Aloha, Distinguished Members!

I am George F. Stowe III. I wanted to submit a testimony; being in complete favor of the proposal for UH West Oahu’s Creative Media dept. receiving their own BA degree designation.

Thank you in advance.
Gratefully,
George F. Stowe III

Distinction of Designation UHWO Creative Media BA Degree.docx
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Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee

First and foremost, I want to give The Most High, Yahawa, His Son, Yahawashi, and also His Holy Spirit great praise for affording me this opportunity to be able to address the Committee on behalf, not only of myself, but the next generation of imaginative hearts and its creative minds.

Dearest Members of the Committee, it is my earnest endeavor to convey my heartfelt appreciation for your gracious audience, as well as your compassionate consideration, towards my voice being the whisper that precedes the winds of change. A conveyance, if articulated effectively, would not only plead for the need of your endorsement, but will adequately supply the octane necessary to arrive at the same conclusion as the entire Creative Media department at UH West Oahu, by the end of this hearing.

This destination of thought, is the distinction of degree for its Creative Media department. which is prayerfully being declared another celebrated groundbreaking event in 2019 for UH West Oahu. Thereby, being forever independent from the all-encompassing Humanities concentration, as we know it to be. Graduating CM students would, once and for all, possess a creative-specific designation that is uniquely tailored to their educated areas of “Arts” within the Bachelors of Arts curriculum. And for all those, being in strong support of this bold and innovating endeavor, it would prove not only to be a good thing, a timely thing, but a sure thing for huge returns in occupational dividends. First, to the graduates and then to those who subscribe to the concept of paying forward.

Being fully aware of the gravity and sanctity of this very moment, I address the Committee with a professional reverence for the many years of service to our academic communities and the vast amounts of wisdom attained, from said selfless service. I am sure, with the Committee knowing more than most, how a vision without the supportive aid of provision, simply collapses. Therefore, I raise my voice through my bias fingertips, to personally ask for help from a governing body that has proven itself to being a strong proponent for changes that are viewed as cutting-edge.
Regretless, I stand completely crushed under the sheer weight of responsibility, and helplessly pushed by an academic obligation to voice my opinion on such a critical piece of student body legislation. In other words, there is too much at stake, to sit idly by, thinking change for the better is just going to happen. Even the lottery teaches us, in order to win, we first have to play. Frankly, if I do not stand in favor of this degree designation for CM at the beginning of Spring, then come the end of it, I myself, will fall victim to an ambiguous description that I fought so hard to distinguish myself against.

Members, I am aware, the petitioning of this CM degree designation, from Bachelors of Art Humanities to Bachelors of Art Creative Media, possesses all the necessary ingredients, the apprehension from uncharted territory ventured and the external pressure from unforeseeable benefits by others, would constitute this petition being named and subsequentially reference as a bonified paradigm shifting phenomenon.

This never before seen, however, often dreamt about “Game-Changer” has long captivated the Creative’s hearts and minds of UH West Oahu for quite some time now. Regardless of what side of the designing table the hopeful elect stands, if ratified, the tangibility of a once faith-based proposal would undoubtedly be retained, by all parties involved, as an “attitude of gratitude” for having been awarded the distinct pleasure of being the 1st recipients of a truly unforgettable blessing.

Members, despite the many years of strategizing, the hours of dialoging and the many inches of shoe leather worn due to the beating of the streets to bring us to this point, there is still much work to be done. Knowing that a cause, worthy or otherwise, cannot be sustained without the aid of supportive people, your “Gift of Presence” committee members, is now being respectfully requested to be the broad shoulders needed to carry our faith to a distinctive fruition.

Understanding, the ownness falls on the CM dept. to effectively shed the much-needed light of significance on this dimly-lit concerns that deals with its academic affairs of heart. Especially, a heart that beats very passionately to the tempo of distinction of designation for a degree program. One, that will forever change the way our current Creatives and future graduating ones are perceived and received by their perspective employers within a CM field. Nevertheless, this task becomes a labor-of-love when presenting to a governing body who maintains an eagerness of ear for the
advancement of creative excellence and an offered hand in support of sustaining scholastic success strategies of UH West Oahu’s educational endeavors.

Realistically, it is next to impossible to quantify the importance of clarity. However, one can only assume that all perspective employers would greatly benefit from this decisive move towards distinction. For if an employer were to know concretely, without shadows of doubt, that crucial positions and key roles in the company were being applied too and subsequently filled by Creatives who have been specifically designated and effectively trained for these openings, “priceless” would be the sentiment, and sound sleep would be the result.

In Conclusion:

This proposal for progress, initiative of innovation, would single-handedly galvanize the wherewithal capable of dispersing any clouds of confusion about UH West Oahu student’s creative ability as well as their educational endowment. In short, it will utterly eradicate any ambiguousness of one’s educational or situational exposure to modern day CM challenges being faced today. This soon celebrated achievement will be made possible by the plainly spelling out, in black and white, the educated rationale and the ensuing plan of attack that an UH West Oahu student or alumni, will use on a perspective employer’s CM dilemma.

Let us be clear. This specific designation, BA Creative Media, showcases nothing less than a graduate’s exemplary work ethic, an exhibition of their driven dedication, and a stretched capacity to receive more creative ability towards their occupational achievement. Bare in mind, all of which has been, and presently still, is being meticulously orchestrated and systematically implemented by the steady and advocating hands of Sharla Hanaoka, Asst. Director of the Creative Media program.

Although, we may live on one, no one person is an island. Therefore, being accompanied by an array of other like-minded professionals, unapologetically, these gifted mentors exhibit a collaborative spirit of success that is not only seen, but can be actually felt. If truth be told, I believe this designation is as equally important to the instructors, as well as with the students.

Arguably, this distinction of designation ensures that the instructor’s countless hour of selfless empowerment, in and out of the classroom, will not be thwarted by the right words not being said or the wrong words being mis-read. Rather, it will not only open-up the “doors of possibilities” and
the “windows of opportunities” but it will blow them clean off their hinges. Whether applying for or climbing the corporate ladder within the occupational field of Creative Media; because a decisive move towards a designation of distinction, was made here today.

Members, thank you ever so much for valued time and your compassionate consideration towards our proposed cause for change.

Thank you in advance,
George F. Stowe III
CM Senior Class of Spring 19’
Hi,

Attached is my testimony in support of the proposed Bachelor of Science in Natural Sciences degree at the University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu.

Thank you,

Alena Figueroa
Dear University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents,

I am Alena Figueroa, and I am a sophomore at the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu. When I first began my undergraduate studies at the University of Hawai‘i - West O‘ahu in the Fall of 2017, I was not sure what subject I wanted to pursue. The second semester of my freshmen year, I decided to take Math 241 (Calculus I), and I am incredibly glad I did. I was eager to learn and felt as though I found a field that I could not only succeed in but also, more importantly, be passionate about. Since then, I have continued to take math classes and grown to love the field even more. The campus’ addition of a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Sciences with a concentration in Applied Mathematics would allow me to follow my aspirations and interests in math. I yearn to contribute to the STEM community with immense enthusiasm and dedication. As an Ewa Beach resident, this degree would offer me the opportunity to study what I love without an unnecessary compute as well. Additionally, a BS in Natural Sciences degree would provide me with the preparation I need to flourish as a graduate student after my undergraduate schooling. I would be delighted for UHWO to add this degree and strongly support its implementation.

Thank you and best regards.

Alena Figueroa
Testimony for UHWO BSNS Degree

Christa Gogue <christag@hawaii.edu>  
To: bor@hawaii.edu  

Wed, Feb 13, 2019 at 8:19 AM

To Whom It May Concern

Aloha! My name is Christa Gogue. I am a junior currently pursuing a BA degree in Humanities-Mathematics at the University of Hawai‘i West O‘ahu. Throughout my academic career, my passion and enthusiasm for mathematics have grown exponentially. UH West O‘ahu has facilitated my mathematics journey by providing courses and professors that never cease to support my aspirations. I plan on becoming a higher level math teacher, however the pursuit of graduate school could open up potential opportunities to become a college professor. Personally, a BSNS degree program at West O‘ahu would allow me to submit a more competitive application to future graduate schools. Additionally, a BSNS degree would promote the STEM field for West O‘ahu students, like myself, who share a love of math and science.
Aloha e,

I am a student at UHWO in support of the stated proposed degree (BS in Natural Science with a Concentration in Applied Mathematics). Attached is my written testimony.

Mahalo,
Victoria Penalver
Aloha e Board of Regents,

My name is Victoria Penalver and I am a student at the University of West Oahu. I am also an applied mathematics major under the school’s current BA in Humanities degree path. I would like you to support the BS in Natural Science with a concentration in Applied Mathematics degree being proposed. This proposed degree will a stepping stone to expand the science based courses that UHWO provides. By expanding on the science courses the degree would make also be making a career in the field of science more accessible to students on the West side.

As a current student pursuing a BA in Humanities with a concentration in Applied Mathematics I highly recommend that the proposed BS degree be approved. I am planning to further my education by going to grad school after I obtain my bachelors. Therefore, I have been trying to take as many courses to not only fulfill my degree requirements, but to also prepare me for the rigors of grad school. Since my current degree path only includes the basic general education level of science courses, I have had to add on extra science classes to my already full schedule. I feel that for graduate school it is just as important to have a strong foundation in science as it is to have one in mathematics. Personally, I would like this degree to be implemented at UHWO so that I could switch degree paths to the BS and have the science courses already included into my degree rather than having to add them in myself.

This proposed degree would also be beneficial in opening the doors to even more science based degrees and courses at UHWO, as well as making such degrees more accessible for students on the West side. As a small school, there are a limited number of options for students wishing to obtain a bachelor’s degree. Implementing this BS in Natural Science would allow for the expansion of the school’s science based degrees which will in turn directly benefit many of the West side students. I know several students who wish to pursue careers in fields such as engineering and microbiology but are unable to do so at West Oahu. Thus, they attend UHWO for a couple of years only to then transfer out to Manoa to finish their degrees. This not only hurts West Oahu’s retention rates but also causes a lot of inconvenience for the students. Many of these students are concurrently taking courses at West Oahu and LCC because some of the basic science courses they need are not offered at West Oahu. As a result, a large portion of their day consists of driving back and forth between the campuses. Approving this degree would benefit the school by helping to increase the retention rates and would in turn benefit the students by making a degree in the science field more accessible. I would greatly appreciate your support and consideration on the proposed BS in Natural Science.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mahalo,

Victoria Penalver
My name is Justin De Los Reyes and I am a West O'ahu junior pursuing a degree in Humanities-Mathematics. I am currently part of a family-owned bakery business that occupies most of my time outside of school. Although the family bakery offers a future career that will provide stability, my time at West O'ahu has allowed me to explore my interests in mathematics and science. The introduction of a BSNS program would help me to further my education in the STEM field and provide more opportunities to discover careers outside of the bakery. It is important that a university offers programs to help students follow their aspirations rather than settle for careers that fail to ignite their passions.
Ricardo Custodio <ricardo8@hawaii.edu>
To: bor@hawaii.edu

Wed, Feb 13, 2019 at 8:45 AM

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February 13, 2019

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE BS DEGREE IN NATURAL SCIENCE

Aloha,

I am an Associate Professor of Health Science at UH West Oahu. After practicing pediatrics for over 35 years, I came out of retirement to build the Health Science Program. Working at the Kalihi-Palama (1981 to present) and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Centers (2002 to 2013), made me realize that students on the West Side of Oahu are educationally underserved.

Comparing the East (Waialae, Kahala, Hawaii Kai) and West (Waianae, Nanakuli, Makaha) sides of Oahu, median income is $50,000/year versus $18,000/year, but most striking is that percent of population with bachelor’s degrees is 56% versus 8%. Youth on the West Side need more opportunities for careers that pay a sustainable wage ($78,500 for a family of four). Today, their best chance at independence is working minimum wage in retail stores or hotels.

A Bachelor degree of Science in Natural Science (BSNS), is a great step towards gaining equity. After teaching for three years, I know the UH West Oahu undergraduate students are capable. These are the students that will get the BSNS degree, go to graduate school and come back to serve their communities as future doctors, pharmacists, physician assistants, physical therapists, occupational therapists and scientists.

I wholeheartedly support approval of a BSNS degree for UH West Oahu.

Sincerely,

Custodio

Ricardo C. Custodio, M.D., M.P.H.
Associate Professor and Faculty Lead of Health Science, University of Hawaii West Oahu
Pediatrician, Kalihi-Palama Health Center
Founder, Former Associate Professor & Regional Director of Medical Education, A.T. Still's University School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona, Waianae Community Campus
Former Medical & Training Director, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center
Reede Scholar in Minority Health Policy, Harvard University