General Introduction

The School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene (SONDH) mission is to provide an innovative, caring and multicultural environment in which faculty, students and staff work together to generate and transmit knowledge, wisdom and values to promote quality of life and health for present and future generations. To better reflect Hawaii’s unique cultural diversity and heritage, the SONDH is committed to increasing Native Hawaiian and other underserved people in all nursing and dental hygiene programs.

The School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene’s vision is to be the leader in nursing and dental hygiene education and research in Hawai‘i with outreach to Asia and the Pacific Basin.

Office of the Dean – Org Code: MADNND

The Office of the Dean coordinates the efforts of two departments within the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene, facilitates policy implementation, evaluates programs, and guides institutional and individual research. The Office of the Dean coordinates the development, facilitation and support for the conduct of instruction, research and health sciences scholarship in the School.

School of Nursing & Dental Hygiene Community Advisory

The University and accrediting bodies encourage participation and feedback from community stakeholders. The school utilizes multiple mechanisms to obtain community perspective and participation, provide advocacy, support and consultation to the Dean.

The Office of the Dean includes the following units:

1. Administrative Services – Org Code: MAASND

The Administrative Services Unit is responsible for a wide variety of personnel, fiscal and other administrative affairs of the School. It provides technical assistance in the areas to insure that the School is in compliance with federal, state, university, and other applicable regulations and requirements.

2. Information Technology Unit – Org Code: MAITND

The Information Technology Unit plans and implements IT related projects; evaluates and upgrades departmental software, databases, hardware, networking, instructional technology and video equipment; troubleshoots and manages equipment.

3. Academic Affairs – Org Code: MAAAND

The Academic Affairs Unit is responsible for the overall planning, development, organization, direction, and monitoring of the quality of the various academic program offerings in the School for nursing and dental hygiene; including but not limited to: Manoa Campus offerings, outreach and flexible program options for faculty and students.

4. ‘IKE AO PONO – Org Code: MAIAND

‘IKE AO PONO facilitates the application, successful progression and graduation of underrepresented students from Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations, including but not limited to: academic counseling, financial aid opportunities, cultural learning and service activities, mentoring, and professional opportunities.

5. Student Services – Org Code: MASSND

The Student Services Unit facilitates student admission, progression and graduation; student records; transfers of students; and is responsible for matters relating to students
and graduates such as studies, reports, foreign student programs, public relations, marketing of programs, catalogues and brochures, and student organizations.

6. **Translational Health Science Simulation – Org Code: MATHND**

The Translational Health Science Simulation Unit focuses on safe quality health care through innovation in simulation education, information technology, and research. This includes but is not limited to serving as a resource for simulation based health education, integrating innovative teaching strategies into curricula to support lifelong learning from notice to expert health care practitioners, researching the effectiveness of learning strategies to improve and enhance quality and safe patient care, promoting interdisciplinary health professional collaboration, facilitating health service research and use of new equipment/technology, and generating and disseminating knowledge.

7. **Research Unit – Org Code: MARSND**

The Research Unit is responsible to facilitate the research agenda of the school focusing on knowledge generating and practice relevant research. This includes but is not limited to the management of the school research infrastructure via the Office of Research and Extramural Programming; developing and implementing guidance and support mechanisms; coordinating resources to facilitate scholarly achievement of faculty and students; assuring compliance with policies and procedures for the conduct of research and grant management; and developing and maintaining research partnerships.

**Academic Programs**

1. **Department of Nursing – Org Code: MANURS**

The Department of Nursing’s program leading to the bachelor of science in nursing degree prepares beginning-level generalist professional nurses to deliver care to individuals in a variety of health-care settings, meet the state requirements for eligibility to take the National Council Licensure Examination – Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN), and obtain a sound basis for graduate study in nursing.

The program leading to the master of science in nursing degree prepares students for advanced practice nursing, executive leadership, and advanced public health nursing. The master’s entry program in nursing pathway is offered as an accelerated alternative entry program consisting of an intensive pre-licensure year transitioning into one of the master of science nursing specialties. The program leading to the PhD in nursing prepares scholars who are capable of conducting culturally appropriate clinical scholarship and teaching in nursing educational programs. The program leading to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) prepares experts in specialized advanced nursing practice focused on evidence based practice, quality improvement, and systems leadership.

2. **Department of Dental Hygiene – Org Code: MADH**

The Department of Dental Hygiene offers a baccalaureate program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree. The bachelor of science in dental hygiene qualifies students for admission to the national and state board dental hygiene examinations and maximizes opportunity for students to continue their education in graduate dental hygiene, public health, education, or other programs, or dental school.

**Aw International Center for Health and Healing Education – Org Code: MACHHE**

**Introduction:** The Aw International Center for Health and Healing Education shares the missions of education, research, practice and service with the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene and the broader University community.

**Major Functions:** Provides interdisciplinary and experiential programs. Develops academic and cultural enrichment initiatives that assist in understanding and enhancing solutions for human health. Develops new and experimental models of education. Offers programs which combine the latest advancements in health and healing theory with healing skills; and the Visiting Fellows Program which is a healing-based research and study program focusing on theory, methods, and application of the healing praxis models and mentored research. Develops complementary and alternative directions for clinical care models through strategic planning efforts. Provides a focal point for innovative work in nursing education and interdisciplinary professional development, with an emphasis on complementary and alternative health and healing practices.
Conducts or participates in research initiatives. Develops databases to assist health agencies and ministries to develop national strategic plans. Maintains a global support program to provide information to improve nursing practices and enhance the role of the nurse in the health care delivery system.

(The Center is currently not in operation.)

Hawai‘i State Center for Nursing – Org Code: MAHSCN

Introduction: The Hawai‘i State Legislature in 2003 created the Hawai‘i State Center for Nursing (Act 198, HB 422) to address nursing workforce issues.

Major Functions: The center for nursing shall: (1) collect and analyze data and prepare and disseminate written reports and recommendations regarding the current and future status and trends for the nursing workforce; (2) conduct research on best practices and quality outcomes; (3) develop a plan for implementing strategies to recruit and retain nurses; and (4) research, analyze, and report data related to the retention of the nursing workforce.