took a rainy Hilo day and created their own holiday, called White Shoe Wednesday. In the center is Dean Carolyn Ma joining in on the fun. From left going up the stairs clockwise are Jennifer Nguyen, Leigh Heffner, Geralynn Gamayo, Leanne Drusen, and Jessica Regpala.

# A.L.O.H.A. Project

## Free health screenings teach patients, students about living aloha

*By Nicole Chin (Class of 2017)  
The A.L.O.H.A. Project, President*

The 2015 – 2016 school year was a busy and eventful year for A Life of Health and Awareness (A.L.O.H.A.) Project. The year started off with a three-week training session for our members. During the first week, our members were given background information on each disease state - hypertension, hyperlipidemia and diabetes and tips on counseling patients about healthy lifestyle changes. During the second week, the members had one-on-one practice with an Executive Board member to prepare to be signed off the following week. During the third week, each P2 and P3 member had to demonstrate competency in performing



activities. We also offer our patients to follow-up with us at one our monthly campus events to see how they are doing with achieving their goals. This year we had 101 community members agree to follow-up with us.

This year ALOHA Project, expanded our services to include Medication Therapy Management (MTM). Two of our P2 members, Jane Choi and Vivian Tran, were the first two members to perform the service. Each member was paired

up with a P3 student, Nicole Chin and Abraham Jose, respectively, to help each other on gathering the necessary information to discuss with the patient. The information was then presented to the preceptor, who would make sure the information was appropriate to be presented to the patient. In one case, the patient was able to save hundreds of dollars in unnecessary medication. In another case, the patient was provided with education on their medication and the signs and symptoms of hypoglycemia, low blood sugar, and what to do in the event that it did occur.

At the end of the year, our organization celebrated our success by having an end-of-the-year celebration and acknowledged some of our members who have provided excellent care to the community members we serve as well as our own members. The following awards were presented:

Most Active P1: Kara Paulachak

Most Active P2: Bernice La

Most Active P3s: Alexandria McHugh, Kelsea Mizusawa and Loc Ngo

Outstanding Student Trainers: Matt Chen and Hannah Shin

Outstanding Students with the Most Follow-Ups: Alexandria McHugh and Lauryn Mow

Most Motivational Counselors: Sean Abreu and Garret Hino

Outstanding Student Screeners of the Year: Jane Choi and Vivian Tran

Outstanding Member of the Year: Bernice La



blood pressure, A1c, cholesterol screenings and body mass index (BMI).

During the year, A.L.O.H.A. Project provided free health screenings at the Life Care Center, KTA on Puainako and in Waimea, Longs in the Hilo Shopping Center and Pahoa, held a monthly event on the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy campus and participated in Blue Zone's Fun Health Day. We also participated in two health fairs held by lower campus at the Student Life Center and in the Campus Center Plaza. In total, we participated in 20 events and our members screened about 350 community members.

During these events, our members also counseled each patient, who is not within their goals, about making healthy lifestyle changes when it comes to their diet and daily

# Students develop research proposal that uses mobile devices to make a mark in national competition

DKICP student pharmacists finished in the top 7 out of 78 schools of pharmacy nationally in the inaugural year of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Clinical Research Challenge (CRC).

DKICP was represented by a team of three second-year students: Kelli Goo, Cierra Gauvin, and Quan Truong under the guidance and supervision of Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit, interim associate dean for academic affairs and associate professor and Dr. Louis Lteif, assistant professor, both in the Department of Pharmacy Practice.

The competition began with Round 1 on February 8 with 78 teams partaking in journal club examination. Teams achieving the top 20 scores advanced to Round 2. The teams advancing to Round 2 were given a clinically focused research question and submitted proposals to demonstrate the value of clinical pharmacy service in an area of cardiology. The Clinical Research Challenge Oversight Panel chose the top third of 20 teams to constitute the seven finalist teams. DKICP's proposal "Impact of Pharmacist-Driven, Mobile Application Intervention on Cardiovascular Composite Outcome in Post Myocardial Infarction Patients (PharmD-MAI)" attained the top seven finalist teams.

"We were able to use knowledge gained in biostatistics, evidence-based medicine and literature evaluation, drug information, and integrated therapeutics courses to critically evaluate the medical literature," Goo said. "From Round 1 to Round 2, we developed an innovative research proposal that uses mobile devices between the clinical pharmacist, community pharmacist, and the primary care physician. The end result aims to create and evaluate the communication and transitional care for effective patient management in our health care systems."

Joining UH Hilo in the top 7 were Oregon State University (who won the competition), University of Arizona, Thomas Jefferson University, Midwestern University, University of Minnesota and the University of Pittsburgh. The top three were invited to present their research design at the 2016 ACCP annual meeting in Hollywood, Florida.

"I am so proud of our students for successfully competing against schools of pharmacy that have been established much longer than we have, they created a research proposal that integrates essential skills for pharmacists to improve health of individual patients and the community at large and at the same time, they let other colleges know DKICP is a force to reckon with," Wongwiwatthananukit said. "The dedication and hardwork along with the passion that drove our students was very impressive. Challenged with a demanding and rigorous curriculum they were still able to perfectly maneuver between their didactic course work and this extra-curricular project," Lteif said.



From left to right, Dr. Louis Lteif, Kelli Goo, Quan Truong, Cierra Gauvin, Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit



## Making a difference to heart health

From left to right, Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit, Joyce Tapuro, Hoa Vo, Paula Zeszotarski, Ann Oshiro-Kauwe, Dr. Carolyn Ma, Madeline Fu. Students from APhA-ASP presented a check for \$732.90 to the American Heart Association as the result of their annual Penny Wars held on February 5. The Class of 2017 won the friendly competition between the classes of 2018 and 2019 as well as faculty and staff. Penny Wars was held on National Wear Red Day, a public awareness event supported by the American Heart Association urging women, people from all walks of life, businesses, towns, schools, the media, buildings and landmarks to "go red" and "glow red" to bring attention to the leading killers of women – heart disease and stroke. (Photo by Tracey Niimi)

# National pharmacy group awards UH Hilo students

Student pharmacists from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) were recognized as the “Most Improved Chapter” at the national American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Annual Meeting and Exposition in Baltimore March 6.

The students competed against chapters across the country from within the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP).

APhA-ASP was one of the first student organizations at DKICP since the college began in 2007. They are active in multiple community wellness programs and health fairs, and successfully organized a student-run initiative to help pass a Hawai'i state law allowing first-year pharmacy students to receive their intern licenses, according to Matt Chen, APhA-ASP president-elect for 2015-16 from DKICP Class of 2018 who attended the conference.

“Student pharmacists with intern licenses can give immunizations and perform other health care support for members of the public,” Chen said. “This development is important because it expands healthcare for our Big Island community, enriches the Pharm.D. program for current students, and makes DKICP more attractive to prospective students.”

The chapter also implemented three new “Patient Care Projects” designed to improve health care throughout Hawai'i: Operation Immunization, Operation Diabetes, and Generation Rx, he said. In Operation Immunization alone, the group organized 12 events in less than four months in medically underserved areas of the Big Island of Hawai'i. This expansion resulted in the vaccination of more than 145 community members last year.

“This award says a lot especially since we are a newer school and we are being compared to schools that have had APhA-ASP chapters for decades,” said Elizabeth Ackerman, who was faculty co-adviser for the group last year and is an assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice. “It means that our chapter has made some significant improvements and that the awards committee members were impressed. It's wonderful.”

The award is part of the organization's Chapter Achievement Awards (CAA) Program, which was established in 1974 to recognize outstanding activities of APhA-ASP Chapters at the schools and colleges of pharmacy in the United States and Puerto Rico. The program is an extension of APhA-ASP's mission to provide opportunities for professional growth and improve patient care while advancing the future of pharmacy.



# Students celebrate Greek life with events, fundraiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters

By Bernice La (Class of 2018)

Inter-fraternal Committee Chair, Phi Delta Chi and Gamma Theta

Throughout the month of February, the two professional pharmacy fraternities at The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, Kappa Psi and Phi Delta Chi came together to participate in our first Annual Greek Week.

Greek Week (but really, "Greek Month") consisted of four events, geared toward fostering the fraternal bond between the two organizations, as well as allowing them to give back to the community of Hilo. Events such as an obstacle course and kickball game allowed the fraternities to bring out their competitive sides and obtain points, which would be tallied at the end to determine a winner.

In addition, some events incorporated a fundraising aspect, consisting of things such as friendly auctioning of members to get pied in the face, a bake-off night, and an all-week donation jar for each fraternity.

Needless to say, it was an eventful month for both fraternities. This all rewardingly culminated in \$2588.46 being raised for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hilo. We are incredibly honored and humbled to have been able to give a little back to the community that has supported the College of Pharmacy since it's beginnings and can only hope to continue doing so.



## UH Hilo Student Health & Wellness Programs health fair

Student pharmacists played a big role in the UH Hilo Student Health & Wellness Programs Spring 2016 Health Fair on March 15. Members from the Class of 2019, Class of 2018, The A.L.O.H.A. Project, Kappa Psi, Phi Delta Chi, APHA Operation Heart and Diabetes, and HSSHP provided health education and health screenings to the students, faculty, and staff on the UH Hilo Main Campus. (Photos by Kara Paulachak)



# Popular compounding booth a hit at AstroDay

Pharmacy students (from left) Karen Christian, Athena Borhauer and Stephanie Ramirez posed at their AstroDay table, where they assisted school children in compounding silly putty. The student pharmacists had an interactive booth at AstroDay, a UH Hilo event that attracted hundreds of parents and children participating in educational activities at Prince Kuhio Plaza on April 30. The students are members of the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) Hawai'i Student Chapter. Their goal was to promote the profession of pharmacy to children of the community through a fun hands-on activity called "Compounding for Kids," where the pharmacy students demonstrated the compounding of silly putty and ice cream. (From UH Hilo Stories, an online publication of the Office of the Chancellor. Photo by Cierra Gauvin, Class of 2018)



# Spring 2016 schedule packs in community outreach events

*Submitted by Christopher Nakagawa (Class of 2018)  
President of Phi Delta Chi -- Gamma Theta Chapter*

## Everyday Heroes - Nurses (February 2016) - Cindy Khamphaphanh (Class of 2018)

As the one of the busiest emergency rooms in the state providing 24-hour care for over 43,000 patients annually, Hilo Medical Center (HMC) is the leading provider for the island of Hawai'i. As future partners of the health care team we recognized the most integral members who work tirelessly and relentlessly to care for our community. In show of our support, we provided the nurses of HMC with a gift basket filled with homemade cake-pops and healthy on-the-go snacks to re-energize. HMC is the only hospital in the Eastern region of the Big Island. Without their commitment, our community would be at a great loss.

## Valentine's Day Cards for Hilo Medical Center (February 9, 2016) - Cami Kanahele (Class of 2019)

On February 9, 2016, the Brothers of Phi Delta Chi created lovely Valentine's Day cards for the children of the Surgical-Pediatric Unit at Hilo Medical Center. Together, we were able to create 45 cards, which made the children and nurses extremely grateful. With Valentine's Day around the corner, the cards were a perfect way to send love, support, and Aloha especially during this rough time in their life.



## Greek Week (February 2016) - Bernice La (Class of 2018)

Throughout the month of February, the two professional pharmacy fraternities at The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, Phi Delta Chi Gamma Theta and Kappa Psi Epsilon Psi came together to participate in our first Annual Greek Week. Greek Week (but really, Greek Month) consisted of 4 events, geared toward fostering the fraternal bond between the two organizations, as well as allowing them to give back to the community of Hilo. Events such as an obstacle course and kickball game

allowed the fraternities to bring out their competitive sides and obtain points, which would be tallied at the end to determine

a winner. In addition, some events incorporated a fundraising aspect, consisting of things such as friendly auctioning of members to get pried in the face, a bake-off night, and an all-week donation jar for each fraternity. Needless to say, it was an eventful month for both fraternities. This all rewardingly culminated in \$2588.46 being raised for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hilo. We are incredibly honored and humbled to have been able to give a little back to the community that has supported the College of Pharmacy since its beginnings and can only hope to continue doing so.

#### **Imiloa Birthday Celebration (February 21, 2016) - Lauryn Mow (Class of 2017)**



As a vital part to the Hilo community, the Imiloa Astronomy Center plays a huge role in furthering the education and development of Hawaii's youth. For Imiloa's 10th birthday celebration, Phi Delta Chi (PDC) Brothers helped them celebrate for the third time by assisting in their youth directed "Inven10 Lab" clay-making activity. Although it wasn't the most glamorous activity and many Brothers went home covered in flour, they certainly enjoyed their time giving back to the community, as well as one of the major astronomy and culture education centers in Hawaii.

#### **Mauna Kea Clean Up - Cami Kanahele (Class of 2019)**

On March 5 the Brothers of Phi Delta Chi worked together with the UHH Biology students to help remove invasive plants around the Halepōhaku astronomy support facilities at Mauna Kea. After working for two hours, we were able to pull 15 bags of weeds, which helped limit the habitat for invasive arthropods, cleared the area for the restoration of native plants, and improved the opportunities for education about native ecosystems. Participating in this cleanup helped to preserve and protect the cultural and natural resources of Mauna Kea.

#### **UH Hilo Health Fair (March, 15, 2016) - Kara Paulachak (Class of 2019)**

Phi Delta Chi – Gamma Theta chapter participated in the University of Hawaii at Hilo's Health Fair by presenting educational boards to the student body. The boards covered topics such as Sexual Health, Women's Health, and Smoking Cessation. Members of our professional fraternity were able to discuss these topics with students as they stopped by, and shared their knowledge about the benefits of being well informed about each of the topics. In an effort to encourage a healthy lifestyle, our members also made a variety of free contraceptives available to the students, and explained their use and benefits while distributing them.



#### **Hui Malama Health Screenings at Panaewa Farmer's Market - Chris Nakagawa (Class of 2018)**



On March 19 at the Panaewa Farmer's Market, Phi Delta Chi – Gamma Theta collaborated with Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi to reach out to the native Hawaiian community and offer free health screenings. The Gamma Theta Brothers utilized their first day of spring break by performing A1c, total cholesterol, and blood pressure screenings and counseling community members on diabetes and hypertension. We were able to screen a total of twenty community members within two hours. This was remarkable considering that there were only a couple vendors present at the farmer's market. Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi's connection with their community is truly outstanding. They have the ability to encourage many community members to come out to a

relatively small farmer's market and receive free health screenings on a rainy Saturday. Phi Delta Chi shares the goals with Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi of promoting improvement of health and wellness in the Hawai'i Island community, and we look forward to many collaborative events in the future.

#### **Ho'okena Elementary School Career Day -- Aaron Brown (Class of 2018)**

Ho'okena Elementary School hosted a Career Day event on April 6 for its students. Local professionals from all areas of the Big Island attended. The young students had an opportunity to ask questions about each profession and begin to ponder professional aspirations. The Brothers of Phi Delta Chi attended the event to inform the students of the many educational opportunities that the University of Hawaii at Hilo has to offer. Each of the Brothers shared why they chose pharmacy as a profession. The Brothers provided insight as to the roles and responsibilities of the practice of pharmacy. The Brothers guided the students of Ho'okena Elementary through an activity that allowed the students to make silly putty. The activity highlighted that ordinary household chemicals can be combined to make fun, unimaginable creations. Hopefully, we, the Brothers, were

able to spark a love and curiosity of science that will guide the students' path towards a career in pharmacy and science related professions.

**KTA Wellness Fair Vial of Life - Lauryn Mow (Class of 2017)**

During the month of April, Phi Delta Chi (PDC) Brothers demonstrated their commitment and passion towards healthcare by holding a Vial of Life Project booth at KTA Puainako's Healthy Choices Fair on April 16. During the health fair, Brothers handed out prescription vials containing important tools to help community members prepare for the event of an unplanned emergency. The vial contained a Vial of Life form that could be filled out to include medications, medical conditions, medication allergies, and emergency contact information, along with a Vial of Life sticker to place on the front door, and a Vial of Life magnet to place on the refrigerator door. Community members were instructed to place the prescription bottle with the Vial of Life form inside the refrigerator for safe keeping so in the event of an emergency, first responders would be able to quickly locate important information that could mean the difference between life and death. Although a seemingly small booth in relation to the health fair, PDC



Brothers were able to hand out 103 vials!

**Hospice of Hilo Celebration of Life - Chris Nakagawa (Class of 2018)**

On the weekend before finals, the Brothers of Phi Delta Chi (PDC) showed their dedication to the community through assisting Hospice of Hilo with their Celebration of Life event held on May, 7. The Brothers arrived early at Wailoa State Park to transfer and set up all the equipment and supplies. Some of the Brothers showcased their artistic backgrounds through decorating the stage and throughout the whole pavilion with floral arrangements. During the event, we facilitated the walk-stations and encouraged participants on their way to the finish line.



# Initiation recognizes leadership, professionalism, service

*By Abraham Jose (Class of 2017)*

The Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership Society Annual marked the beginning for nine new members into the Delta Lambda Chapter at an Initiation Ceremony Feb. 28 at Hilo Bay Cafe.

The honor society recognizes excellence in pharmacy leadership and each year initiates new members who have demonstrated a significant contribution toward the field of pharmacy in the areas of leadership,

professionalism and service.

Membership into the society signifies a lifelong dedication toward pharmacy leadership excellence and was a memorable occasion for new initiates, old members, and guests alike. This year, the society was honored by speeches

from Dr. Elizabeth Ackerman, Dr. Roy Goo, and Interim Dean Dr. Carolyn Ma. The event would not have been as meaningful nor as memorable without their contribution.

Previous executive board members President Nadine So, Vice President Deandra Viluan, Treasurer Ryan Shiroma,



Secretary Lynnett Tran, and Historian Abraham Jose passed their respective officer positions to new executive board initiates Kelli Goo (president), Matt Chen (vice president), Christopher Nakagawa (treasurer), Vicky Nguyen (secretary), and Vivian Tran (historian).





# Leadership Symposium attracts 70

By Ryan Shiroma (Class of 2017)

Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS) held a Leadership Symposium on May 1 in the DKICP classroom on UH Hilo campus. More than 70 student pharmacists attended the event, which focused on identifying and enhancing their strengths in leadership positions on campus and their future careers.

The day started with an opening session with guest speakers, Interim Dean Carolyn Ma, who also is an associate professor and chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice; Dr. Elizabeth Ackerman, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Dr. Akio Yanagisawa, information technology analyst pharmacist at the Queens Medical Center. Each spoke about their philosophy of leadership, their past and current leadership positions and how it helped their successful careers.

This year's workshops included a President's Roundtable, Treasurer's Training, Conflict Management, Pharmacist's Roundtable, and StrengthsFinder 2.0.

The President's Roundtable and Treasurer's Workshop were hosted by newly inducted PLS members, Kelli Goo and Christopher Nakagawa. At their respective workshops, Kelli and Christopher presented newly elected officers with the duties and responsibilities of president and treasurer, and also offered suggestions on how to succeed in their roles. Our very own student support specialist, Tracey Niimi, then spoke about conflict management and how to effectively run a student organization at DKICP. Students who attended the Pharmacist's Roundtable were introduced to some non-traditional areas of pharmacy where they were able to inquire



about what other routes are available after graduation. Guest speakers included Dr. Ackerman, Dr. Yanagisawa, and Dr. Cheuk Kong Ho, a clinical pharmacist working in the Prior Authorization Department at CVS Caremark.

The highlight of this year's symposium was being able to host a Strengths Finder 2.0 workshop facilitated by Dr. Ackerman and Dr. Linda Connelly, associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. This Wall Street Journal and BusinessWeek bestseller allowed attendees to identify their top five talents, which surprised many. The accompanying book also offered strategies on how students are able to apply their strengths to further enhance their leadership abilities and work cohesively as a team.

This year's attendees have shown dedication to developing their skills as future leaders in pharmacy. PLS hopes to continue hosting the symposium every year and continue to support pharmacy leadership commitment by fostering leadership development at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy.



# Board approves upgrades for 5 DKICP faculty

The University of Hawai'i Board of Regents has approved promotions and/or tenure at their June 2 meeting for five faculty members from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. The designations are effective August 1.



**Aaron Jacobs**, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received tenure and was promoted to associate professor. Dr. Jacobs received a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of California, Irvine and a PhD in pharmacology from the University of California, Los Angeles. Prior to

coming to UH Hilo, he was a postdoctoral fellow at Vanderbilt University. His lab investigates the role of cell stress in disease processes (such as cancer) and responses to drug therapy.



**Patricia Juszczak**, Department of Pharmacy Practice, received tenure and was promoted to associate specialist. Ms. Juszczak received her bachelor's degree in pharmacy from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and is licensed as a registered pharmacist in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Hawai'i. She is

certified in pharmacy-based immunization delivery for a faculty trainer by the American Pharmacists Association and as a tobacco intervention skills instructor for medical and health professionals by the Hawai'i State Department of Health. Her background includes work in community pharmacy practice, most extensively in hospital pharmacy.



**Dana-Lynn T. Koomoa-Lange**, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received tenure and was promoted to associate professor. Dr. Koomoa-Lange received her bachelor's degree in cell and molecular biology from San Diego State University and her PhD in molecular pharmacology,

physiology and biotechnology from Brown University in Providence, RI. In her lab, she investigates the role of signal transduction pathways, calcium signaling and ion channels in pathophysiological processes (e.g. cancer, gastric colitis, and neurological diseases). She also offers unique research opportunities and courses, utilizing both indigenous and non-indigenous methodologies, to increase the participation of under-represented students in STEM.



**Deborah Taira**, Department of Pharmacy Practice based on O'ahu, was promoted to full professor. Dr. Taira received a bachelor's in economics from Amherst College, a master's in public affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, and a doctorate

(ScD) in health economics from the Harvard School of Public Health. She has 10 years experience at the Hawai'i Medical Service Association (HMSA) as research manager analyzing administrative data. Her research focuses on understanding and reducing health disparities, particularly involving Asian and Pacific Islander Americans.



**Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit**,

interim associate dean for academic affairs, was promoted to full professor.

Dr. Wongwiwatthananukit received a bachelor's degree in pharmacy from Prince of Songkhla University in Songkhla, Thailand, a PharmD degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago

as well as a master's degree and a PhD in pharmacy practice from Purdue University. He is certified as a pharmacy based immunization delivery for a faculty trainer by the American Pharmacists Association and as a tobacco intervention skills instructor for medical and health professionals by the Hawai'i State Department of Health. He is a registered pharmacist in Illinois and Hawai'i and in Thailand. His research focuses upon two themes: "Outcomes and Drug Discovery Research" and "Pharmaceutical Education."

## Faculty Seminar Series

### Thomas Balle

Dr. Thomas Balle, associate professor with Pharmacy/Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Sydney in Sydney, Australia. Dr. Balle presented a seminar entitled "Modulation and Activation of Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptors via the Same Extracellular Binding Site - Engineered Receptors and Structural Studies" on April 27.



### Ayyalusamy Ramamoorthy

Dr. Ayyalusamy Ramamoorthy, Robert W. Parry Collegiate Professor of Chemistry and Biophysics at the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, MI presented a seminar entitled "High Resolution Insights into the Function of Cytochrome P450 and Amyloid Proteins" on DKICP campus Wednesday, April 20.



### Patrick Sinko

Dr. Patrick Sinko, associate vice president for research with the Office of Research and Economic Development and Distinguished Professor with the Department of Pharmaceutics, Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers

University in Piscataway, NJ presented a seminar entitled «Drug Delivery Approaches for Treating Ductal Carcinoma In Situ» on February 29.



## Faculty Briefs

**Julie Adrian**, associate professor, veterinary pharmacy, Department of Pharmacy Practice,



was a co-author in the following articles: 1) "Evidence supporting the conceptual framework

of cancer chemoprevention in canines" with **Tamara Kondratyuk**, Wright B, Park EJ, van Breemen RB, Ken Morris, and John Pezzuto (corresponding author), published in *Scientific Reports*, an online publication of Nature. 2) "Developing pharmacy student communication skills through role-playing and active learning" as primary author with **Paula Zeszotarski** and **Carolyn Ma**,



published in the *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education*.

### Shugeng Cao

associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was a co-author in the following: 1) "A New Diketopiperazine, Cyclo(D-trans-Hyp-L-Leu) from a Kenyan Bacteria *Bacillus licheniformis* LB 8CT" with Seoung Rak Lee, Christine Beemelmans, Leah M. M Tsuma, Jon Clardy, and Ki Hyun Kim, published in *Nat. Prod. Comm* 2016. 2) "Diketopiperazines from a Costa Rican fungus *Colpoma* sp. CR1465A" with Seulah Lee, Jon Clardy and Ki Hyun Kim, published in *Biorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2016. 3) "Antiproliferative sesquiterpenes from Hawaiian endophytic fungus *Chaetoconis* sp. FT087" with Chun-Shun Li, Yuanqing Ding, Bao-Jun Yang, Hong-Quan Yin, James Turkson, published in *Phytochemistry* 2016. 4) "Activation of the



Nrf2 cell defense pathway by ancient foods: Disease prevention by important molecules and microbes lost from the modern Western diet" with Donald R. Senger, Dan Li, Shou-Ching Jaminet, published in *PLoS ONE* 2016. Dr. Cao also was an invited speaker at Shanghai University of Chinese Medicine's celebration of their 60th anniversary and Zhejiang University on May 29 and May 30, respectively.

**Leng Chee Chang**, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, presented a plenary lecture entitled "Bioactive hirsutinolides isolated from *Vernonia cinerea*" at the 3rd International Conference on Advanced Pharmaceutical Research on March 17 at Rangsit University in Thailand. The research is part of a collaboration project as part of the MOU between DKICP and Rangsit University.



**Mahavir Chougule**, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical



Sciences, was a co-author along with SR Youngren-Ortiz, NS Gandhi and Espana-Serano on an invited review article entitled "Aerosol Delivery of siRNA to the Lungs. Part 2: Nanocarrier-based Delivery Systems. KONA Powder and Particle Journal." In Press by *J-Stage Publishers*. Dr. Chougule also organized and chaired a session at the AAPS 2016 National Biotechnology Conference entitled 'Penetrating the Fortress of Microenvironment In Solid Tumors by Smart Nanocarriers' on May 18 in Boston. At the same conference, he took part in a poster presentation along with SR Youngren and PR Hoffmann with research entitled "Design and evaluation of a siRNA loaded gelatin nanocarriers for asthma therapy."

**Susan Jarvi**, professor and chair, Department of Pharmaceutical



Sciences, published a paper entitled "Characterization of class II  $\beta$  chain major histocompatibility complex genes in a

family of Hawaiian honeycreepers: 'amakihi (*Hemignathus virens*)" in the journal *Immunogenetics*. Coauthors are K Bianchi, MEM Farias, A Txakeeyang (DKICP class of 2014), T McFarland, M Belcaid, & A Asano. She also gave a talk at the American Association of Immunologists (AAI) in Seattle, WA on Saturday May 14, 2016. She received a travel award from AAI to attend this meeting. Dr. Jarvi also has been named to serve on the 16-member task force assigned to assess rat lungworm disease by the Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) and the East Hawaii Liaison to the Office of the Governor. The mission of the task force is to share scientific knowledge in the application of diagnostics, treatment, mitigation and public education activities.

**Dana-Lynn Koomoa-Lange**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was accepted into the American Society for Cell



Biology National Science Foundation (ASCB NSF) Faculty Research and Education Development Program. The professional

development activity acknowledges her outstanding potential as a research scientist, and is intended to provide her with support to promote grant-funding success. She will work with Dr. Jian-Ying Wang, professor at the University of Maryland Medical School, in a year-long mentoring program beginning with a workshop in Chapel Hill, N.C. July 14-16.



**Karen Pellegrin**, director of strategic planning and continuing education, was co-author with C. Nigg on an article entitled "The

Community Culture Survey: Preliminary Findings from a New Approach to Measurement and Understanding Health Disparities" published in the *Journal of Community Psychology*; in press. Dr. Pellegrin also gave a webinar presentation on "Measuring and monitoring health disparities" for the CMS Health Care Innovation Award Disparities Action Group, April 20.



**Dianqing Sun**, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was invited by National

Institutes of Health to serve on special emphasis panel in Potomac, Maryland in May for reviewing R21/R33 grant applications related to Discovery/ Development of Novel Therapeutics for Eukaryotic Pathogens. In addition, Dr. Sun received the 2016 American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) "Minority-Serving Institution Faculty Scholar in Cancer Research Award" at the AACR Annual Meeting held April 16-20 in New Orleans, Louisiana. During this meeting, he presented a poster entitled "Discovery, semisynthesis, and structure-activity relationship studies of hirsutinolide derivatives as new STAT3 inhibitors and anti-glioma agents" with co-authors Mingming Zhang, Ui

Joung Youn, Gabriella Miklossy, Supakit Wongwiwatthananut, James Turkson, and Leng Chee Chang. Dr. Sun also received a \$50,000 grant from LE'AH FUND for pulmonary Research of Hawaii Community Foundation to design and synthesize diaza-anthracenes and derivatives as new antituberculosis agents.

**Helen Wong Smith**, who served as pharmacy & health sciences information resource coordinator and continued this past year as adjunct faculty, has been selected as a new Fellow of the Society of American Archivists. The designation is the first time in more than 50 years someone from Hawai'i has been elected to the SAA Fellowship. Wong Smith is currently the Executive Director of the Kaua'i Historical Society, Lihue, HI.

**Andre Bachman**, former chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was a co-author on a paper about research that was 90 percent conducted at UH Hilo "Syrbactin Structural Analog TIR-199 Blocks Proteasome Activity and Induces Tumor Cell Death." This work, published in the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, was supported in part by funding from the Robert C. Perry Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation (HCF 09ADVC-45411) (to A. S. B.) and internal funds from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. Co-authors were John Opoku-Ansah, Tannya R. Ibarra-Rivera, Lisette P. Yco, Sudhakar Ambadi, Christopher C. Roberts, Chien A. Chang, and Michael C. Pirrung (corresponding author).

## NEW FUNDING

### Dr. Leng Chee Chang,

associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Supakit Wongwiwatthananut, associate professor and interim associate dean for academic affairs, Department of Pharmacy Practice, are co-investigators on a project entitled "Phytochemical Evaluation of Tropical Plants for Bioactive Compounds. The 5-year project, headed by Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center Director Marisa Wall, is funded by fom the United States Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS).

## UH Hilo honors Dr. Mahavir Chougule

Dr. Mahavir Chougule, associate professor, department of pharmaceutical sciences, was awarded the Koichi and Taniyo Taniguchi Award for Excellence and Innovation, which recognizes creativity in teaching, scholarship and artistic production at UH Hilo.

The award was presented to Dr. Chougule and several members of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo community at the 2016 Awards and Recognition Celebration held on Thursday, May 5.

Dr. Chougule has contributed to UH Hilo's training and research mission with innovative nanotechnology research, focusing on targeted delivery to improve the therapeutic outcomes of diseases such as cancer and asthma that resulted in filing a provisional application for a patent. His research has led to establishment of the first nanotechnology-based extramural funded lung cancer and asthma program in the State of Hawai'i, bringing national recognition to the University in the form of the American Association of Cancer Research Minority-Serving Institution Faculty Scholar in Cancer Research Award.



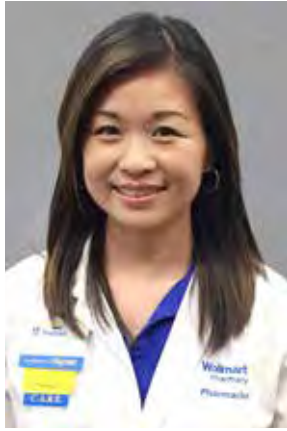
*(From left) Former dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Dr. Randy Hirokawa, who gave background on the history of the award; Toby Taniguchi, representing the Taniguchi family; Dr. Mahavir Chougule, Dean Carolyn Ma, Chancellor Donald Straney (Photo by Claudia Hagan, Chancellor's office)*



## DKICP welcomes newcomers

Interim Dean Carolyn Ma (right) introduced Shugeng Cao (left), associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, to UH Hilo faculty and staff at the Chancellor's welcome ceremony for new faculty on March 16. New hires at DKICP since January who were not at the event include: Louis Lteif, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice; Chad Kawakami, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice; Reid Kubo, IT specialist; Donna Ohora, pharmacy & health information specialist; Teresa Tsuda, secretary, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. (Photo by Claudia Hagan, UH Hilo Chancellor's office)

## IPPE Preceptor of the Year



Wendi Kido, RPh, is the pharmacy manager at the Pearl City Walmart on Oahu. A local girl, who after graduating from Kailua High School attended Oregon State University in Corvallis for undergrad, and then attended Oregon State University School of Pharmacy and graduated in 1999. She practiced in Oregon for several years and worked for a company that was very proactive in clinical services. There she became certified to administer vaccines, became an immunization trainer, and

performed bone density, glucose and cholesterol screenings in the retail pharmacy for her patients.

Why she enjoys precepting: "I enjoy teaching students new things, whether about the business, about interacting with patients, other healthcare professionals and the technicians, how to be efficient and multitask, and how to work hard. My goal is for them to have learned "something" after being with us for several weeks."

She also states that she enjoys learning from students also, whether about medications that are new, or about things that she may have forgotten. "I enjoy the networking that my job allows. Students will become pharmacists in many different areas, companies, or fields. I don't feel any competitiveness. I feel a common bond instead."

## APPE Preceptor of the Year

Selma Yamamoto is the Pharmacy Operations manager and Residency program director for the PGY1 pharmacy practice residency at The Queen's Medical Center. She is the preceptor for the hospital practice/administration APPE rotation.

Dr. Yamamoto obtained her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Southern California and later obtained her BCPS. She also received her Healthcare MBA from Loma Linda University School of Public Health.

She is very active in the pharmacy community and currently is the ACPE coordinator for Hawaii Pharmacists Association, Treasurer for the Hawaii Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives and still has find to moonlight at CVS/Longs Ala Moana.

Aside from pharmacy, her husband and three children,



Taylor, Paris and Logan keep her busy and she continues to be involved with Calvary Church of the Pacific.

Selma states: "I enjoy precepting because my students remind me of my beginnings, which keeps me humble. Students give me a reason to continually learn and keep me sharp because of their questions, enthusiasm and energy. I especially like those who challenge me as a professional and as a person. They bless me with their outside-the-box thinking and many creative ideas on how to improve

my practice. There were countless times my students saved our department when we were in crisis mode, short staffed and over worked. Thank you UHH COP for the opportunity to work with these amazing students."



## ROTATION REPORT:

# Eric Tsuji

Class of 2016

I am very grateful to have experienced such great APPE rotations and studied under excellent preceptors. All were outstanding practitioners and leaders in Pharmacy. One rotation in particular far exceeded my expectations and provided me some of my most memorable experiences. During my sixth block, I rotated through the Straub Clinic and Hospital Outpatient Treatment Center (OTC) on my Oncology elective rotation with Dr. Andrew Yafuso. Dr. Yafuso seamlessly integrated me into daily operations and created a valuable hands on environment, which allowed me to experience what it is like to be an Oncology Pharmacist first hand.

For most of the rotation I was based in the OTC where patients primarily received IV medications such as antibiotics, chemotherapy supportive care, and of course chemotherapy medications. My daily tasks included reviewing patient's charts, answering drug information questions from the OTC staff, and attending various activities depending on the day such as inpatient oncology rounds, tumor board meetings, and other administrative meetings. The most valuable experience was patient chart review and presentation. To prepare for the next days' patients, I reviewed charts for doctor notes and orders to ensure treatment regimens were appropriate. Due to the narrow therapeutic index of these medications, it was important to verify the patient

had the right medications ordered, it was the right time for the patient to receive the medication, and the treatment plan had not changed since initiation. I learned that the Pharmacist's role is of the utmost importance because it serves as another check to ensure patient safety. Seeing the chemotherapy regimens used on a daily basis also helped me organize all those long hours of IT Oncology lecture, and finally make sense of those medications I couldn't pronounce.

What also made this rotation stand out from the rest was Dr. Yafuso's holistic approach to teaching about his role as an Oncology Pharmacist. He believed that to fully appreciate and understand how things were done, you had to start from the very beginning from a patient receiving a cancer diagnosis to selecting, ordering, and administering a regimen. I participated in many of these activities such as education sessions where patients were educated about their cancer diagnosis and the regimen that was selected, ordering of chemotherapy regimens in the electronic medical record (EMR) system, preparing the medications using closed transfer equipment in a sterile compounding room, and administering medications to the patient.

My most memorable and challenging experience was during my last week of rotation. Dr. Yafuso and I agreed that it was time to experience what it would be like to "run the service" in the OTC as the Oncology Pharmacist. As the Oncology Pharmacist on duty,

I had many responsibilities including interacting with the OTC staff, fielding questions, releasing orders, and working up patients while Dr. Yafuso worked in the shadows to execute those orders. This experience was what I felt to be the best representation to actually practicing as a licensed Pharmacist and most applicable for a fourth year student pharmacist about to transition to being a new practitioner. From this learning opportunity I emerged with more confidence interacting with other health care professionals and confidence in my knowledge and skills to make decisive decisions as a Pharmacist.

I am thankful for Dr. Yafuso and the staff of the Straub Clinic and Hospital Outpatient Treatment Center and Inpatient pharmacy for allowing me the opportunity to learn about Oncology Pharmacy. Without their support it would have been impossible to have had a successful, exciting, and a once in a lifetime learning experience. I am glad that I chose Oncology as my elective and I hope that I will have the opportunity to further pursue this path in the future.

## ALUMNI UPDATE:

# Christopher Kamei and Jackwayne Fernandez

Class of 2013

One of the greatest benefits to having a pharmacy school right here in our home state, is being positioned to serve our local communities and grow with them. That's one of the reasons why Jack Fernandez and Christopher Kamei, class of 2013, are proud graduates of DKICP. We are blessed to have received high quality educational experience that emphasizes *community*, while also providing us with the skillsets necessary to provide positive leadership in the profession.

### In Jack's words ...

I've worked for Longs/CVS Health for over 10 years. I started in 2005 as a food clerk, pushing carts and stocking shelves at the local Longs. Slowly but surely, the pharmacy in the back kept beckoning to me. I crossed over the pharmacy counter as an intern in 2008 and worked during pharmacy school. After graduating from DKICP in 2013, I was staff pharmacist on Oahu for a 3 months before stepping into pharmacy management. I am currently in field training to be a District Supervisor for Longs/CVS Health Hawaii region.

With all these progressive changes in leadership roles, my passion remains the same: taking care of our *community*. I enjoy precepting students, helping them develop their own passion for caring for our patients. We've also partnered with other pharmacists in holding presentations at multiple high schools across the state on prescription drug abuse. I could not be happier with where I am today, whether it be on the bench in the pharmacies, or out in the



field influencing other pharmacists and technicians to do what is right for our community.

### In Chris' words ...

During my 2nd year of Pharmacy school, Longs/CVS Health took a chance on me and brought me on as a Pharmacy Intern. Prior to this I had almost zero community Pharmacy experience. During this time I was exposed to the demanding and high paced environment of community pharmacy. It was the direct contact and ease of access for patients that made it clear that this was the career path I wanted to pursue. During school I was active in several organizations including Phi Delta Chi, HSSHP, and Rho Chi. Through these organizations I've learned from various leaders in the profession and made lifelong friends across the nation.

Similar to Jack, I'm also being trained to become a Supervisor for Longs/CVS Health. I serve on a Diversity Leadership team that promotes having diverse teams in our stores, celebrating and embracing differences amongst team members, and being active in our local communities. It's amazing to see

how much of an impact a Pharmacy and its Pharmacists can have in the community they serve. From graduation day to now, it has been a roller coaster ride of growth and development and I'm enjoying every moment of it.

### Looking back ...

We look back at our involvement with the different organizations and extracurricular activities during school and realize that even though it was difficult to balance that with a heavy student workload, it helped get us to where we are today. Our recommendation is to be active in organizations, challenge yourself, and stay curious because the Doctorate of Pharmacy degree you receive from DKICP will open many doors in your future.



## Champions Corner: Dr. Ronald Taniguchi

Dr. Ronald Taniguchi has been named our first “Champion of Pharmacy.” As one of the pioneers of DKICP, Dr. Taniguchi worked diligently and selflessly to create the first fully accredited college of pharmacy in the Pacific region. Before the first students were permitted to apply, Dr. Taniguchi successfully teamed with other leaders such as APEx (Advancement of Pharmacy Excellence) winners Gerald De Mello and Jerry Johnson to campaign the community and the legislature for support. He later served two leadership roles in the College: first as Director of Community Partnerships, later as Interim Chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice, prior to retiring at the end of 2011. Together with his wife, Alice, who is also a health care professional, he endowed a pharmacy scholarship in 2013 that supports third- and fourth-year pharmacy students who have graduated from the islands of Kaua’i, Moloka’i and Lana’i. He continues to represent DKICP through his continued professional involvement throughout the state. It’s difficult to envision stronger dedication than has been embodied by Dr. Ron Taniguchi. Mahalo, Ron!



*The Champions Corner allows us to recognize and say mahalo to the people who have been instrumental in leaving a legacy of pharmacy education to thousands of students who*

*have attended the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. We encourage your input. Please send suggestions to [morrismm@hawaii.edu](mailto:morrismm@hawaii.edu).*



# College of Pharmacy names Spring 2016 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 the 2016 spring semester.

**Class of 2017:** Sean Abreu, Trenton Aoki, Lena Asano, Robert Bautista, Mark Allen Bibera, Megan Calderwood, Christopher Cao, Rhea Castro, Nicole Chin, Francesco Console, Terri Anne Corpuz, Ronnijean Delenia, Christopher Diaz, Andy Diep, Mark Finlay, Madeline Fu, Audrey Fung, Gibe Gelan, Melissa Giachetti, Ryan Higa, Dann Hirayasu, Abraham Jose, David Khan, Mickey Ku, Shaun Lasky, Jaclyn Lee, Lauren Levine, Caleb Malinski, Sean Menda, Kevin Meno, Kelsea Mizusawa, Lauryn Mow, Jonathan Muna, Loc Ngo, Angela Nguyen, David Nguyen, Khanh Nicholas Nguyen, Phuc Nguyen, Kelia Parrilla, Asal Rafie Delijani, Kimberlee Roseman, Hannah Shin, Ryan Shiroma, Nadine So, Jaime-Rose Tangonan, Lillian Tran, Jenni Ueno, Hoa Vo, Hong Vong, Brenda Yuen, Zi Zhang

**Class of 2018:** Chelsea Aipoalani, Goody Cacal, Robby-Sean Cayetano, Matt Chen, Jane Choi, Karen Christian, Sara Evanko, Jennifer Fujio, Cierra Gauvin, Kelli Goo, Jui-Yu Kao, Jonathan Kataoka, Cindy Khamphaphanh, Macie Kim, Krystle Kiyuna, Bernice La, Tram Le, XuanLam Le, Jessica Lee, Nicolette Lew, Niaz Nafisi, Christopher Nakagawa, Kerri Nakatsu, Phuong Nguyen, Vicky Nguyen, Megan Olaguer, Marina Ortiz, Carli Owan, Joann Phan, Niko Pogorevcnik, Caroline Rhee, Lauren Sato, Andrew Skorheim, Lauren Skorheim, Mari Takushi, John James Taman, Lucilla Tong, Ha Tran, Vivian Tran, Paolo Vinh Tuan Truong, Quan Truong, Seungyeun Yoo

**Class of 2019:** Sydney Barney, Deniz Bicakci, Athena Borhauer, Rene-Scott Chavez, Samantha Gonzalez, Leigh Heffner, Vance Hill, Tyler Hirokawa, Preston Ho, Logan Kostur, Kevin Lei, Kate Malasig, Tyler Millar, Veronica Morales Colon, Jennifer Nguyen, Thu Nguyen, Kelsey Noetzelmann, Kara Paulachak, David Pham, Gam Phan, Rachel Randall, Jae Sung Shim, Shannon Trinh, Nicholas Tsoi, Ashley Uehara, Nancy Wong, Veronica Wong, Carrie Yeung

