To Board Members,

My name is Cassandra Lee Hōkūikekai Smith. I have lived in the islands my entire life. As a graduate of the Hawaiian Language Department at UH Mānoa I am deeply troubled by the Universities decision to support the TMT project. No amount of “scientific” research can justify the desecration that is occurring on Mauna a Wākea. No amount of money provided from the project to the community will heal the hurt of our people. This mountain one of the most sacred places on Earth, not just Hawai‘i, and also is the source from which our islands water comes. Are you willing to risk polluting our aquifer so your children don’t have clean drinking water? I have seen the construction on the mountain, there is already rubbish from construction material and oil leaking from the heavy machinery. Please put an end to this madness. Listen to the people, not the corporations. UH cannot call its self a place a Hawaiian learning and continue its support for development on the Mauna.

Mālama pono,

Hōkūikekai Smith