April 13, 2020

University of Hawai’i
Board of Regents
2444 Dole Street Bachman 209
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

RE: MEETING DATED APRIL 16, 2020
SUPPORT DEAN CAMILLE A. NELSON, UH LAW SCHOOL

Dear University of Hawaii Board of Regents:

I am President of The African American Lawyers Association (AALA) in Hawai’i. I understand that Dean Camille A. Nelson has been recommended to be the next Dean for the William S. Richardson School of Law. Our organization has heard excellent things about Dean Nelson from our members and friends in the legal community. We urge you to please approve this recommendation and make her the next Dean of Richardson School of Law. She will add diversity, scholarship and enhance the law school’s reputation. She was the first black woman to Clerk at the Supreme Court of Canada and the first to become a Dean at Suffolk University of Law School. Her specialty is Intersection of Critically Race Theory in Cultural Studies. She was born in Jamaica, an island nation which makes it more fitting that she come to the Hawai’ian Islands to teach and provide guidance at UH Law School. She would be very comfortable with island life in addition to adding expert academia at UH in critical race theory. We look forward to having her as the Dean at the UH Law School. Should you have questions or concerns feel free to contact me by email at daphnebarbee@gmail.com. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Daphne E. Barbee
Attorney at Law
President
African American Lawyers Association of Hawai’i
Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.

Your Name (required) *
Mari

Your Organization (optional)
Matsuda

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *
Mmatsuda@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *
VII.E. Personnel Actions (A-1 for Approval)

Your Position (required) *
Support

Your Testimony/Comments

This testimony respectfully supports the appointment of Camille Nelson as Dean of the William S. Richardson School of Law. As an alum, a faculty member, and Advisory Search Committee Member I have had a chance to compare this candidate to the field and feel confident that President Lassner has selected a dean who will bring acclaim and success to our law school. She is a committed scholar and experienced administrator with strengths in the much-needed areas and strategic planning and fund raising. In addition she understands our unique mission as the only law school in Hawai‘i, and our strong commitment to serving the least advantaged. In these troubled times, having an experienced leader with a strong commitment to justice is exactly what we need. It is truly an honor to have served on the search committee that recommended this candidate for consideration, and I believe our school stands in good hands if her appointment is confirmed.

Thank you for consideration of this testimony.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)
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Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.

Your Name (required) *
Letani Peltier

Your Organization (optional)

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *
letani@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *
VII.E. Personnel Actions (A-1 for Approval)

Your Position (required) *
Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Aloha mai,

My name is Letani Peltier. I am a 2017 graduate of the William S. Richardson School of Law, and I am currently a legal fellow at Ka Huli Ao Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law. I attended Camille Nelson's community presentation at the law school on January 22, 2020, and I also interviewed her as part of Kuliʻi Council on January 23, 2020.

I respectfully submit testimony in strong support of Camille Nelson's appointment to Dean of the William S. Richardson School of Law. Ms. Nelson is thoughtful, perceptive, and inspiring. She has a solid grasp of the values that serve as the foundation of our law school. Not only will she be a welcome addition, but, quite frankly, we are lucky to have attracted such a prestigious candidate.

I understand that the University is enacting a hiring freeze due to the current crisis related to COVID-19. However, the current crisis is one of the reason's why the Board of Regents should act to confirm Ms. Nelson's appointment as soon as possible. The coming year will be challenging to say the least, and the law school needs a new dean to provide a new perspective and guide us through uncertain times. No other option would adequately substitute for the leadership that
Ms. Nelson would bring to the law school. To delay this hire any further would most certainly result in a huge loss of morale at the law school.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this incredibly important matter.

-Letani Peltier

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In continuation of my recent email points, I would like to remind you that UH has heard from all of us in the community numerous times about your ability, or lack of to manage, take care of Mauna Kea. It falls on deaf ears.

Therefore, I will make this short and to the point, it is extremely callous, calculating, inappropriate and lacking in any understanding of these islands for you to be talking about, considering any decisions about Mauna Kea at this time. There is a pandemic crisis happening, well documented. When people are going to be asked to take pay cuts, some totally unemployed... to tout building telescopes will solve any of these issues is an example of why UH is not aloha `āina in any way and sets a dangerous precedent. We see you, we know your paths and will continue to remind you that Mauna Kea is not yours and the TMT will not be built.

The astronomy department is NOT the only one at UH. I do have to commend you, the BOR, you take the Hawaiʻi Supreme Court's decision to heart, like them you believe what can one more injury, desecration or destruction hurt something that has already been injured numerous times before. Time to change your lens, don't you think?

C. Burghardt
Testimony Opposing Agenda Items V.C. and V.D. - April 16, 2020

1 message

Wendell Perry <wperry@hawaii.edu>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu  

Wed, Apr 15, 2020 at 11:00 PM

Attached is my testimony in opposition to your April 16, 2020 agenda items V.C. and V.D. You can reach me on this email if you have questions or have time to engage on the issues.

Peace through struggle,
Kekailoa.

“education either functions as an instrument which is used to facilitate integration of the younger generation into the logic of the present system and bring about conformity or it becomes the practice of freedom, the means by which men and women deal critically and creatively with reality and discover how to participate in the transformation of their world.” - Paulo Freire

KPerry BOR Testimony April 2020 Meeting.pdf
67K
Testimony Opposing the
University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents Actions Relating to
April 2020 Agenda Items V.C. through V.D.

April 16, 2020

Send Via Email Attachment to bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

TO:       The University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents
           2444 Dole Street, Bachman 209

FR:       Kekailoa Perry
           Sequestered due to Covid 19

I am Kekailoa Perry, a citizen of the Hawaiian Kingdom and Associate Professor at
Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies. My testimony opposes all BOR action relating to the
BOR agenda items V.C through V.D.

1. In the past 10 months the UH BOR and Administration have done significant damage to our
Hawaiian community by silencing our voices, downplaying our cultural concerns and allowing
racist attacks to enjoy structural protections in the name of free speech (see my previous
emails, letters and testimonies). The UH BOR and administration’s draft strategic plan
pretentiously appropriates kanaka ‘oiwi (native Hawaiian) political, cultural and linguistic
identity by claiming that the UH will be an Aloha ‘Āina university. Your proposed plan is abusive
and traumatizing to our communities. The UH BOR and administration’s actions here are
hypocritical and do not -- even remotely -- reflect Aloha ‘Āina.

2. Your insistence on possessing the traditional Hawaiian practice of Aloha ‘Āina is appalling. Your
past (and present) actions on matters concerning Hawaiian lands and culture shamefully
contradict the function and purpose of Aloha ‘Āina. To demonstrate a more clear commitment
to Aloha ‘Āina, the UH BOR and administration must take these first steps and actions:

   (1) End and reverse all actions relating to agenda items V.C. through V.D.

   (2) End all policies that support the building of TMT on Maunakea.

   (3) Create a policy that ends all future development and reverses current developments on
       sacred Hawaiian lands.

3. Holding decision making meetings on the TMT and other critical matters that will impact the
Hawaiian community at this time is equivalent to weaponizing the stay at home orders and
health fears of our community in ways that will limit our full participation in the BOR processes.
That is not Aloha ‘Āina.

4. Aloha ‘Āina is not one of those cultural items on the buffet line where the UH BOR and
administration can pick the meanings that suit their tastes. Aloha ‘Āina does not belong to the
UH. The BOR and administration’s attempt to claim Aloha ‘Āina is perverse. To wit: your actions
in support of the TMT shows a deceitful approach that will further the abuse of our culture,
society, lands, natural resources and people. Please stop your lies. Maunakea and Aloha ‘Āina
are not the properties of UH and are not for sale.

Kerry Perry Testimony Opposing Items V.C to V.D.
Page 1 of 1
Aloha,
I strongly oppose the attempted renewal of the master lease for the Mauna Kea summit area. This is not pono, especially at this time.
Also, public comment needs to be included in online meetings.
Mahalo.
Laulani Teale
--
me ke aloha, Laulani Teale