STATE OF HAWAII
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA
ORGANIZED RESEARCH
PACIFIC BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER

MAJOR FUNCTIONS

Director

Directs activities and personnel in the Pacific Biomedical Research Center. The primary mission of the research institute is scholarly research in general and specifically biomedical interdisciplinary research, whether basic or applied and oriented to Hawaii’s or Federal needs. Changes in the latter and getting the right mix for Hawaii provides the challenges and opportunities to develop new programs, expand or contract existing programs. All programs have at least one element in common - they involve more than one scientific discipline and hence are outside of the prerogative and experience of departmental research efforts but may involve individuals from them.

The Director coordinates the research activities of the institute generally by identifying potential cross-linkages and unnecessary duplication of research efforts or research support efforts. This is particularly important in PBRC which has a number of seemingly unrelated research functions which currently are:- the Kewalo Laboratory for experimental cell biology, the Bekesy Laboratory for Neurobiology, the Behavioral Biology program, two minority undergraduate research programs (MBRS and MARC), the Newborn Psychology Laboratory, the Arbovirus Program, the Hawaiian Evolutionary Biology Program and the Biotechnology Program, a joint program of PBRC and HIIANR also serving the biotechnology needs of PICHTR. A central Biological Electron Microscopy Facility and two workshops serves the needs of PBRC and other faculty in the University.

The major function of PBRC is research, focussed onto the areas titled above. Another function of PBRC is secondary and consequent on locating
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elements of a research institute firmly in a university setting. This secondary function is teaching, both didactic and at the bench training, of undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral students in the academic basis and actuality of problem solving in biomedicine. Active researchers can best instill the disciplines of the scientific method into the intellectually curious student.

Staff Offices

Plans and executes support activities in areas of fiscal, personnel and budget, for all research undertaken by the Center. Provides fiscal services to faculty engaged in extramurally funded research.

Historical and apparent ambiguities are that position no. 82730 (0.66) functions in the SPH and position no. 83868 (1.0) in the School of Medicine. Conversely the Director functions in PRRC (0.5) and School of Medicine (0.5).