



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII  
SYSTEM

Board of Regents <bor@hawaii.edu>

---

## testimony for BOR meeting

---

**Christine Sorensen** <sorens@hawaii.edu>  
To: Board of Regents <bor@hawaii.edu>  
Cc: David Lassner <david@hawaii.edu>

Wed, Feb 21, 2018 at 10:46 PM

Attached

--

Christine K. Sorensen Irvine  
Professor, Learning Design and Technology  
College of Education  
University of Hawaii at Manoa



**BOR Testimony February 2018.docx**  
337K

**Board of Regents Testimony  
February 2018  
Christine Sorensen Irvine  
Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee**

As I indicated in my testimony last month, discussion at the January Mānoa Faculty Senate meeting focused on whether the positions of System president and Mānoa Chancellor should remain separate, be joined, or have a Vice President position at the UH System for Mānoa. Because of the unique political conditions in Hawaii, the faculty in January expressed a willingness to consider all three options rather than only the separate Chancellor and President positions.

This Wednesday (February 21) the Committee on Administration and Budget (CAB) of the Mānoa Faculty Senate proposed a resolution (appended to this testimony) supporting the recombination of the two roles subject to a review of a detailed proposal of the planned reorganization of the Mānoa Administrative structure. While the vote was not unanimous, the motion passed with 76% in support, 17% opposed, and 7% abstaining. There were of course a number of questions, one of which was should the Board of Regents decide to move in this direction, how might System offices also be reorganized to reduce current duplications.

While many faculty firmly believe in the ideal world a world class research university would have its own independent leader focused only on that institution, it seems the majority have come to the conclusion that even though we may believe that, the current context in which we exist seems to pose great challenges to that model, as evidenced by the history of churn at the chancellor level during the years when the System and Mānoa positions have been separate and periods of relative stability when they were combined. Evidence of that pattern can be seen in the chart appended to this testimony.

The openness to the recombining of these positions does not in any way imply approval of any particular administrative reorganization proposal and indeed is predicated on faculty review and approval through the regular process of a full proposal for reorganization. In other words, such a recombination would only be approved (or disapproved) formally by faculty as part of a full review of a reorganization proposal. This motion simply conveys that we are open to considering such an option.

We look forward to continued discussion with administration on the shape of a future Mānoa structure.

Finally, since I see that facilities and campus master planning are part of the agenda today, we would advocate for progress in improving Mānoa's buildings and grounds so that students and faculty and staff can study and work in an environment appropriate for a world-class university. We need classrooms and laboratories that reflect the standards of today and incorporate the technologies we need to be effective. There is much to be done!

Thank you for your time and attention.

## **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RECOMBINATION OF THE SYSTEM PRESIDENT AND MĀNOA CHANCELLOR POSITIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the stability of the Administrative structure of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa is vital to enable it to fulfill its flagship role as a leading center of scholarship where excellence in research, teaching and public service are brought together to provide a world-class education for Hawaii’s future leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, during the 17 years since the positions of System President and Mānoa Chancellor were separated, there have been 3 permanent and 4 interim Chancellors serving under 4 Presidents with mixed success; and

**WHEREAS**, during the preceding 16 years when the positions were combined there were 2 Chancellors at Mānoa, also serving as System President;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa’s Faculty Senate views with interest the basic concept of combining the two positions subject to a review of a detailed proposal of the planned reorganization of the Mānoa Administrative structure.

**Relatively Recent History – DRAFT 2**

Separate (Approximate Chancellor History)			Combined			Separate		
Year	UH President	UHM Chancellor	Year	UH President	UHM Chancellor	Year	UH President	UHM Chancellor
1972	Cleveland	Gorter	1984	Simone	Simone	2001	Dobelle	Neubauer
1973	Cleveland	Gorter	1985	Simone	Simone	2002	Dobelle	Neubauer
1974	Matsuda	Gorter	1986	Simone	Simone	2003	Dobelle	Englert
1975	Matsuda	Yamamura	1987	Simone	Simone	2004	McClain	Englert
1976	Matsuda	Yamamura	1988	Simone	Simone	2005	McClain	Englert
1977	Matsuda	Yamamura	1989	Simone	Simone	2006	McClain	Konan
1978	Matsuda	Yamamura	1990	Simone	Simone	2007	McClain	Konan
1979	Matsuda	McKaughan	1991	Simone	Simone	2008	McClain	Hinshaw
1980	Matsuda	Long	1992	Simone	Simone	2009	Greenwood	Hinshaw
1981	Matsuda	Long	1993	Mortimer	Mortimer	2010	Greenwood	Hinshaw
1982	Matsuda	Anderson	1994	Mortimer	Mortimer	2011	Greenwood	Hinshaw
1983	Matsuda	Kosaki	1995	Mortimer	Mortimer	2012	Greenwood	Apple
			1996	Mortimer	Mortimer	2013	Greenwood	Apple
			1997	Mortimer	Mortimer	2014	Lassner	Bley-Vroman
			1998	Mortimer	Mortimer	2015	Lassner	Bley-Vroman
			1999	Mortimer	Mortimer	2016	Lassner	Lassner
			2000	Mortimer	Mortimer	2017	Lassner	Lassner

**Notes:**

- 1) Includes interim and acting periods of service
- 2) Partial years of service in position not fully depicted
- 3) Chancellor information during the Matsuda presidency may not be complete