Written testimony for BOR meeting Sunday, April 26

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Replay-To: mhodapp@hawaii.edu  
To: bor@hawaii.edu  
Fri, Apr 24, 2015 at 2:27 PM

Dear Board of Regents,

I am writing in support of the construction of the thirty meter telescope on Maunakea. I am submitting this in writing because as a seriously disabled student, I do not have the stamina to sit for several hours. In addition, I am worried that I would not be able to get in and out of the meeting unimpeded as my needs dictate.

I am a UH Hilo student and support the construction of the TMT.

I recognize the cultural significance Native Hawaiians attach to Maunakea. It is my understanding that the TMT project has attempted to respect this fact as much as is feasible to the point of constructing the telescope in a lower quality location on the mountain. The TMT will be the telescope furthest removed from the actual summit.

It gives me great pride that the island of Hawai‘i is known worldwide for its astronomy and not just for the beautiful scenery and that our small university system conducts world-class science. I sincerely hope that Hawai‘i will maintain this status and believe that the TMT will ensure that for many years to come.

Mahalo
Martin Hodapp