Aug 2 Mauna Kea

Cory Harden <333cory@gmail.com>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Aloha Board of Regents, please urge TMT to go to the Canary Islands. Fifty years of mismanagement is enough. The resurgence of the nation of Hawai'i is unstoppable. mahalo, Cory Harden, Hilo
Dear Board of Regents,

I, Keoki Nalu Nunies, an alumnus of University of Hawaii at Manoa, class of 2001, humbly ask that you stop considering Mauna Kea as the Thirty Meter Telescope site. I believe if you destroy the established rules for two plus millenia, within two millenia Ka Moku o Keawe will be an unrecognizable wasteland.

Sincerely,
The Rev. Dr. Keoki Nalu Nunies, D.D., MBA, MA
Aloha from Kaua‘i, it was an honor and a privileged to go to Mauna Kea this weekend, and witness the beauty and strength of the Hawaiian culture in a growing force of positivity and truth.

I oppose the building of the TMT project on top of Mauna Kea, and truly hope the project moves to the Canary Islands where it is welcomed with open arms.

Mahalo nui,

Thomas Kelleher
Waipake, Kaua‘i
Opposed to TMT

Ku'ulei Malohi <kuuleiawapuhi@gmail.com>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu  

Mon, Jul 29, 2019 at 11:18 PM

Aloha mai ka lā hiki a ka lā kau,

I implore the board of regents to everything within your power to halt the desecration of Papa a Wākea, push for the removal of defunct and/or obsolete telescopes from Mauna Kea, and complete contracts with the existing 13 telescopes’ stakeholders for their logical dismantling. I am not against science or discovery of our universe and beyond, but for me, here is the line and now I take action. I believe the priority to protect and improve the environment should be higher than the intellectual aspirations of the few.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Andrea Kuuleiawapuhi Malohi  
Ph# (808) 391-8173
To the University of Hawaii Board of Regents:

We are writing to you with great concern regarding the desecration of Mauna Kea by University of Hawaii astronomy programs. As residents of Hilo and parents of a UH Hilo Senior class of 2020, we feel the University has over-reached with their powers by deliberately evading the needs of Hawaiian descendants who so deeply desire to protect their sacred ground and so strongly oppose the development on Mauna Kea. There is an extensive history of abuse and misuse of Hawaiian culture and land. Is it not our responsibility as stewards of the land to rightfully respect the wishes of indigenous people?

TMT has been opposed by native Hawaiians and Aloha Aina long before its inception. The University has long been aware of the parties that vehemently oppose construction on the mountain, but time after time the University chooses to quash indigenous rights with bully building. It’s time to do much better. Having true responsibility doesn’t mean repeating the same abuse of power over and over again.

Pacific Resource Partnership and Katherine Kealoha, a convicted conspiracist and obstructionist - who is waiting on trials for fraud and identity theft, then abuse of power and drug distribution charges, are both tied to TMT and the Honolulu rail project. We all know what a disaster the mismanagement of the Honolulu rail project is. Many citizens of the State of Hawaii have no doubt that certain payoffs occurred to green light these expensive and destructive projects. Will all of Hawaii have to pay for this sacrilegious telescope through our property taxes when TMT’s construction funds run dry, just as Hawaii residents are paying for the Honolulu rail?

The time has come for the University of Hawaii to step up and use their power not to circumvent the wishes of indigenous people, but to repair the damage done by previous leaders who have woefully soiled the honor of so many students and educators who would prefer to not have the stains of cultural genocide on their baccalaureate, masters and doctorate degrees. As citizens, taxpayers and tuition payers, we prefer to not have this atrocity on our hands.

The time has come to right the wrongs of the past with a vote to kindly pass TMT to the alternate location at Las Palmas. Fortunately for TMT, the Guanches were extinguished centuries ago. TMT could be constructed in the Canary Islands without any indigenous opposition.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Heather and Jay Lyman
Hilo, Hawaii
heddalyman@gmail.com
jyman03@gmail.com
Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Ashley Kūpau and I am an alumni for the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa where I graduated with my BA in Communications and Multimedia. During my time at UH, I was able to take elective courses in Native Hawaiian Studies and Political Science. My favorite time during UH was where I participated in the Nā Koʻokoʻo Program. This is where I was introduced to my Kumu Noe Noe Goodyear-Kaʻopua. With my experience in the Nā Koʻokoʻo program, I have gained a passion for my culture, my people, and Hawai'i overall.

I stand with the lāhui on Mauna a Wākea. I believe that choosing to desecrate our Mauna, our piko, we are choosing to desecrate our culture and who we are. We stand united. We stand together. We stand for one another.

E ola ka lāhui o Hawai'i.

Mahlao piha,

Ashley K. Kupau

--

Ashley K. Kupau
ashleykupau@gmail.com
(808) 294-4043
Dear board,

It is a disgrace what is happening here.

STOP any development of the TMT

Mauna Kea is sacred,

1000's are gathering for that cause

and all you want is building yet something

you will leave again soon

as you have done before.

STOP TMT

Listen to your heart not your money purse.

Carley Fonville
I oppose the building of TMT on Trust lands that I am a beneficiary of as a Kanaka.

Jenny estrella
Hello,
My name is Elizabeth Bennett and I am a proud alumna of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am a sister to two scientists and the daughter of a homemaker and an attorney. I have grown up with a love for science and for science fiction -- both means for which humanity can seek to improve its station. This love grounds me -- and with this grounding, I write to vehemently oppose the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope on Mauna a Wākea. The process of constructing the telescope is based on racist, violent conduct towards Kanaka Māoli. It is a shame that people are attempting to pit science against the (vibrant, alive, and thriving) lifeways of the people who are stewards to the land upon which this University is built. Science must be done with the consent of those whom it affects. The wishes of the Kanaka Māoli are not being heard; they are the stewards of this land, and they know it better than we do. They know what kind of havoc will be wreaked on the unique ecosystem of the Mauna. I implore you to listen to the Kanaka and their allies.
Respectfully,
Elizabeth Bennett
To Whom It May Concern,

I am sure this testimony will be one of many that come to you all in opposition of the construction of TMT at Mauna Kea. I doubt there will be any more information in this e-mail that I can provide that isn't already knowledge of everyone making the decision to move forward with construction.

However, we must try.

This is not a fight against science, this is not a fight against the telescope, but it's a fight for a nation to save their culture. A culture that has been poked at, prodded at, silenced, mocked, desecrated, and have had multiple attempts at elimination.

I mean, come on, what do the Hawaiian people really have???? What can the people of this nation truly call their own??? Hawaiian's have been nothing but kind and cooperative over so many years. They fight peaceful protests. They work with what little is left to them after being chewed up and spat out from the mouths of foreigners. How much more can continue to be taken?

Yes, the telescope will help America benefit in it's "top," stature as a leading science nation.... But as a reminder, Hawai'i is NOT America. Hawai'i is ILLEGALLY a part of a nation that is notorious for STEALING LAND FROM INDIGENOUS PEOPLE.

Plain and simple, Mauna Kea is a sacred place for the people of these islands. It is their culture, their religion, their blood; EVERYTHING. You cannot desecrate such a scared place!

If the most recent amount of support is not enough... I don't know what will be. The amount support and cries there are; is way too much to ignore. If this telescope is built... It will definitely make history, but not in the way I'm sure scientists would like to make history....

I'm sure you have all your "Scientific reasoning," as to why science outweighs culture... outweighs people... outweighs lives... But I'm sure the scientists and doctors back in Auschwitz had the same mentality when they practiced genetic medical experiments on human beings. This is no different.

You are hurting lives. You are hurting a nation. And you are supporting the cease of a culture, who only prevails 100x more when they are faced with adversity.

I kindly ask that you please reconsider this project... I'm sure a lot of money and time has gone into it... But these are PEOPLE and their future!!!

Mahalo Nui,

Tyler Tanaka
Imua, President David Lassner!

Ruth Robison <rrobison@hawaii.edu>  
To: David Lassner <david@hawaii.edu>, bor.testimony@hawaii.edu  

To President David Lassner and the UH Board of Regents:

I retired from UH Hilo as the International Student Advisor in 2010. My husband retired from Hawaii CC in 2004. I attended UH Manoa and earned my BA, MEd & PhD there. So, I worked for UH for 28 years and was a student for 10. I love UH.

I truly believe that David Lassner is the best president UH has ever had and that UH is lucky to have him. He knows so much about IT. When he was the head of IT for UH he held HERN conferences and brought the faculty up to speed in this crucial area. My husband took what he learned at HERN 95 and helped other faculty members - many in Hawaiian Studies - learn how to enhance their teaching on the Web.

Dr. Lassner started working at UH in 1977. He knows the landscape and has many dear friends of Hawaiian ancestry. I am sure that the letter asking for his resignation signed by 800 people is an arrow in his heart.

I strongly support Dr. David Lassner in his role as president of UH. We don't want to lose him.

Aloha, Ruth Robison, PhD

--
Ruth E. Robison
International Educator (Retired)
743 Kaumana Drive Bldg B * Hilo, HI 96720-1876 * USA
Phone (808) 935.7991
My name is Kahala Johnson, I am a member of the Board of Kweens at Puuhuluhulu University. Tell Lassner that before he resigns, he needs to make sure TMT stays off our mauna.
Agenda Item IID. "Appointment of a Permitted Interaction Group to Investigate Issues and Make Recommendations Related to Mauna Kea Governance" is on the agenda!

Hey gurl hey,

Ya'll digged yourselves a helluva grave so we, the Board of Kweenz at Puuhuluhulu University, are here to advise you, our less sequinned counterparts, so that you don't get clocked for colonialism.

Can I get an amen? Hail Satan.

So let's spill some tea. We affirm our Kiai braddahs, titahs, braddahtitahs, and titahbraddahs from the Puuhonua when they say we don't want no TMT on our mauna. It ain't that hard to understand. We have come to your BoRing ass meetings with our signs warning you that the arrests of UH students, faculty, and staff would be imminent. We sent our non-kanaka allies to tell you the same damn thing. Gurl, don't make me get some Asgard aliens or some shit to come testify at your next forum cuz trust we will drag queen slayyyyy you.

And don't act like ya'll weren't texting the security guards on us like Barbecue Becky, we saw what you did.

As for your boy Lassner, gurl, you better drop him like Lil Nas X dropped the fact that he one of us. Fo real. Aside from criminalizing Hawaiians on campus with that petty letter and completely ignoring us during his campus reorganization powerpoint, honest to Lucifer, he cannot dance hula, never trust a man whose ‘ami step look like he skipping his Centrum Silver Bones and Joints daily vitamin dose. Don't believe me? See it for yourselves, I always keep my receipts:

Citation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LSPVvl3YVx0

Gurl, you know us. Time to glue yo edges down and make the right decision.

All Tea All Shade,

The Board of Kweenz, Puuhuluhulu University
(Your more cosmically fabulous counterparts)

P.S. Roberts Rules were never in season, ya'll need to change that shit up, jus sayin
I submit this statement as testimony that I oppose the construction of the TMT (thirty meter telescope) in Hawai'i. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because Mauna Kea is of upmost environmental and cultural importance. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because Mauna Kea has already swallowed chemical and oil spills from other projects at the summit, in addition irreparable damage to cultural sites. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because Mauna Kea is not just a symbol of an ancestor, it is our scientific beginning. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because thousands of kanaka who have been largely disenfranchised from their land rights oppose this project. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because I oppose placing business before science. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because I oppose putting business before ethics. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because I oppose the mistreatment and erasure of the Hawaiian people. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because I oppose putting foreign financial interests before the wellness of our community. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because the stewardship of Mauna Kea needs to be reevaluated before any construction continues. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because in 1998, 2005, 2014, and 2017 the University of Hawai'i faced critical audits for their mismanagement of Mauna Kea. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because I oppose putting strategy and business before the wellness of the residents of Hawai'i island. I oppose the TMT project on Mauna Kea, because Mauna Kea's aquifers have 400-440 million gallons of water flowing to all parts of Hawai'i island.
Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo, I come from Papakōlea, O'ahu, but I currently live in Kaimukī. I am a masters student her at UH Mānoa in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning.

I am writing in to comment on the Board of Regents meeting for Friday, August 2, 2019 on Agenda Item IIID. "Appointment of a Permitted Interaction Group to Investigate Issues and Make Recommendations Related to Mauna Kea Governance".

The UH system and Board of Regents must be held accountable to your responsibilities to us YOUR constituents all of which are within the UH system and the communities in which you all serve.

We have expressed time and time again that we do NOT want the TMT to be built on Maunakea.

As quoted from the July 19th open letter issued by UH Student Caucus to the fake state governor Ige quote, “Since the announcement of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) being built on Mauna Kea, there has been continuous demonstrations from an extensive majority of our constituents demanding the cessation of the TMT. Constituents present in demonstrations include UH faculty, staff, and students as well as community members, conservationist, and educational institutions outside of the UH system. Demonstrations have been done throughout the state as well as nationally and internationally by a wide population inclusive of many different indigenous cultures. For years, the TMT has caused numerous negative impacts on our constituents and communities. Although we recognize your need to balance the input from multiple entities and constituents, the vast majority has expressed their opposition to the TMT being built on Mauna Kea.

...We demand that you hold yourself accountable to your responsibility to the people of Hawai'i...The abundance of evidence is clear, the immense majority of our constituents that we serve oppose the TMT and it is not ever to be constructed on Mauna Kea.”

I write and stand in allegiance with the student caucus' message to the fake state of Hawai‘i governor.

As the Board of Regents you all are responsible to abide by the best interest of your constituents and take the assertion of your constituency to stop the desecration of Mauna Kea and Hawai‘i. You must honor and support the preservation and advancement of the culture, land, and people of Hawai‘i nei.

I oppose the permitted interaction group and I demand that you all require and make mandatory everything in regards to TMT and Maunakea to be in open meetings with the guidelines of the sunshine law.

KŪ KIA‘I MAUNA.

--

Nanea Lo
Urban and Regional Planning MA - UH Mānoa - SP 2020
Phone: (808)454-3504
Email: naneaclo@hawaii.edu
https://www.linkedin.com/in/naneaclo
http://socialsciences.hawaii.edu/nhi/
‘O ke kino ka hale e noho ai ka ‘uhana o ke kānaka
E ‘īmi mau i ke ola kino maika’i
E mālālamau i ka ikaika o ke kino
E ‘ai i ka mea ‘ai maika’i
E ‘īmi mau i ka na’auao - ‘ōlelo no’eau
Hello I would like to voice my option that I do not want the TMT to be built on our sacred Mauna A Wakea. I believe that it is wrong both spiritually and economically. I do NOT want TMT.

Aubrie Usui
Dear Board of Regents,

I would like to first of all express my appreciation for the excellent education I received at UH in the General and Medical Sciences.

As an alumna and physician I would like to add my voice in support of those standing in opposition to the TMT.

There are many facets to my support of the Mauna Kea Protectors but in the interest of brevity here I will mention just two of them.

Firstly, the land in question belongs to the Kanaka Maoli. The Native Hawaiian majority voice is very clear on their wishes in this matter. Their opposition to the TMT being built on Mauna Kea is impossible to dismiss if one carefully and honestly listens to and looks at what is being demonstrated not only in Hawaii, but worldwide.

Secondly, as a practicing physician in the field of psychiatry the past thirty years I can say with utmost certainty that the world needs Kapu Aloha and Malama Aina most desperately. A giant telescope, not so much.

I would ask you to please listen carefully to the Mauna Kea Protectors and then look into your own hearts as you contemplate this issue of building a TMT on Mauna Kea.

I would like to share these quotes:

From Astronomer Carl Saga (on the view of Earth from space):

“...it underscores our responsibility to deal more kindly with one another and to preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known.” In other words: Kapu Aloha and Malama Aina.

And this from a theologian, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin:
“Someday, after we have mastered the winds, the tides and gravity, we shall harness the energies of love. Then, for the second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire.”

Please listen to the wisdom of the Kanaka Maoli. Science divorced from wisdom is just a very bad idea.

Sincerely,

Pamela Jones, M. D.

JABSOM Class of 1989
Against TMT

Nohealani Hirahara <nohea@nativestories.org>                               Wed, Jul 31, 2019 at 7:38 AM
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

To UH Board of Regents
This is a written testimony to show my opposition to building the thirty meter telescope and to support proper management of the mauna per the original agreement.

UH is responsible for the growth of the students and was given this responsibility. Do what is right. Do what you said you were going to do by taking care of the mountain. Do not build the new or more telescopes.

Nohealani Hirahara

Sent from my iPhone with Aloha
To the Board of Regents,

In regards to the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project, I do not support this continuation. I am a graduate of 2017 from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. From this journey I have learned about the Hawaiian culture. This is a sacred and beautiful culture and deserves to be respected. Many, if not all, Hawaiians do not support this project as it is destroying a cherished piece of the land and ultimately who they are.

Thank you for your time,

Adora Klinestiver
Testimony - TMT

Alana Dias <alanamichelledias@gmail.com>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu  
Wed, Jul 31, 2019 at 10:10 AM

Aloha Board of Regents,

I graduated from UH Manoa in 2009 with an MA in Social Psychology. The incredible Psychology faculty helped open my eyes to the oppression faced by Native Hawaiians. The same year I graduated, I married a man with Hawaiian blood and we now have two beautiful Kanaka Maoli children.

I strongly, vehemently, absolutely OPPOSE building any more telescopes on Mauna Kea without the approval of the Kia‘i Mauna. Hawaiians have been manipulated, tricked, and taken advantage of for too long now. Times are changing and I would hate to be associated with a school that is on the wrong side of history.

Please take a stance against building the TMT on Mauna Kea. It is what the students and alumni want and, more importantly, it is what the Hawaiian people want.

Make the right choice. Think ahead and do what's right.

Sincerely,
Alana Dias
Protect Mauna Kea

Sina P. Pili <pili.sina.p@gmail.com>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Wed, Jul 31, 2019 at 11:40 AM

To: UH Board of Regents

I oppose the building of TMT as it desecrates sacred lands to the Native Hawaiians. It appears that UH is money driven and allowing this greed to consume the consideration of relocation even with majority of Native Hawaiians opposing the building because the cultural sacredness of this land site is not important to UH. It is disgusting that UH has allowed this long of mismanagement of the landsite. Please malama and make things right. TMT has a second option, build TMT there.

I oppose the building of TMT.

--

Mahalo,

Sina P. Pili
Testimony against TMT

Carolyn Canubida <ululani42@yahoo.com>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

I am proud to be a Native Hawaiian with an advanced degree from the University of Hawaii and who has been an instructor at Honolulu Community College. As a Native Hawaiian, I am also a protector of Mauna Kea and oppose the building of TMT. While I acknowledge the need for advancement in science and astronomy, why does this advancement have to occur on Mauna Kea, considered sacred by Native Hawaiians?

Proponents for the TMT suggest that the TMT will create jobs for Hawaii residents and boost our economy. It’s true that construction jobs will be plentiful during construction of the TMT for the next 10 years. What assurances do we have that local residents will fill those jobs? How many of those jobs will be offered to Hawaii residents and how many to residents elsewhere since parts for the TMT will be built elsewhere? Furthermore, once completed, how many of the 140 positions will be recruited from Hawaii residents versus applicants from other countries responsible for building the structure?

I’m curious as to how many employees of the 13 existing telescopes were local residents before they were hired? Are the local residents professional/scientific staff or maintenance staff? Answers to these questions could support or oppose my concern.

I urge you to oppose the building of TMT on Mauna Kea! Build TMT elsewhere and give other citizens the jobs that are created. Don’t desecrate Mauna Kea anymore than it already has been!

Mahalo for allowing me to express my beliefs!

Carolyn U. Canubida, MA-SPA  
98-947 Kahapili St.  
Aiea, HI. 96701

Sent from my iPhone
A'ole TMT

christy valledor <cvalledor808@gmail.com>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu  

Aloha,

I am against TMT building on Mauna Kea in any shape or form. Mauna Kea is sacred land to us. TMT has options to build elsewhere. The people have spoken and you can see the large number of people who are against this. Use the other options presented. Do not build on Mauna Kea.

Mahalo,  
Christy Valledor  

Sent from my iPad
In opposition of the TMT on Mauna Kea for the UH BOR meeting 8/2/19

Surfside Deli Young <surfsidedeli@gmail.com>    Wed, Jul 31, 2019 at 6:29 PM
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

> On Jul 23, 2019, at 7:55 PM, Surfside Deli Young <surfsidedeli@gmail.com> wrote:
> 
> > To Whom it May Concern:
> > 
> > Aloha,
> > > My name is Kam Yai Pascher, I am 33 years old and I live in Haiku, Maui with my husband and two children. I oppose the Thirty Meter Telescope for multiple reasons.
> > > 1. Mauna a Wakea is a sacred place and is culturally significant not only for Hawaii but for all of Polynesia. It's cultural significance is comparable to the great Pyramids in Egypt, Manchu Pichu, Mount Everest, Arlington Cemetery and etc. With out a doubt the stewards and nations of these great places would not allow a 18 story high (180ft)(we can't even fathom what 18 stories high is because buildings that large are not legal on our outer island homes) 3 foot ball fields in cleared land area and 60 ft deep) monstrosity on their sacred places where the bones of their ancestors lie. You don't just carefully excavate that much earth with a shovel and a brush, you use large explosives.
> > > 2. The sheer size of the project and the environmental impact it will have on the delicate ecosystem (the top of a watershed.) How can this project be considered for a place designated for conservation?
> > > 3. The EIS was signed through by Prosecutor Kealoha who's fraudulent history should make her power of signature contestable.
> > > 4. UH has failed as stewards of the Mauna
> > > -They have failed to make the Mauna's interest their top priority, putting economic stimulus before the environment
> > > -They have failed to facilitate proper dialogue with the Hawaiian community for decisions made for the Mauna
> > > -They have inadequately cared for the existing telescopes which are dilapidating away, allowing chemical, sewage and oil spills to occur.
> > > -I would suggest asking Kahookahi Kanuha to assemble a management team to take over the lease. In these past few weeks, the Mauna has seen more aloha, protocol, and the respect and care it deserves then it has in the last 50 years of the University of Hawaii's mismanagement.
> > > 5. In 5-10 years maybe even sooner the TMT technology will be obsolete and then what? Why waste the time, money, and create conflict and division among the people of Hawaii? Why do we want to let what is basically a business entity who shows they have immoral business practices as they divide our community come do business in such a sacred place?
> > 
> > At this point I think everybody is just so sick of hearing about TMT!! Please help us terminate this project and be done with it.
> > Mahalo for your time,
> > Kam Yai Pascher
Oppose Thirty Meter Telescope on Mauna Kea UH BOR Meeting 8/2/19

Kam Yai Pascher <mauicones@gmail.com>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu  
Wed, Jul 31, 2019 at 6:42 PM

Aloha,

My name is Henry Pascher, I am 31 years old from Haiku, Maui and I oppose the TMT on top of Mauna Kea. As the Lease Holders/Stewards of Mauna Kea please put the Mauna’s well being and the interest of Hawaii’s indigenous people first. Please help terminate this project.

Mahalo for your time,

Henry Pascher
Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Bronson Azama and I am a student at James B. Castle High school. I would like to encourage the Board of Regents to read my testimony and reconsider decisions made regarding the future of Mauna A Wākea and future UH management of the Mountain.

Below is the attached testimony

Me Ke Aloha,
Bronson Azama
Dear UH Board of Regents or to whom it may concern,

Aloha my name is Bronson Azama and I am a student at James B. Castle High School. I would like to clearly state that I condemn the actions and am against the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT). Not only am I against the telescope, but I am against UH and its proposed Administrative Rules for Mauna A Wākea commonly referred to as Mauna Kea.

With heavy opposition to the construction of TMT it would be in the University of Hawai‘i’s best interest to say “TMT should be built someplace else.” The construction of TMT would have adverse effects on the environment, as well as Kānaka Maoli (Native Hawaiians). The environmental effects include the destruction of native habitat, including the endangered wēkiu bug habitat, as well as numerous other native plant species. Not only would native habitat be damaged, but the construction TMT threatens a highly important water aquifer for the Island of Hawai‘i. A five-thousand (5,000) gallon underground tank for waste storage is included in the construction plan, which if it was to leak would gravely threaten drinking water, which is taken from Mauna A Wākea’s aquifer. Another concern is the harmful chemicals that TMT will use including mercury which if consumed even in small amounts can cause numerous health problems. Knowing the risk to human and environmental health, I would strongly advise the University of Hawai‘i to no longer follow through with the construction of TMT.

Outside of the physical damages that will come with TMT are the emotional and spiritual. Many Native Hawaiians including myself view Mauna A Wākea as sacred. The Hawaiian Universe, is a universe of familial relations meaning we view the natural world as ‘Ohana, as family. Mauna A Wākea is looked to as a Kūpuna, an ancestor. Understanding the Hawaiian view of the natural world and the universe around them is an essential part in understanding the significant impacts this project would have on cultural practitioners and Native Hawaiians.
Moving forward with the project would be looked at as a complete disregard for Native Hawaiian cultural beliefs and practices. There are numerous beliefs that tie Native Hawaiians to the land, Hawaiian cultural practitioners in all essence are intertwined with the land. To simply put it you cannot have Hawaiian culture without the land, or as we say without the ʻĀina. To lose one is to lose the other, thus if TMT is constructed it would be in all aspects committing cultural genocide as you split two parts that make a whole and that belong together. The social impacts construction would have on Kānaka Maoli would be irreversible and would lead to effects that I personally cannot predict, for me it would feel empty if that makes sense, lost in the world not knowing your place who you are and in all aspects, helpless and hopeless.

Moving on to the proposed UH Administrative rules I would like to condemn the constant delay in the decision making process. It has become of extreme worry and we hope that adequate changes are made after numerous recommendations in the second round of testimony. Not having the same failure to make adequate changes outside of the Traditional and Customary Rights section of the proposed administrative rules. These rules seemed geared to target Kānaka Maoli who have continued to express their religious and cultural beliefs. The actions of Kānaka Maoli regarding cultural practice are in fact legal by law, and many of the rules proposed would limit their rights and violate state, national, and international laws that give Kānaka Maoli rights to practice their beliefs, culture, and religion. I would also like to say that not only are cultural and indigenous rights being violated through these rules, but human rights as well. Requirements for permits to access the mountain, to record, and to conduct cultural and recreational activities are ridiculous. Even the fact that there is an adult to child ratio for access on the mountain is sickening, the University of Hawaiʻi cannot and should not make such rules as Mauna Kea sits on Public Lands and Ceded, better referred to as seized lands. Given this information there should be a section that clearly states that cultural practitioners and Kānaka
Maoli are exempt from such rules. These rules should be designed to protect people and the environment and not the special interests of foreign entities who operate on the mountain.

The bottom line truth of what I ask for is that the Board of Regents listen to the people of this land, who largely oppose the UH proposed Administrative Rules and the construction of TMT. It is and always should be the UH Board of Regents interest be for the benefit of locals and not to foreign entities outside of Hawai‘i. So stand with us in solidarity with our people, with our environment, and with what is pono, what is right and announce that the construction of TMT will no longer continue.

Mahalo Nui,

Bronson Azama
Please consider attached testimony

Anela Evans <anelae@hawaii.edu>       Wed, Jul 31, 2019 at 9:38 PM
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Aloha,
Thank you for your acceptance of the attached document.

Aloha ʻĀina,
Anela Evans

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35K
Aloha mai to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai‘i,

My name is Anela Evans. I am a graduate of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. I have the privilege of holding a Master of Arts degree in Hawaiian Studies from Hawai‘inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge. I also have the privilege of serving as a lecturer of Hawaiian Language at the University of Hawai‘i Maui College. I am very honored to be trusted with the role of perpetuating ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i. I am writing to express my support of my esteemed Kumu, teachers and professors, hoa papa, peers, and others who stand in protection of Mauna Kea, a geographic feature that is revered as sacred. Please do not be deceived in the idea that the Kia‘i who stand to protect Mauna Kea and those of us who oppose the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope are against the advancement of science. Science, after all, may be simply defined as, “the intellectual and practical activity encompassing the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment.” If this is an accepted definition, then one may very much conclude that our culture, as well as the culture of all indigenous people around the world, is science. Our methodologies and epistemologies are based on hundreds, if not thousands, of years of observation of the environment, experimentation, and development of best practices. This is evident, especially, in several Hawaiian ingenuities, such as kilo, or traditional way finding, development of lo‘i kalo, or terraced taro pond fields, and loko i‘a, or fishponds. Thus, it may be further concluded that we, as Kanaka ‘Ōiwi, descendents of ancestors who successfully engineered and implemented these innovations, originate from a people who were among the greatest scientists in the world! I am not against science, but I kindly request that the integrity of the Hawaiian culture and the environment is not severely compromised for the advancement of science.

I would also like to echo the sentiment of Kaleikoa Ka‘eo, Associate Professor of Hawaiian Studies at University of Hawai‘i Maui College. In the press conference that was broadcast this afternoon from Pu‘uhonua o Pu‘uhuluhulu, Professor Ka‘eo urged your esteemed Board to recall the words that comprise the motto of the University of Hawai‘i, enscribed on the University seal: “Maluna a'e o nā lāhui a pau, ke ola o ke kānaka — Above all nations is humanity.” I humbly ask that you are mindful of these words if and when the fate of the Thirty Meter Telescope on Mauna Kea is decided. Please urge the State of Hawai‘i to allow
the project to relocate to La Palma, Canary Islands, where it may proceed without opposition.

I can assure you that if this project persists in Hawai‘i, it will further contribute to the systemic racism and generational trauma that Kānaka ‘Ōiwi have been subject to since 1778. I will further assure you that despite this racism and trauma, we will continue to persist in the beliefs and practices of our ancestors. We will continue to stand firm in the protection of our sacred mountain. As Kamehameha III, Kauikeaouli, proclaimed on this day in 1843, “Ua mau ke ea o ka ‘āina i ka pono. — The sovereignty and life of the land is preserved because of righteousness.” The indigenous people of Hawai‘i have persisted, we are thriving, and we will continue to grow because we hold true to what is right.”

Kū Kia‘i Mauna. Aloha ‘Āina.

Me ke aloha,

Anela Evans
Testimony for Special Board of Regents Meeting- Mauna a Wakea

Sarah Hamid <shamid@hawaii.edu>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu  
Wed, Jul 31, 2019 at 10:28 PM

Dear Board of Regents,

Hello and aloha. My name is Sarah Michal Hamid, and I am an undergraduate student at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, currently pursuing a double major in Women's Studies and Sustainability Studies. In addition to participating in both degree programs, I am also a student researcher and undergraduate outreach coordinator/assistant on the SMART Ala Wai Project. SMART Ala Wai is a project intended to map out the Ala Wai watershed and better understand water, sediment, and nutrient flow. As an outreach assistant I work with K-12 classrooms all over Honolulu and present the research and work we do back at UH. I present about placed based understandings of science, the importance of ethical research, and the ways in which culture and ancestral knowledge impact our understandings of science and what kind of science is prioritized. In order to hold this position, I have thoroughly examined case studies of research that does just that, and not only does everything previously mentioned, but respects the local and often Indigenous people. TMT does not do that, not at all, and it is absolutely sick to see the UH Board of Regents supporting such a project, knowing full well community sentiment about Mauna Kea. You have had over 50 years to correct the wrong that was done when UH initially "identified" Mauna Kea as an ideal location for the TMT. You have had decades to not just listen, but act on what the students, staff, faculty, and community at large have been yelling, for years. Yet here we are today, over 55 years later, still attending your meetings and submitting testimony, we are not going away, but TMT will. It is up to the BOR to decided whether or not this will be done through your power, or if it will be done, as it is being currently done, by the people. I would strongly urge you to tap into your humanity and recognize the deep and painful outrage expressed by the Hawaiian community, but I also know that it does not make a difference to this board, because this hurt and pain has been expressed for decades, to no avail. It is a shameful act to support the TMT, it is an act of supporting desecration, cultural genocide, and the poisoning of the lands and water of Hawai‘i Island. I urge you to immediately call for the stop of attempted discussion, and also incorporate the feedback from the community into the proposed rules and guidelines. Support the people you are supposed to represent. A'OLE TMT.

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Sincerely,

Sarah Michal Hamid
Women's Studies & Sustainability Studies Undergraduate Student at UH Mānoa
Matsunaga Peace Scholar 2019
SMART Ala Wai Community Outreach Research Assistant
August 2, 2019

Manu Kaiama <ckaiama@hawaii.edu>
To: BOR.testimony@hawaii.edu

Thu, Aug 1, 2019 at 8:43 AM

UH BOR Public Testimony regarding AGENDA ITEM III D.docx
13K
Public Testimony regarding AGENDA ITEM III D:

“Appointment of a Permitted Interaction Group to Investigate Issues and Make Recommendations Related to Maunakea Governance”

Aloha Mai Kakou e Board of Regents,

It is hard to understand your desire to create a permitted interaction group of regents to make findings and recommendations to the full board “regarding the development of a statement expressing principles supported by the board as it pertains to Maunakea.” What do you believe this will do? What is your desired outcome?

This is a waste of your time. This is yet another diversion. You are missing the point.

As a constructive suggestion, your committee’s time would be better spent on speeding up the transfer of this monstrosity to the Canary Islands, since as you claim, they are ready and willing to take it. Spend time on figuring out how you can fund the removal of other observatories on the Mountain, as a show of a true commitment to your required “stewardship” of this sacred land. Figure out how to deal with the “conflicts of interest” which are coming to light now within your own leadership.

This is just the beginning of what you may want to spend your valuable time on, rather than creating more levels of useless bureaucracy.

Respectfully submitted,

Manu Kaiama

Hawaiinuiakea, Kamakakuokalani