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For further information contact: Karl Fujii, RCAC Chair, or Jane Ikeda, RCAC Staff, at 692-1218

RCAC Releases Names of Finalists for Four Seats on the UH Board of Regents

HONOLULU – The Regents Candidate Advisory Council (RCAC) has presented a list of candidates to Gov. Neil Abercrombie to fill four seats on the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents for terms beginning July 1, 2012. The outgoing regents whose terms will end on June 30, 2012, include Ramón de la Peña (Kauai County); Dennis Hirota (City and County of Honolulu) Teena Rasmussen (At Large); and Matthew Williams (Student).

The RCAC was created after the passage of the Hawaii Board of Regents Candidates Act, a 2006 legislatively-referred constitutional amendment. Hawaii voters overwhelmingly cast their vote to require the Governor to select board of regents candidates from a pool of qualified candidates screened and proposed by the RCAC.

Approximately six years have lapsed since the passage of the constitutional amendment and the creation of the RCAC. All 15 members currently serving on the UH Board of Regents were selected by the Governor from lists provided by the RCAC.

The RCAC selection process is completely transparent; all candidate lists are compiled only after the RCAC completes its comprehensive review and selection process, which is solely and exclusively merit-based. The triggering of the need for a list of regent candidates as well as the submittal of the Council candidate lists, strictly follow prescribed processes and procedures set forth in either state statues or the Council’s administrative rules.

As part of the Council recruitment process, members actively solicited input from the following:
- Current and former university regents,
- University students, faculty, and administrators,
- Government, business and community leaders, and
- The public

These outreach efforts enhanced the Council’s recruitment process and helped focus our search for candidates who possessed skills that further complement and increase board synergy and enhance the board’s governing abilities. Our outreach also triggered the Council’s highest applicant to vacancy ratio to date.

RCAC began this recruitment cycle during early fall 2011. Council members personally recruited candidates and contacted and encouraged government, business, and community leaders to nominate regent candidates. The Council placed print advertisement and issued press releases encouraging regent candidates to apply. Sixty-one (61) applications were received; all seven members of the RCAC thoroughly and comprehensively
screened each application. As mandated by Act 58, applications for the student seat were screened by the University of Hawai‘i Student Advisory Group who tendered their recommendations for student regent candidates to the Council for its consideration.

Upon consideration of the applicants’ educational background, experience, qualifications, and complementing skill set each candidate could add towards strengthening board governance and synergism, twenty-seven (27) candidates were interviewed in November and December.

Council members interviewed all 27 candidates and had each candidate understand the extraordinary personal time commitment (a minimum of 40 hours per month) that is required when serving as a university regent. Upon completion of the candidate interview process, the Council commissioned extensive background and reference checks on its candidate finalists. Having completed all its screening processes, the RCAC finalized the list of candidates and presented the following names to the governor.

Gov. Abercrombie must select nominees for the Board of Regents from this list. The State Senate must confirm the Governor’s appointments during the current legislative session. The Council is also awaiting the governor’s nomination decision on two Hawai‘i County board seats currently held by holdover regent Carl Carlson and interim regent Barry Mizuno.

The finalists for the four seats are:

**City and County of Honolulu Seat**
- John Dean
- Ronald Ho
- Carol Mon Lee
- Keith Vieira

**Kaua‘i County Seat**
- Klaus Keil
- Tom Shigemoto

**At Large Seat**
- Gregory Chun
- Patrick DeLeon
- Benjamin Kudo
- Georgia McMillen

**Student Seat**
- Jeffrey Acido
- Matthew Williams

The Council believes each finalist offers exceptional and complementing skills that will further strengthen board governance and synergy, serve as a tremendous resource for the University and its President, and help guide and focus the institution’s strategic directions in teaching, research, and community service.
RCAC Chair Fujii expressed his appreciation to the many individuals who applied during this recruitment period and encourages those not selected to re-apply during future recruitments.

The RCAC was created by Act 56 of the 2007 Session Laws of Hawai‘i in conformity with Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai‘i State Constitution and its members, are selected by various community constituencies namely the UH Alumni Association, the Emeritus Regents Association, the UH All Campus Council of Faculty Senate, the UH Student Caucus Executive Council, the Hawai‘i State Senate, the Hawai‘i House of Representatives, and the Hawai‘i State Governor. The RCAC operates in a wholly nonpartisan manner.

The Board of Regents is the governing body of the University of Hawai‘i and consist of fifteen (15) members whose representation include seven (7) from the City and County of Honolulu; two (2) from the Hawai‘i County; two (2) from the Maui County; one (1) from the Kauai County; two (2) At Large; and one (1) University of Hawai‘i student.

Members of the Board of Regents as well as the RCAC serve voluntarily and are not paid.

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PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I
BOARD OF REGENTS
TO GOVERNOR NEIL ABERCROMBIE

February 6, 2012

Regents Candidate Advisory Council
Medical Education Bldg, John A. Burns School of Medicine
651 Ilalo Street, Room 401K
Honolulu, HI 96813
City and County of Honolulu (1 seat)

John C. Dean
Ronald N. S. Ho
Carol Mon Lee
Keith M. Vieira
JOHN C. DEAN, PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John C. Dean is President and CEO of Central Pacific Financial Corp. (CPF) and Central Pacific Bank (CPB). Dean has spent 31 years as an executive in the financial services industry focusing on turnarounds in the banking industry.

Since arriving at CPF in March 2010, the bank has been successful in raising $325 million in new capital, in getting released from the consent order of the banking regulators, in receiving two upgrades in its credit rating and in returning the bank to profitability. CPF recently announced their fourth consecutive profitable quarter, $12.1 million, and $36.6 million in earnings for 2011. (Also, last year the CPB Foundation was established and funded with $8.8 million.)

Prior to arriving at CPF, Dean was Chief Executive Officer at Silicon Valley Bancshares and Silicon Valley Bank from 1993 to 2001. In his eight years as CEO, assets grew from $935 million to $5.5 billion: and market capitalization from $63 million to a high of over $3 billion.

In 2000, and again in 2001, Silicon Valley Bancshares was ranked first among the second-hundred largest banking companies in the United States by U.S. Banker, based upon return of equity and growth in the per-share net income over a five-year period. In 2001, Forbes ranked Silicon Valley Bancshares among the “fastest growing companies” based on growth in revenues, EPS and total market return over three years. This was one of three banks that Dean has been credited for turning around.

Prior to Silicon Valley Bank, Dean has been CEO of four other institutions: Pacific First Bank (1991-1993), First Interstate Bank of Washington (1990-1991), First Interstate Bank of Oklahoma (1986-1990) and First Interstate System Inc (1982-1986). Under Dean’s leadership these banks, most of which were troubled institutions, became profitable and grew significantly.

A graduate of Holy Cross College, a former Peace Corps Volunteer in Western Samoa and a graduate of the Wharton School with an MBA in Finance, Dean was recognized by Business Week as one of Silicon Valley’s top 25 “movers and shakers” in 1997. In 2001, he was recognized by Forbes as one of the “50 most powerful dealmakers.”

Dean is Managing General Partner of Startup Capital Ventures, and is a director of the following technology companies, including AGIS, Think Finance, Zero2IPO, and Adama.

Dean’s community involvement includes being an advisor to the board of the Wharton School of University of Pennsylvania. He is the founder and sponsor of Kipapa i ke Ala Lecture Series at the University of Hawaii’s Shidler College of Business and has endowed a faculty chair at the college. He is also a Director of the Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship and E-Business (PACE) at the business school of the University of Hawaii. Dean is the founder and Chairman Emeritus of Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii and is Chairman of the Emmett R. Quady Foundation, his family foundation.

He lives in Waimanalo.
RONALD N.S. HO

Ronald N. S. Ho is presently Chairman of Ronald N. S. Ho & Associates, Inc. a Hawaii based consulting electrical engineering company that he founded 33 years ago. He is also serving a third term as Trustee of the UH Foundation and a Director of Rehab Hospital of the Pacific. Mr. Ho spent his entire career as an electrical engineer specializing in power systems, lighting, controls, and renewable energy systems. While performing his duties as Manager, Engineer, and Designer at his company, Mr. Ho also made time to serve his community and the University of Hawaii.

For the past 20 years, Mr. Ho has volunteered and served on the College of Engineering Industry Advisory Board, Development Advisory Committee, Dean's Council, Engineering Annual Banquet (Chairman), Holmescoming Event (Chairman and member), and Engineering Alumni Association of University of Hawaii -EAAUH (Chairman). In addition he has served as Trustee of UH Foundation (Chairman and member). Mr. Ho was actively involved in the planning and execution of UH Foundation's first major fund raising campaign ending in 2001 and UH Foundation's second major fund raising campaign ending in 2008. In addition to fund raising for UH Foundation, Mr. Ho has also led major fund raising activities for the College of engineering for the past 15 years.

Mr. Ho has actively supported UH students with an Endowment which supports student projects, with industry/students networking dinners which are sponsored through EAAUH, and with volunteer assignments working on "special projects". Mr. Ho has been engage with two noteworthy projects. One was the "Solar Decathlon" a UH student project which involved the design and construction of an energy efficient house. This project was done in collaboration with the College of Engineer, School of Architecture, Shidler College of Business, and Honolulu Community College. The second project is the "Smart Energy Laboratory at Manoa", a faculty/student/industry project that has as its goal: to conserve energy at Manoa; to attract research dollars in renewable energy for UH, to create jobs in the renewable energy field, and to develop control technology to allow utilization of greater amounts of intermittent energy in a "smart grid" distribution architecture.

As a result of Mr. Ho's engineering accomplishments and community service, he was honored with the University of Hawaii Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni award in 2001, the College of Engineering Distinguished Alumni award in 2008, and the Hawaii Society of Professional Engineers "Engineer of the Year" award in 2012.

Mr. Ho received his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering in 1967 and Master of Science in Electrical Engineering in 1968 from UH Manoa.
Carol Mon Lee

CAROL MON LEE, former member of the Hawaii State Board of Education and retired Associate Dean at the Univ. of Hawaii Richardson School of Law, has always been passionate about education. Although originally trained to teach K-12, Ms. Lee’s experience in education is much deeper and has incorporated her legal training, business and administrative skills and interest in public service.

Ms. Lee has great familiarity with the University of Hawaii and its issues. Her long relationship with the University began with her first teaching job at UH Law School in 1976. Her last position before retirement in 2006 was as Associate Dean of the law school where she ran the academic program for 10 years. Her broad teaching experience includes lecturing in China as well as Pre-K to high school teaching on the mainland.

Her work in education is uniquely three-dimensional. In addition to teaching and higher education administration, Ms. Lee has participated in hands-on institutional level policy-making. For 12 years, Ms. Lee served on St. Andrews Priory’ Board of Trustees. She was elected to the Hawaii State Board of Education in 2008 to help formulate statewide educational policy and worked with the DOE, State Public Libraries and various educational partners during a challenging period. She also chaired the Superintendent Search and Selection Committees. While on the BOE, Ms. Lee supported and took great interest in Hawaii P-20 and hopes to work further on those goals for college students.

Ms. Lee’s business background includes years as Senior Vice-President of American Trust Co. of Hawaii and Bishop Trust Co. where she was a member of the executive team and worked on complex business issues. As a lawyer, Ms. Lee practiced in private firms in Hawaii and the mainland and was a staff attorney at the 1978 Constitutional Convention.

Public service has also been a vital part of Ms. Lee’s life. As first president of Hawaii Women Lawyers, she promoted the advancement of women and addressed broader community issues like domestic violence. She has held leadership positions in many organizations. Ms. Lee was appointed to the Hawaii Real Estate Commission for two terms. Most recently she volunteered for several APEC projects.

She has been named Hawaii Women Lawyers’ Outstanding Woman Lawyer of the Year and received its Distinguished Service Award. She received Hawaii State Bar Association’s ‘Ikena Award for outstanding service to legal education. Upon retirement from Richardson School of Law, students established the Carol Mon Lee Scholarship Fund, now endowed, and the school’s alumni association designated her an honorary alumna.

Ms. Lee received her J.D. from the Univ. of California Hastings College of Law, M.A. from Columbia University and B.A. from Barnard College. She graduated from Taipei American School.

Ms. Lee’s Hawaii State Board of Education experience and her understanding of Hawaii P-20 distinguish her from other candidates. Her combination of skills, interest and experience would serve her well if selected as a Regent. She has the ability to devote the time and energy to becoming one of UH’s strongest advocates.
Keith M. Vieira

Keith Vieira is senior vice president, director of operations, Hawai’i and French Polynesia for Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. He has regional responsibility for Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. – Hawai’i and French Polynesia that encompasses overseeing the operations for Starwood’s eleven properties in Hawai’i under the brands of Sheraton, Westin, Luxury Collection and St. Regis, in addition to three properties in French Polynesia. He has been with the company for 30 years and was previously director of travel services handling the wholesale and retail travel, director of communications for Sheraton Hotels in Hawai’i, vice president-director of development and assistant to the director of operations for Sheraton Hawai’i/Japan Division, vice president-director of marketing for ITT Sheraton Hotels in Hawai’i responsible for the largest private marketing budget in the state and area manager for the islands of Kauai and Hawai’i.

Vieira has worked in the visitor industry for over thirty-five years. Born and raised in Hilo, Vieira graduated from the University of Hawai’i-College of Business Administration with a degree in personnel and industrial relations.

He has served two terms as a member of the Hawai’i Tourism Authority. Prior to his appointment to the Hawai’i Tourism Authority, he served for many years on the Hawai’i Visitors & Convention Bureau, the O‘ahu Visitors Bureau and the advisory board of the Hawaii Convention Park Council and YMCA of Hawai’i. He currently serves as a board member of the Blood Bank of Hawai’i, Hawai’i Business Roundtable, the University of Hawai’i Shidler College of Business, Catholic Charities Hawai’i, Ahahui Koa Anuenue, Friends of Hawai’i Charities, Be My Voice Leadership Council, chair of the Ho‘okako‘o Corporation and school board chair for Kualapu‘u School, Waimea Middle School and Kamaile Academy. He has worked with Kapiolani Community College and Leeward Community College in an advisory capacity.

He served as chairman for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation’s 2003 fundraising campaign and the Aloha United Way’s 2000 campaign fundraiser. He was also named the 2003 Salesperson of the Year by Sales and Marketing Executives of Honolulu.

He is a key member of many travel industry organizations including Hawai’i Hotel & Lodging Association, American Society of Travel Agents, Hotel Sales & Marketing Association International, Japan Association of Travel Agents and Travel Industry Association of America.
Kauai County (1 seat)

Klaus Keil
Tom H. Shigemoto
Klaus Keil

Professional Accomplishments: Klaus is an internationally recognized researcher and professor in Cosmochemistry/Planetary Sciences and has authored/coauthored 665 scientific papers. He has brought many millions of dollars in extramural funding to UH-Mānoa in support of research and purchase of state-of-the art equipment. He will retire from UH-Mānoa July 1, 2012.

Administrative Positions: Klaus is a renowned University administrator and faculty leader with over 50 years of distinguished service. The University of Hawai‘i-Mānoa (UH-M) appointed him Head, Planetary Geosciences Division (1990-1994), Director, Hawai‘i Institute of Geophysics and Planetology (HIGP) (1994-2003), and Interim Dean, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) (2003-2006), with responsibilities for 4 academic departments, 3 research institutes, several research centers, 230 faculty, with ~ $ 110 Million in extramural funding generated by faculty and staff. Since 2006, he has been a Research Professor in HIGP. Prior to coming to UH-M, he was a Researcher, University of California, La Jolla (1961-1963), Research Scientist, NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, CA (1963-68), and Director, Institute of Meteoritics and Professor of Geology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque (1968-90).

Community-University-Professional Service: Upon appointment to UH-M 22 years ago, Klaus and his wife Linde made their home in Koloa, Kaua‘i, where they are active members of the community. Klaus has a stellar record in public service and extensive experience in chairing and guiding the work of boards and committees. Community Service: As President-elect and President (2004-2006) of the Hawai‘i Academy of Science, Klaus contributed much to fundraising and organization of the Hawai‘i State Science and Engineering Fair which provides life-long educational opportunities to our young, future scientists and engineers. He has frequently given talks to Rotary Clubs and schools and participated in the biennial Open Houses of SOEST, which attract thousands of school children and their parents. University Service: Other than the service associated with his administrative positions, Klaus served as Senator, Vice-Chair and Chair, UH-M Faculty Senate, and Co-Chair, All-Campus Council of Faculty Senate Chairs, which required extensive interaction with faculty from Community Colleges, 4-year schools and UH-M. He chaired many faculty and administrative search committees that brought nationally and internationally recognized individuals to the University. Recently, President Greenwood appointed Klaus to chair the Search Advisory Committee for the next Chancellor of the UH-M. Professional Service: At the national level, Klaus’s record is exceptional. For example, he served as President, Meteoritical Society and President, Microbeam Analysis Society. He chaired NASA’s Lunar Sample Analysis Planning Team, Lunar and Planetary Science Council, and Mars Observer Review Panel, and the National Academy of Sciences’ National Committee on Geochemistry and was a member of its prestigious Space Studies Board.

Honors: Among Klaus’s numerous honors are two honorary doctorates from the University of New Mexico and from Friedrich-Schiller-University, Jena, Germany. He is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union, Meteoritical Society, Mineralogical Society of America, and Honorary Member, Microbeam Analysis Society, and recipient of the Leonard Medal of the Meteoritical Society and of the J. Lawrence Smith Medal of the National Academy of Sciences.
Tom H. Shigemoto

Tom Shigemoto is the second of four children of Tamotsu and Shizuko Nii Shigemoto and grew up in a plantation style camp home in Lihue on land owned by the prominent Rice family. He graduated from Kauai High School in 1966, matriculated to the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and graduated in 1971 with a BFA in Urban and Regional Design. In September of that same year, he returned to Kauai and commenced his career with the Kauai County Planning Department as a staff planner.

In 1973, he married April Tanaka, his high-school sweetheart, who is also an alumnus of the University of Hawai‘i. They have four sons and their eldest and youngest sons also attended UH Mānoa.

After 13 years as a staff planner at the Kauai County Planning Department, he was appointed as the Deputy Planning Director in 1984 and served in this capacity for four years.

In 1988, he was appointed Planning Director by then Mayor Tony Kunimura and served in this capacity for two years. Immediately upon his departure from the County in May of 1990, he was hired by the Princeville Corporation as its Director of Planning. Princeville had developed a resort residential community on the north shore of Kauai and provided him the opportunity to understand the intricacies of private real-estate development and the importance of government and community relationships. It also provided the opportunity to serve and associate with non-profit and community service organizations. Unfortunately, his stint at Princeville lasted only a year as he was presented with another opportunity to work for Alexander and Baldwin Properties, Inc. in August of 1991, to serve as the Vice President of Planning.

On August 12, 2011, Mr. Shigemoto celebrated his 20th anniversary with A&B Properties. During his tenure with A&B Properties, Inc., the real-estate development division of Alexander and Baldwin, Inc., he has been involved with entitlement (State Land Use Commission boundary amendments, County General Plan and zoning amendments), residential and agricultural subdivision projects, infrastructural development (water, sewer, power, and drainage), and the construction of retail and industrial buildings. He has also been a part of the premier planned resort residential community on Kauai, which is a 1000-acre project called Kukui‘ula and is situated on Kauai’s south shore. The resort amenities have already been constructed including a championship golf course, a world-class spa and golf clubhouse as well as an 85,000 square-foot shopping center. When completed, the entire planned community will have no more than 1500 units.

Alexander and Baldwin has been a part of Kauai for more than 125 years and continues to serve the Kauai island community in numerous ways. It encourages participation in non-profit activities and organizations. Mr. Shigemoto says that he “would consider it an honor to serve MY university and my island in yet another way.”
At Large (1 seat)

Gregory C. Chun
Patrick H. DeLeon
Benjamin A. Kudo
Georgia K. McMillen
Gregory Chun assumed his current position at Kamehameha Schools in August 2009. The Keauhou-Kahalu'u Education Group is a newly formed education group established within the Kamehameha Schools system that provides 'āina-based education and culture-based instruction in West Hawai'i. Educational partners include the Hawaii State Department of Education, University of Hawai'i, Kamehameha Schools Campus and Enrichment Programs, and a variety of private education organizations. These programs also serve as the catalyst for the re-positioning of the Keauhou Resort, a Kamehameha Schools asset, as a cultural and educational destination.

Previously, Greg served as President of Bishop Holdings Corporation and Subsidiaries, the for-profit arm of Kamehameha Schools, which carries out real estate investment and development businesses on behalf of the Trust. Prior to joining Kamehameha Schools Greg was with Parker Ranch, Inc., first as an independent contractor and later as Executive Vice-President and Secretary. His experience includes real estate development in Hawai'i and on the US mainland, restoration of historic Hawaiian sites in West Hawai'i and Moloka'i and the development of associated educational and cultural programming, Hawaiian culture and values training, and leadership and organizational development. Born and raised in Kailua, a graduate of Kamehameha Schools, and trained as a Clinical Psychologist, Greg integrates a unique blend of cultural, educational, and humanistic perspectives into his formal business roles and responsibilities. Greg is married to Debra U'ilani Kekuna Chun, also a graduate of Kamehameha Schools.
Patrick H. DeLeon,

Patrick DeLeon, Ph.D., M.P.H., JD, recently retired as D.C, chief-of-staff for U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye after 38 years of service. A graduate of Amherst College, he obtained his Masters of Public Health from the University of Hawaii in 1973. Prior to working in Washington, D.C., he served on the University of Hawaii, Hilo Peace Corps training staff and in the State of Hawaii Division of Mental Health where he was active with HGEA. He is a former President of the American Psychological Association (2000) and is a member of the Hawaii Psychological Association and Hawaii Bar Association. He has served as a clinical/affiliate faculty member of the University in several departments and campuses since 1979. His wife obtained her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Hawaii. Their son is a licensed clinical social worker; their daughter is a member of the Maryland Bar. They have one granddaughter who is almost two years of age.

At his retirement announcement, Senator Inouye noted: “Under his service, the importance of nurses, psychologists, and other health professionals was properly recognized. He has been at the forefront of shepherding legislation related to Native Hawaiians, immigrant children, the people of the Pacific, and higher education. He has been very active in helping our community college system become full fledged, four-year colleges. For example, he played a major role in the establishment of the school of Pharmacy and the school of Nursing at the University of Hawaii’s Hilo campus.

Pat DeLeon’s parents were attorneys, his mother having been the second female attorney in the history of the State of Connecticut. Having had a significant hearing loss since birth, they had been advised that he might never be able to attend college. Accordingly, he has always been particularly sensitive to the unique needs of those historically underserved and those facing unique challenges in obtaining meaningful education due to geographical isolation, economic, or cultural barriers.

Having worked closely with the education and health leadership on the neighbor islands over the past three decades, Pat DeLeon is extremely interested in extending meaningful educational opportunities for the residents of rural Hawaii, especially given the exciting advances in distance learning and related technology. He has also recognized the value of fostering collaborative relationships between the university and local communities, as exemplified by the successes of ‘Imiloa, Women in Technology, and the Polynesian Voyaging Society.

Pat DeLeon was elected to the Institute of Medicine in 2008 and is currently Distinguished Professor of Uniformed Health Care Policy and Research at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Department of Defense. It is anticipated that he will join the University of Hawaii as a part time faculty member in the School of Nursing, Richardson School of Law, and College of Pharmacy during the coming academic year.
BENJAMINASAKUDO

Mr. Kudo is a 1968 graduate of Iolani School and obtained his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Washington (1972). He did his graduate work at the University of Hawaii where he obtained a M.B.A. (1975) and Ph.D. (2008) from the Shidler College of Business. Mr. Kudo also obtained a Juris Doctor degree from Georgetown University Law Center in 1978.

Prior to beginning his legal career, Mr. Kudo held positions with two of Hawaii’s major agriculture and land development corporations. From 1973 to 1975, he served in several capacities, including that of Application Mechanical Engineer for Hawaiian Equipment Co. and Senior Financial Analyst for Oceanic Properties, Inc., subsidiaries of Castle & Cooke, Inc. In 1978, Mr. Kudo was employed by Amfac Development Corporation, a subsidiary of Amfac, Inc., as Assistant Vice President responsible for asset and property management.

Mr. Kudo presently is the Chief Financial Officer and the manager of the land use, administrative and environmental law group of the law firm of Imanaka Kudo & Fujimoto, which handles major resort, commercial, industrial and residential developments throughout the State. He frequently appears before State Legislative Committees, County Councils, and State and County Boards and Commissions.

On an international level, Mr. Kudo heads the Pacific-Asia business practice for the law firm. He has represented many international clients from Japan, Malaysia, Philippines and Australia involved in corporate and real estate matters in the United States and the Far East.

In addition to his law practice, Mr. Kudo served as an Adjunct Professor at The William S. Richardson School of Law teaching in the area of real property, land use and water law from 1990 - 2000. In 1994, Mr. Kudo was honored by the establishment of the Benjamin A. Kudo, Chair of Law (designated in the areas of land use, environmental and administrative law) at The William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii. Mr. Kudo was an instructor with the Master of Human Resources Management program at the Shidler College of Business teaching labor law in 2008. He has been a lecturer in business law at the University of Hawaii - West Oahu since 2009.

He currently serves as an Advisory Board member, Aloha Council, Boy Scouts of America; Director, Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii (1996 – 2011); Honorary Director, Temari-Center for Pacific and Asian Art; Director, Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific; President (2008 – 2010) and Director, The 200 Club; Director, New City Nissan, Inc.; Director, East-West Center Foundation; Legal Counsel to the Japanese American

Mr. Kudo has been selected for the following professional awards:

America’s Most Honored Professionals – 2011
U.S. News – Best Law Firms “Best Law Firms” – 2011
Pacific Business News – Hawaii’s Leading Lawyers for Business - 2011
Martindale-Hubbell – “AV” highest rank nationally
Georgia K. McMillen

Georgia K. McMillen is a resident of Maui, a 1975 graduate of the Kamehameha Schools and a 1978 graduate of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. She holds a law degree from New York Law School, and practiced law for 10 years in the areas of commercial, insurance and bankruptcy litigation in New York and New Jersey before returning home to Hawai‘i in 1998.

In Hawai‘i she has put her legal skills to work where they are most needed in serving the indigent. With many of her clients among society’s most disenfranchised, her work highlights the need for accessible educational opportunities and underscores her commitment to maintaining and growing a great public university system like the University of Hawai‘i.

She has an active practice before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit where she has litigated numerous cases. In addition to practicing before the Ninth Circuit, she also serves the Ninth Circuit as the Appellate Lawyer Representative from Hawai‘i. Since 2006 she has been a fellow of the American Bar Foundation, an organization dedicated to advancing justice through rigorous research on the law, legal processes, and the law’s impact on our society. Other professional memberships include: the Criminal Justice Act Panels for the U.S. District Court Hawai‘i and the U.S. District Court for Southern California; the Hawai‘i State Bar Association; the American Bar Association; and she is a longtime member of the board of directors for the Native Hawaiian Bar Association.

She provides pro bono legal services through the Mediation Center of the Pacific, and the Volunteer Legal Services of Hawai‘i. Her affiliations on Maui include the Outreach Program at Keawala‘i Congregational Church, which provides financial assistance to those in need, and the Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce. In addition to her legal practice, she is an adjunct faculty member at Hawai‘i Pacific University and has served as adjunct faculty at the University of Hawai‘i Maui College.
Student (1 seat)

Jeffrey T. Acido
Matthew H. Williams
Jeffrey Acido

Jeffrey Tangonan Acido is a graduate student working toward an MA in Asian Studies focusing on the Philippines with a concentration in Ilokano.

Jeffrey was born in the Bacarra, Ilocos Norte, Philippines and moved to Kalihi at the age of 6. Growing up working-class in Kalihi he attended Kalihi Waena/Kai, Kalakaua Middle School, and Farrington High School. He played high school football and joined the culinary arts program while at Farrington High School. He attended Honolulu Community College and did a study abroad in Korea through Kapiolani Community College and later transferred to earn a BA in Religion at UH-Mānoa. He also earned a Masters in Theology while studying in a seminary at Berkeley, California.

He worked in varied fields of employment: food service industry, truck delivery, non-profit organizations, community college promoter, DOE part-time teacher, and a lecturer at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, where he continues to teach Philippine Popular Culture for the Ilokano Program.

An assistant researcher at AANCART at UH-Mānoa, he has promoted cancer awareness through radio programming to reach out to the broader Filipino community through the use of Ilokano, English and Tagalog languages. He writes for the Ilokano Writers Guild and a columnist for the local newspaper Fil-Am Observer.

Active in the community, he is involved in the issues of language and social equity. He is the program director of Nakem Youth, an organization that promotes social justice, faith, community and the use of mother-language in education. He is also a board member of Hawai’i Peace and Justice and a program director for Rise Up! a program dedicated to leadership development, inter-generational dialogue, and ethnic and indigenous consciousness for the youth of Hawai‘i using critical education.

He has written poems and stories, co-edited a book, Kabambannuagan: Our Voices, Our Lives, an anthology of writings of young Ilokano’s in Hawaii. He has helped in collecting stories of elders in Kalihi Valley and Waipahu in which their stories were published in Panagtaripato: Parenting Our Stories, Our Stories As Parents”.

He has presented in numerous academic conferences presenting papers such as: “Experiences of Postcolonial Traditioning on Pilgrimage to a Nikkei Concentration Camp” and “Postcolonial Readings on the Ilokano Christian Theology”.

He also spent many hours volunteering at Farrington High School, teaching students about the significant history of Pearl Harbor and Keawalau o Pu’uloa, sustainable energy and food production. Because his mother works at a Waikiki Hotel in the housekeeping department he has volunteered at Local 5 in numerous occasions.

Jeffrey enjoys listening to stories about people working in the plantation era of Hawai‘i. He dreams about the youth being inspired by the struggle of our ancestors and hope the stories and lessons of the past are lived and embodied in the present.
Matthew R. Williams

Matthew Williams has been the Student Regent with the University of Hawai‘i and on the Hawai‘i State Board For Career and Technical Education since July 2010. He recently graduated in December as a dual degree student at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa with a Master of Science in Nursing Administration and a Master of Business Administration from the Shidler College of Business.

Matthew has been in Hawai‘i since 2005. He was born in Ohio in 1976, attended Olmsted Falls High School where he achieved varsity letters in football and wrestling, and served as student council representative. After graduation from high school he attended The Ohio State University, during which he was consistently employed to finance his education. During his undergraduate studies he participated in an international academic exchange program with Edith Cowan University in Australia where he participated in student government as the Student Housing Representative. He was admitted to Psi Chi, the National Psychology Honorary Society, where he served as Public Relations Board Member, and to Phi Beta Delta, Honor Society for International Scholars. He founded and presided over the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Ohio State University Chapter, and worked as a university research assistant in the department of psychology. During his final semester he participated in a management internship with Lazarus Department Stores where he was recognized by participation in the Movers and Shakers Program for sales and service excellence, and was awarded the Trident Award for customer service excellence. Upon graduation he obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

After graduation he worked in a variety of fields that included banking, insurance, computer drafting, and emergency medicine. Matthew furthered his education by taking classes at community colleges until he was accepted into the highly competitive Master's Entry Program in Nursing at the University of Hawai‘i in 2008. During his graduate studies he participated in the Shidler College of Business Mentorship Program and the Shidler College of Business Asian Field Study. He also continued to work full-time during his graduate studies. He graduated in December with a dual degree – a Master of Science in Nursing Administration and a Master of Business Administration. He graduated with honors, and was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nursing. He is also a member of the American Organization of Nurse Executives.

Matthew has been active in co-curricular activities within the University of Hawai‘i System. He was the Graduate Student Organization Representative for the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene for two years. Also, Matthew was on the Executive Council of the UH Student Caucus, as a representative from the Graduate Student Organization at UH Mānoa for two years, first as the Treasurer and then as the Vice Chairperson. He was the Graduate Student Organization Judicial Affairs Representative for the Academic Grievance Committee. He volunteered for the UH Buildings & Grounds Award committee and the Willard Wilson Award committee. He presently sits on the UH Board of Regents and Hawai‘i State Board For Career and Technical Education. Within the community, Matthew volunteers in the Hawai‘i Medical Reserve Corps with the Department of Health, as a Disaster Volunteer with the American Red Cross Hawai‘i Chapter, and as a Community Emergency Response Team Volunteer with the Hawai‘i Civil Defense. Matthew works as a Registered Nurse at Castle Medical Center and Queen’s Medical Center where he oversees the care of adult, adolescent, and child psychiatric patients. He is working with hospital administration to implement programs that advances the health care services the hospital provides. He hopes to work in healthcare administration now that he has graduated.