Aloha,
Please find my testimony attached.

---
Monica K. Esquivel PhD RDN CSSD
Assistant Professor
Dietetics Program Director (UHM Dietetics Website & UHM ISPP Website)
Click HERE for Dietetics Advising Appointments
Department of Human Nutrition Food and Animal Sciences
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
University of Hawai‘i Mānoa
1955 East West Road Ag Sci 314 L
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
monicake@hawaii.edu
P: (808) 956-8691

I am a settler on this ‘āina who now calls Kaneohe home. I acknowledge that the ‘āina on which we gather at University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, is part of the larger territory recognized by Indigenous Hawaiians as their ancestral grandmother, Papahānaumoku. I recognize that generations of Indigenous Hawaiians and their knowledge systems shaped Hawai‘i in sustainable ways that allows me to enjoy these gifts today. For this I am grateful and I seek to support the varied strategies that the Indigenous peoples of Hawai‘i are using to protect their land and their communities, and I commit to dedicating time and resources to working in solidarity. Mahalo.
April 12, 2022

Dear UH Board of Regents,

It is with enthusiasm that I write in support of the Nutritional Sciences PhD program’s application to permanent status. I am a graduate of the program, Spring 2015, and now faculty within the Department of Human Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences. The program has positively impacted my career and provided me with the opportunity to serve my community through enhanced nutrition programs and research, and in the training of students who will become Registered Dietitians. This is the only program in the Pacific Region that offers doctoral training in Nutritional Sciences, which is important for training individuals with the skills in addressing the nutritional needs of individuals living in the region. Food is of course basic to all people; unique properties of local regional and tropical foods and their relationship to health and connections to the land and sea that it comes from are important. UHM needs the program. Furthermore, food and nutrition training are part of our responsibility as a Native Hawaiian serving institution, and as a land grant institution. Food and nutrition are at the core of an agricultural college like CTAHR, and a land grant university like Manoa.

Sincerely,

Monica K Esquivel PhD RDN CSSD
Assistant Professor & Dietetics Program Director
Board of Regents,

On behalf of Eric Gill, Financial Secretary-Treasurer of UNITE HERE Local 5, please find the attached testimonial in support of the Labor Studies Program at CLEAR.

Sincerely,

Marsha Bruhn
Executive Assistant to Eric Gill
UNITE HERE Local 5
1516 S King St
Honolulu, HI 96826
mbruhn@5.unitehere.org

Office: (808) 941-2141 ext 264
Mobile: (808) 284-6635

Testimony - Labor Studies  CLEAR.PDF
110K
April 15, 2022

Via email only: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
2444 Dole Street, Bachman Hall, Room 209
Honolulu, HI 96822

Re: Labor Studies Program at CLEAR

Dear Board of Regents:

UNITE HERE Local 5 is in full support of establishing a labor studies certification program through the Center for Labor Education and Research. It is sorely needed, and in fact, long overdue.

Hawaii’s working people were the most essential moving force as Hawaii grew from our former two-crop plantation economy into a diverse modern economy with greater opportunities and options for our youth. It was Hawaii’s workers that retired the former colonial white-supremacist, racially segregated social and political oligarchy, allowing Hawaii to become a global model of racial integration and harmony. And it was Hawaii’s workers that struggled to establish full access to quality education for all, including the establishment of a statewide unified school system and a world-class university system.

This social progress was delivered when Hawaii’s workers organized themselves successfully into unions and were able to generate skilled and dedicated leaders. Everyone in Hawaii has benefited from the historical strength of organized labor.

Today, we need that strength more than ever before. The need for knowledgeable, educated and dedicated leaders for Hawaii’s workers is immediate and urgent.

The University must address this urgent need in order to fulfill its mission in our community.

UH has already responded to the needs of Hawaii’s businesses, establishing entire colleges for business and management training. It’s time that UH put similar resources into training leaders and skilled professionals to serve Hawaii’s working people.
Although establishing a certification program through CLEAR is not sufficient in itself to address Hawaii's needs, it is an essential and critical first step. We urge the University to support CLEAR in establishing a Labor Certificate program.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Eric Gill
Financial Secretary-Treasurer
UNITE HERE Local 5

cc: clear@hawaii.edu
     lalopez@hawaii.edu
Testimony in support of CLEAR Labor Studies Certificate program

Rep. Amy A. Perruso <repperruso@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
To: "bor.testimony@hawaii.edu" <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>  
Cc: "clear@hawaii.edu" <clear@hawaii.edu>  
Thu, Apr 14, 2022 at 1:24 PM

Alloha Board members,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of the Labor Studies Certificate at the Center for Labor Education & Research at UH West Oahu. Please find my testimony attached.

Thank you,

Representative Amy Perruso

Perruso- CLEAR letter of support.pdf
166K
April 14, 2022

University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
2444 Dole Street, Bachman Hall, Room 209
Honolulu, HI 96822

Aloha esteemed board members,

As a legislator, social studies teacher and former Hawai‘i State Teachers Association union leader, I strongly support the establishment of the Labor Studies certificate program at the University of Hawai‘i West O‘ahu’s Center for Labor Education and Research.

This certificate program would fulfill the purpose of CLEAR as established in statute under HRS 304A-160, to “develop and implement a labor studies degree program or programs in the University of Hawai‘i System”. Beyond statutory obligations, this program will be a huge contribution to our island community. With nearly half of Hawai‘i households struggling to make ends meet, labor education is essential to the strengthening of workers’ rights and the advancement of economic justice here in the islands.

This program reflects years of planning with important stakeholders in Hawai‘i’s labor movement. The proposed program proposal would not only provide opportunities for students to develop real world relationships with the labor movement, but would also allow unionized workers to further their education and leadership skills through distance learning.

I fully support the establishment of this unique credit program at the University of Hawai‘i at West O‘ahu and wholeheartedly believe that it will produce important benefits not only for the UH community, but for all workers in Hawai‘i.

Mahalo nui,

Representative Amy Perruso
Dear Board of Regents,

My name is Hershel Weiner and I am a second year undergraduate at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa pursuing a Bachelors of Science in Physics with a minor in Astrophysics. I have been funded both by the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program and the Hawaii Space Grant Consortium to conduct research in astroparticle physics. The reason I chose to pursue a minor in Astrophysics is because of the applicability of the subjects covered in the program towards many fields of study. The UHM Astrophysics program lays a foundation for and develops my skills in areas of study highly relevant to my future career as a researcher in particle physics such as optics, atomic/nuclear physics, and quantum mechanics. My newest research project works with neutrino detectors searching for neutrinos originating from distant supernovae, a process which was taught in one of my Astronomy courses this semester.

Having grown up in Hawai‘i, I was taught about Hawaiian history. I was taught about the native population’s traditional techniques of navigation using the stars and the deep cultural significance of the sky in the formation of our world. It is the University of Hawai‘i’s responsibility to conduct increasingly deeper investigations of our universe while engaging with the native Hawaiian community to preserve Hawaiian culture. This is done with the education of the native population through the University of Hawai‘i’s Astronomy and Astrophysics programs.

It is for these reasons that I am testifying in support of the Astronomy and Astrophysics programs at the University of Hawai‘i.

Sincerely,
Hershel Weiner
**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.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Name (required) *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eric Gill</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Organization (optional)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unite Here, Local 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:mbruhn@5.unitehere.org">mbruhn@5.unitehere.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASA IV.G. Recommend Board Approval of a New Provisional Certificate in Labor Studies at the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Position (required) *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Testimony/Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Please see attached.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Testimony (pdf or word)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Testimony - Labor Studies CLEAR.pdf</strong> (115.0 kB)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
April 15, 2022

Via email only: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
2444 Dole Street, Bachman Hall, Room 209
Honolulu, HI 96822

Re: Labor Studies Program at CLEAR

Dear Board of Regents:

UNITE HERE Local 5 is in full support of establishing a labor studies certification program through the Center for Labor Education and Research. It is sorely needed, and in fact, long overdue.

Hawaii’s working people were the most essential moving force as Hawaii grew from our former two-crop plantation economy into a diverse modern economy with greater opportunities and options for our youth. It was Hawaii’s workers that retired the former colonial white-supremacist, racially segregated social and political oligarchy, allowing Hawaii to become a global model of racial integration and harmony. And it was Hawaii’s workers that struggled to establish full access to quality education for all, including the establishment of a statewide unified school system and a world-class university system.

This social progress was delivered when Hawaii’s workers organized themselves successfully into unions and were able to generate skilled and dedicated leaders. Everyone in Hawaii has benefited from the historical strength of organized labor.

Today, we need that strength more than ever before. The need for knowledgeable, educated and dedicated leaders for Hawaii’s workers is immediate and urgent.

The University must address this urgent need in order to fulfill its mission in our community.

UH has already responded to the needs of Hawaii’s businesses, establishing entire colleges for business and management training. It’s time that UH put similar resources into training leaders and skilled professionals to serve Hawaii’s working people.
Although establishing a certification program through CLEAR is not sufficient in itself to address Hawaii's needs, it is an essential and critical first step. We urge the University to support CLEAR in establishing a Labor Certificate program.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Eric Gill
Financial Secretary-Treasurer
UNITE HERE Local 5

cc: clear@hawaii.edu
lalopez@hawaii.edu
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) *
Rep. Amy Perruso

Your Organization (optional)

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *
repperruso@capitol.hawaii.gov

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *
ASA IV.G. Recommend Board Approval of a New Provisional Certificate in Labor Studies at the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu

Your Position (required) *
Support

Your Testimony/Comments
Please see attached.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)
Perruso- CLEAR letter of support.pdf (169.1 kB)
April 14, 2022

University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
2444 Dole Street, Bachman Hall, Room 209
Honolulu, HI 96822

Aloha esteemed board members,

As a legislator, social studies teacher and former Hawai‘i State Teachers Association union leader, I strongly support the establishment of the Labor Studies certificate program at the University of Hawai‘i West O‘ahu’s Center for Labor Education and Research.

This certificate program would fulfill the purpose of CLEAR as established in statute under HRS 304A-160, to “develop and implement a labor studies degree program or programs in the University of Hawai‘i System”. Beyond statutory obligations, this program will be a huge contribution to our island community. With nearly half of Hawai‘i households struggling to make ends meet, labor education is essential to the strengthening of workers’ rights and the advancement of economic justice here in the islands.

This program reflects years of planning with important stakeholders in Hawai‘i’s labor movement. The proposed program proposal would not only provide opportunities for students to develop real world relationships with the labor movement, but would also allow unionized workers to further their education and leadership skills through distance learning.

I fully support the establishment of this unique credit program at the University of Hawai‘i at West O‘ahu and wholeheartedly believe that it will produce important benefits not only for the UH community, but for all workers in Hawai‘i.

Mahalo nui,

Representative Amy Perruso
# 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.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Name (required) *</th>
<th>Justin Puaoi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your Organization (optional)</td>
<td>IBEW 1260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Justin_Puaoi@ibew.org">Justin_Puaoi@ibew.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *</td>
<td>ASA IV.G. Recommend Board Approval of a New Provisional Certificate in Labor Studies at the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Position (required) *</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Testimony/Comments</td>
<td>Please see attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Testimony (pdf or word)</td>
<td>[IBEW 1260 - CLEAR Proposal.pdf](IBEW_1260 CLEAR Proposal.pdf) (470.5 kB)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Aloha Randolph Moore,

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260 (IBEW 1260) is comprised of nearly 3,000 hardworking union members. Our members are a diverse workforce that largely consist of highly skilled and trained individuals working 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to generate and transmit electricity here in the State of Hawaiʻi.

IBEW 1260 is in SUPPORT of The Center for Labor Education and Research’s (CLEAR) proposal for a Certificate in Labor Studies at the University of Hawaiʻi – West Oʻahu. This certificate will provide remarkable career advancement opportunities for union staff as well as union members who seek union leadership. We are particularly supportive of the apprenticeship opportunities available through this program, as well as the distance education platform designed to meet the needs of working adults.

Labor education is essential at the university level as it will enhance the protection of employee rights and the fulfillment of employee responsibilities. We recognize and have experienced the difficulties faced with keeping the highly specialized skills of the high voltage electrical utility worker home, in Hawaiʻi. The demand for the high voltage electrical utility worker has skyrocketed throughout the nation as states look to reinforce their electrical infrastructure. As we move towards a renewable energy future, utilities across the nation are taking incentivizing measures to attract high voltage electrical workers to meet their labor demand. When unionized workers are educated on labor governance, structure, and leadership, labor economics, labor law, and industrial relations they are given the tools and exposed to avenues that will allow them to help keep local jobs for the local people of Hawaiʻi.

We agree that this certificate will help train and educate both non-traditional and UHWO students, union officers, stewards, and all future workers of Hawaiʻi on labor history, labor law, labor organizations, and understanding representative institutions, therefore, we support.

Sincerely,

Leroy Chincio, Jr.
Business Manager and Financial Secretary
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260
700 Bishop Street, Suite 1600
Honolulu, HI 96813
This is my written testimony about the BS in Astrophysics:

I earned my BS in Astrophysics with a minor in Mathematics from UH Manoa in Spring of 2020. I went on to graduate school in physics here as well. Personally, I found that the astrophysics degree prepared more for graduate school in astronomy than in physics, though I appreciate the astronomy I learned, as it has put me ahead in cosmology research. While applying for physics graduate programs, I ran into difficulty since I had not taken a thermodynamics class, which is only required for the physics students. My peers who did go onto graduate school in astronomy didn't have any issues like this.

I am very thankful for the research opportunities that were provided by working with faculty at the Institute for Astronomy. That was one of the best aspects of the degree. I also greatly enjoyed the outreach opportunities I was able to be involved with through the program.

I support giving the Bachelors of Science in Astrophysics established status, and encourage the astronomy undergraduate committee to continue adjusting and improving the major.

Thank you,
Alexandria Holthaus
Physics Ph.D Student
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Letter of support

Puaoi, Justin <Justin_Puaoi@ibew.org>  
To: "bor.testimony@hawaii.edu" <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>  
Mon, May 2, 2022 at 10:13 AM

Aloha Randolph G. Moore, BOR Chair

My name is Justin Puaoi, and I am an organizer for the IBEW I am in support for the certification of the Labor studies certificate. I am also wanting to kindly submit a letter of support from IBEW Local 1260 that I have attached.

Mahalo Nui,

Justin Puaoi

IBEW Lead Organizer

Cell: (808)260-0295 (call or text)

Email: Justin_Puaoi@ibew.org

“There is no substitute for hard work. Always be humble and hungry.” – Dwayne Johnson

This E-mail and any of its attachments may contain IBEW proprietary information, which is privileged, confidential, or subject to copyright belonging to IBEW. This E-mail is intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. If you have received this E-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and permanently delete the original and any copy of this E mail and any printout.

IBEW 1260 - CLEAR Proposal.pdf
460K
Aloha Randolph Moore,

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260 (IBEW 1260) is comprised of nearly 3,000 hardworking union members. Our members are a diverse workforce that largely consist of highly skilled and trained individuals working 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to generate and transmit electricity here in the State of Hawai’i.

IBEW 1260 is in SUPPORT of The Center for Labor Education and Research’s (CLEAR) proposal for a Certificate in Labor Studies at the University of Hawai’i – West O‘ahu. This certificate will provide remarkable career advancement opportunities for union staff as well as union members who seek union leadership. We are particularly supportive of the apprenticeship opportunities available through this program, as well as the distance education platform designed to meet the needs of working adults.

Labor education is essential at the university level as it will enhance the protection of employee rights and the fulfillment of employee responsibilities. We recognize and have experienced the difficulties faced with keeping the highly specialized skills of the high voltage electrical utility worker home, in Hawai’i. The demand for the high voltage electrical utility worker has skyrocketed throughout the nation as states look to reinforce their electrical infrastructure. As we move towards a renewable energy future, utilities across the nation are taking incentivizing measures to attract high voltage electrical workers to meet their labor demand. When unionized workers are educated on labor governance, structure, and leadership, labor economics, labor law, and industrial relations they are given the tools and exposed to avenues that will allow them to help keep local jobs for the local people of Hawai’i.

We agree that this certificate will help train and educate both non-traditional and UHWO students, union officers, stewards, and all future workers of Hawai’i on labor history, labor law, labor organizations, and understanding representative institutions, therefore, we support.

Sincerely,

Leroy Chincio, Jr.
Business Manager and Financial Secretary
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260
700 Bishop Street, Suite 1600
Honolulu, HI 96813
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Name (required) *</th>
<th>Osa Tui</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your Organization (optional)</td>
<td>Hawaii State Teachers Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *</td>
<td><a href="mailto:otui@hsta.org">otui@hsta.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *</td>
<td>ASA IV.G. Recommend Board Approval of a New Provisional Certificate in Labor Studies at the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Position (required) *</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Testimony/Comments</td>
<td>See attached.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[UHWO Labor Studies Certificate support (1).pdf](attachment:UHWO_Labor_Studies_Certificate_support_1.pdf) (87.6 kB)
Testimony in support of the establishment of a certificate in labor studies at UHWO

Members of the committee,

The Hawaii State Teachers Association represents more than 13,000 educators throughout the state of Hawaii who believe in the power of education. This is especially true regarding topics which so fundamentally make up the history and growth of our great state.

It is not without reason that Hawaii continues to lead the nation in union membership rates as is reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. During Hawaii’s plantation days, immigrant laborers were brought in to work the fields under brutal conditions and overseen by wealthy lunas. These lunas would stop at nothing to ensure greater profits, no matter the human rights abuses. Organizing for higher wages, better working conditions, shorter hours, freedom from discrimination, and unfair discharge were threats to the hefty profits being generated and those organizing efforts were met with fierce resistance, often through violence and intimidation.

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” The efforts of CLEAR (the Center for Labor Education and Research) at UHWO are critical in these times to ensure that we are not condemned to repeat the mistakes of the past. We can already see how the past is beginning to repeat itself with mega-corporations and the ultra-rich controlling vast stakes of our economy and wielding undue influence, all the while working to quash labor organizing. Global corporations like Starbucks and Amazon are fighting hard against unionizing efforts currently taking place. The richest person in the world, Elon Musk, has been found to have breached
labor laws when he attempted to fire a union activist from Tesla and posted anti-union messages via Twitter (the next company that he is about to own).

The pendulum is once again swinging dangerously far against the low and working classes. The practices taking place in this country are becoming increasingly reminiscent of the shameful and exploitative past practices that were found here in Hawaii. Establishing a new provisional certificate in labor studies at UHWO is one of many steps that need to be taken in order to reverse the pendulum’s momentum and shine more light on the lessons from Hawaii’s past to educate Hawaii’s present and help to ensure brighter days for all in Hawaii’s future.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Osa Tui, Jr.
President
Hawaii State Teachers Association
**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.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Name (required) *</th>
<th>Clyde Hayashi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your Organization (optional)</td>
<td>Labor Education Advisory Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cthstab@gmail.com">cthstab@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *</td>
<td>ASA IV.G. Recommend Board Approval of a New Provisional Certificate in Labor Studies at the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Position (required) *</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Testimony/Comments</td>
<td>Please see attached.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Your Testimony (pdf or word)**

[LEAC 2021 letter of support for LBST (1).pdf (112.8 kB)](LEAC_2021_letter_of_support_for_LBST_1.pdf)
15 July 2021

Chancellor Maenette Benham
University of Hawaiʻi – West Oʻahu
91-1001 Farrington Highway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Dear Chancellor Benham,

As you are aware, the Labor Education Advisory Council (LEAC) is comprised of representatives appointed by the President of the University of Hawaiʻi pursuant to State law (HRS §304A-1603) from fifteen different unions to function in an advisory capacity on all programs and activities at the Center for Labor Education & Research (CLEAR). As the chair of the Labor Education Advisory Council, I wish to express the Council’s gratitude and appreciation to you for all the support you have given to the Center for Labor Education in your tenure as UHWO Chancellor.

In particular, the council is grateful for your April 2019 approval of the planning document for the Center’s proposed Labor Studies Certificate. This certificate will provide exceptional career advancement opportunities for union staff as well as rank and file union members who aspire to union leadership. We are particularly supportive of the apprenticeship opportunities available through this program, as well as the distance education platform designed to meet the needs of working adults.

Such a program would uniquely fulfill the purpose of CLEAR as described in Hawaiʻi State Statute HRS §304A-1601: “The expressed need and desire for specialized education and training by workers and leaders of trade unions to improve their ability to intervene wisely in shaping their environment on the job, in their unions, and in the community while commendable, has neither been adequately nor effectively addressed by educational institutions of the state.”

As first expressed in our 2016 letter to then Chancellor Doris Ching, we fully and unanimously support establishment of this credit program at the University of Hawaiʻi – West Oʻahu, and we agree that this interdisciplinary design offered via distance education will help train and educate both non-traditional and UHWO students, union officers, stewards, and all future workers of Hawaiʻi on labor history, labor law, labor organizations, and understanding democratic institutions.

Mahalo,

Clyde Hayashi
Chair

Attachment: LEAC Feb. 18, 2016 letter of support

cc. Dr. J. Moniz, UHWO Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs
Dr. William J. Puette, CLEAR Director
February 18, 2016

Doris Ching, Interim Chancellor  
University of Hawai‘i - West O‘ahu  
91-1001 Farrington Highway  
Kapolei, HI 96707

Dear Dr. Ching:

At the February 17th meeting of the Labor Education Advisory Council (LEAC), we voted unanimously to support the development of Labor Studies courses and the planned certificate program at the Center for Labor Education & Research (CLEAR).

This certificate will provide exceptional career advancement opportunities for union staff as well as rank-and-file union members who aspire to union leadership. We are particularly supportive of the apprenticeship opportunities available through this program.

Such a program would uniquely fulfill the purpose of CLEAR as described in HRS §304A-1601: “The expressed need and desire for specialized education and training by workers and leaders of trade unions to improve their professional competence in order to effectively administer their affairs, to improve their ability to intervene wisely in shaping their environment on the job, in their unions, and in the community while commendable, has neither been adequately nor effectively addressed by educational institutions of the State.”

We fully support the efforts to introduce this program at the University of Hawai‘i-West O‘ahu, and we agree that this interdisciplinary design will help train and educate both non-traditional and UHWO students, union officers, stewards, and future workers of Hawai‘i on labor history, organizational development, and understanding democratic institutions.

We urge your support and that of the University of Hawai‘i system.

Sincerely,

Clyde Hayashi, Chair
Please find attached testimony.

Committee: Academic and Student Affairs

Meeting: May 5, 2022 11:00 a.m.

Agenda Item: IV. G. New Provisional Certificate in Labor Studies at UHWO

Position: SUPPORT

Mahalo,

Osa Tui, Jr. – President
Hawaii State Teachers Association
1200 Ala Kapuna St. otui@hsta.org
Honolulu, HI 96819 (808) 833-2711
Testimony in support of the establishment of a certificate in labor studies at UHWO

May 3, 2022

University of Hawaii Board of Regents
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
2444 Dole Street, Bachman 209
Honolulu, HI 96822

Members of the committee,

The Hawaii State Teachers Association represents more than 13,000 educators throughout the state of Hawaii who believe in the power of education. This is especially true regarding topics which so fundamentally make up the history and growth of our great state.

It is not without reason that Hawaii continues to lead the nation in union membership rates as is reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. During Hawaii’s plantation days, immigrant laborers were brought in to work the fields under brutal conditions and overseen by wealthy lunas. These lunas would stop at nothing to ensure greater profits, no matter the human rights abuses. Organizing for higher wages, better working conditions, shorter hours, freedom from discrimination, and unfair discharge were threats to the hefty profits being generated and those organizing efforts were met with fierce resistance, often through violence and intimidation.

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” The efforts of CLEAR (the Center for Labor Education and Research) at UHWO are critical in these times to ensure that we are not condemned to repeat the mistakes of the past. We can already see how the past is beginning to repeat itself with mega-corporations and the ultra-rich controlling vast stakes of our economy and wielding undue influence, all the while working to quash labor organizing. Global corporations like Starbucks and Amazon are fighting hard against unionizing efforts currently taking place. The richest person in the world, Elon Musk, has been found to have breached
labor laws when he attempted to fire a union activist from Tesla and posted anti-union messages via Twitter (the next company that he is about to own).

The pendulum is once again swinging dangerously far against the low and working classes. The practices taking place in this country are becoming increasingly reminiscent of the shameful and exploitative past practices that were found here in Hawaii. Establishing a new provisional certificate in labor studies at UHWO is one of many steps that need to be taken in order to reverse the pendulum’s momentum and shine more light on the lessons from Hawaii’s past to educate Hawaii’s present and help to ensure brighter days for all in Hawaii’s future.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Osa Tui, Jr.
President
Hawaii State Teachers Association
Dear ASA Committee Members:

I am writing to provide my support of reinstating the Master of Architecture (MArch) professional degree at the School of Architecture (SOA). I am a former student of the SOA's MArch program, a practicing architect in Hawaii and the founder of a local architectural firm Ferraro Choi and Associates. Our firm has had a close relationship with the SOA for over thirty years participating in the graduate internship programs and hiring many of the School’s graduates. In fact, the current principals of our firm, are all graduates of the School with Bachelor of Architecture (BArch) degrees.

Although we have recruited and employed several of the School’s Doctoral degreed (DArch) students, we believe that entry for students into the profession from the only accredited architectural program in our state should not be limited to those seeking the DArch degree. Currently only a non-professional four-year degree is offered which does not qualify for licensure. Given that our state is experiencing a brain drain of students seeking an architectural degree from outside of the state, I believe it is critical that we as a state provide an alternative to the DArch degree and allow the SOA to reinstate the MArch degree.

Thank you for your consideration of the SOA’s application and your approval of the MArch degree.

Respectfully,

Joe Ferraro, FAIA, LEED AP
Principal
808.540.0800 – direct
808.222.4839 – mobile
808.599.3769 - fax

FERRARO CHOI
1240 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 510
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-4298
www.ferrarochoi.com
Good Afternoon,

My name is Mikela Puig and I am an undergraduate student at UH Manoa. I am submitting a written testimony for the BOR subcommittee meeting on May 5th. Specifically for the ASA subcommittee: BA in Astronomy & BSc in Astrophysics. I don't plan on providing oral testimony. Please let me know if there is anything that should be adjusted with the format.

Thank you,
Mikela Puig

Testimony for ASA subcommittee_ BA in Astronomy & BSc in Astrophysics.pdf
35K
I believe the Astronomy and Astrophysics program should be a permanent addition at UH Mānoa. Hawai'i serves as an epicenter for observational astronomy, there are 13 observatories on Mauna Kea alone. It only makes sense that UH Mānoa would offer an undergraduate program in this field. While there are still some things needing to be adjusted within the program, the program heads are working constantly to give students an experience that will prepare them for the field. This program is particularly important to me, as I am from the island of Kaua'i, where there aren’t many opportunities on the island to begin your journey in STEM programs. Given the living cost of Hawai'i there are many people, such as myself, who cannot afford to go elsewhere for schooling. This program is accessible to anyone who has an interest. Having a program like this at Mānoa gives those students the opportunity to pursue their dreams in this field. I am able to major in the program I want while remaining in state and close to home. The program itself fosters community within the students. Given its small size, students get the opportunity to know their professors, which makes finding an advisor later on much easier. Professors encourage students to work together on things such as projects or problem sets, as a way to prepare students for the collaborative nature of the profession. I have been able to meet all kinds of people in this program with different backgrounds and different interests. Some of my peers are working on projects that will contribute to the protection of Earth. Though I still have at least one year remaining in the program, I feel prepared to apply to graduate school and navigate this future career path. The Astronomy and Astrophysics program is invaluable, and should become a permanent program at UH Mānoa.
Aloha,

Please find Dwight Mitsunaga’s written testimony in support of the MArch Proposal for the University of Hawaii School of Architecture, attached for your use. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Best Regards,

Lisa Yafuso
Executive Assistant
Office Administrator

2020 South King Street | Honolulu, HI 96826
Office: 808.949.1601 | Fax: 808.942.0054
www.pacarchitects.com
May 3, 2022

Board of Regents
University of Hawaii at Manoa
2444 Dole Street, Bachman 209
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Attention: Mr. Michael Bruno, Provost
Members of the ASA Subcommittee

Subject: Master of Architecture Degree Program (MArch)
University of Hawaii School of Architecture

Aloha Dr. Bruno and Members of the ASA Subcommittee,

This letter is written in support of the School of Architecture’s desire to re-establish an accredited Master of Architecture degree program. This proposal will allow students to receive a professional education in compliance with the standardized national curriculum accredited by NCARB (National Council of Architectural Registration Boards) and NAAB (National Architectural Accrediting Board).

Initiating such a degree will enable more students to enter the local profession and secure licensing at a faster rate to support the needs of our Hawaii economy; which is currently experiencing a dire shortage of qualified personnel within the design and building communities. As Hawaii is a very unique and special environment, students may also be assimilated early into the local businesses and receive continued mentoring as a part of their desire to learn ... and also to earn. For nearly 40 years, Pacific Architects has employed many UH students and graduates. Many have gone on to establish important roles in the architecture and building fields. Offering an accredited MArch degree will allow our local students, seeking to be architects, to also lessen family financial burdens and concerns by remaining at home ... especially due to COVID-19.

The existing BEnvD (Bachelor of Environmental Design) degree would also be greatly enhanced by the MArch degree. Students will be able to continue their studies to gain much-needed knowledge of the professional and technical aspects of the profession. Graduates entering Hawaii’s design and building fields will bring added value and will benefit greatly through an accredited professional degree that is equal nationally to any other institutions’ MArch degrees.
Thank you very much for this opportunity to voice my support for the MArch degree program. I hope that you will look favorably upon the School of Architecture’s request.

Mahalo and Best Regards.
Pacific Architects, Inc.

Dwight Mitsunaga, FAIA, ArchD, NCARB, G.C.
President
University of Hawaii: BA ’72, MArch ’75, ArchD ’00

University of Hawaii School of Architecture Advisory Council, Chair
Honolulu Community College AEC Program Advisory Committee
Chaminade University E+ID Program Advisory Committee
Building Industry Association of Hawaii Education Committee
My name is Mehul Ghosal, and I am an 2nd year undergraduate student at UHM, majoring in astrophysics. I picked UH for the research productivity in astronomy. I figured with access to the telescopes, faculty doing research must be overbooked, probably enough for an undergrad student to get some research experience. And that is exactly what I found here with the BS Astro program. I came from a fortunate enough background that I completed enough Advanced Placement courses in high school to skip a year of my degree and focus on research. The program is not perfect; the major failing is the late introduction of coding/programming in science. But I think this degree fills the niche for those interested in astronomy and physics, as I have used this as a fast track to doing real world science. The hard research experience emphasized in this degree is also perfect for those interested in graduate school. I have gained a lot of perspective on academia through the exposure in the degree to actual astronomers. Academically, the degree has challenged me with foundational math and physics topics I can use and apply for my research.
Aloha,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of ASA agenda item IV.B: "Recommend Board Approval of Established Status for the Bachelor of Arts in Astronomy and the Bachelor of Science in Astrophysics at UHM". Please find my testimony attached.

Kind regards,

Caroline Piro
(808) 225-4918
caroline.p.yee@gmail.com
Aloha and greetings,

My name is Caroline Piro and I wish to express support for the change of status from provisional to established for UH Mānoa’s BA Astronomy and BS Astrophysics programs. I completed a BA Astronomy in Spring 2021 and have been working at the UH Institute for Astronomy (IfA) as an Academic Support Specialist since November 2021.

Simply put, I love my job at IfA and I would not be on this career path without having gone through Mānoa’s undergraduate program. To explain further: I’m a non-traditional student; I earned BS and MS degrees at the University of Michigan and worked in the library field for several years before going back to school for the second bachelor’s degree in astronomy. It’s been a lifelong interest of mine, and prior to starting at UH, I often wondered why I didn’t pursue astronomy the first time around--Michigan has excellent astronomy undergraduate and graduate programs.

My husband and I moved to Honolulu in 2015 intending to stay long-term. Thus, UH Mānoa’s undergraduate programs gave me the opportunity to explore the astronomy career path while also allowing us to remain on O‘ahu among the friendships and social networks we had developed since moving here. I started at Kapi‘olani Community College in Fall 2017 and transferred to Mānoa to start the BS Astrophysics program for the Fall 2018 semester. The relatively low tuition at both campuses, especially as a Hawai‘i resident, ensured that our household could live solely on my husband’s income, allowing me to focus on classes without needing to take a part-time job.

In terms of the actual programs, the research requirement for both the BA and BS tracks can really boost students’ credentials on graduate school applications, for those intending to pursue a PhD in astronomy. For others, the research component can be valuable learning experience, if only to demonstrate that graduate school and academia are not for everyone. For myself, the research experience showed that I would not enjoy life as a scientist. And while I enjoyed many of the astronomy-focused courses (not always true of subject-related courses I took for previous degrees), I quickly realized that I had very little interest in the upper-level physics and math classes required for the BS degree and thus switched to the BA track. While it may seem like a waste to have gone back to school only to find out that I wouldn’t have had a future in astronomy research anyway, this experience answered what has probably been the single biggest “what if” question that I’d been asking myself for most of my adult life. Thanks to UH Mānoa’s undergrad astronomy and astrophysics programs, I got a second chance to address this and can finally put the matter to rest.

Perhaps more importantly, the research component of the undergraduate programs allowed me to make connections with IfA faculty, students, and staff, which ultimately led to me interviewing and securing my current job at IfA. I may not be a scientist, but I am happy to support those who are. I’m fairly certain that people think I’m crazy when I tell them that I love what I do, but I count myself extremely fortunate: I have a fulfilling job in astronomy, a lifelong interest; I support a field that can make a positive contribution to both the world’s knowledge and the state’s economy; and I can work and live in the city that has felt like home since the day I first visited in 2011, long before we ever thought about moving here. None of this would have been possible without UH Mānoa’s undergraduate astronomy programs.
Mahalo for your time, and please feel free to contact me by phone (808.225.4918) or email (caroline.p.yee@gmail.com) with any questions.

Kind regards,

Caroline Piro
ASA Subcommittee: BA in Astronomy & BSc in Astrophysics

1 message

Bryan Yamashiro <byama777@hawaii.edu>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents
ASA Subcommittee: BA in Astronomy & BSc in Astrophysics

Thursday, May 5, 2022

In Support of BA in Astronomy & BSc in Astrophysics

Dear Board of Regents,

My name is Bryan Yamashiro and I am currently an astronomy PhD candidate here at the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) Institute for Astronomy. In addition to my status as a graduate student, I write as an individual that was born and raised here on Oahu. I am testifying in support of an established status for the Bachelor of Arts in Astronomy and the Bachelor of Science in Astrophysics at UHM.

The program offers an unparalleled opportunity to learn and build fundamentals through a unique hands-on approach while utilizing state-of-the-art facilities and data. During the program we, as undergraduate students, were able to capitalize on UHM's allocated time on the University of Hawaii 88-inch telescope. This extraordinary experience, typically reserved for research, allowed for authentic proposal writing in forms of time allocation, conducting observations of galaxies, star clusters, comets, and ultimately working with the resulting scientific data.

The program emphasized and promoted undergraduate research that was interwoven into the rigorous coursework. Undergraduate research serves as a tangible and intuitive medium where theory obtained in the classroom can be applied. Instructors regularly integrate research examples into lectures, easing students into research projects. I elected to conduct undergraduate research on the Sun, which resulted in three Hawaii NASA Space Grant fellowships and an Associated Students of the University of Hawaii Research Grant. This research culminated in a poster presentation at the American Astronomical Society Triennial Earth-Sun Summit conference, at which I was invited to participate in two summer internships at NASA's Goddard Space Flight center.

The identity of the astrophysics program is one of community and collaboration, bolstered by the welcoming attitudes intrinsic to Hawaii. Coursework regularly involved group projects promoting collaborations with peers. Instructors went above and beyond to support and mentor students from all backgrounds and levels of expertise. This inclusive environment was further advanced by opportunities to give back to the community through forms of outreach, notably the Institute for Astronomy Open House. Undergraduate students are invited to convey their studies to a wide audience, learning from teaching and increasing engagement in the community. Being from Hawaii and seeing that many local students are unaware of opportunities available to them, motivates me to mentor the next generation of students with the knowledge and experiences obtained through the program.

My belief is that the Bachelor of Arts in Astronomy and the Bachelor of Science in Astrophysics at UHM exemplifies the culture and ideals that are representative and unique to this institution and state. The program strongly emphasizes the act of stewardship and giving back, with a focus on the community, key traits that are important in developing the next generation. I also carry these ideals and techniques into my current work and I confidently state that I am in my current position because of the values and skills garnered through the program. I strongly support the establishment of this program at the University of Hawaii.

Sincerely,
Bryan Yamashiro
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Name (required) *</th>
<th>Ben Strand (obo U.S. Sen. Mazie K. Hirono)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your Organization (optional)</td>
<td>Office of U.S. Sen. Mazie K. Hirono</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ben_strand@hirono.senate.gov">ben_strand@hirono.senate.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *</td>
<td>ASA IV.G. Recommend Board Approval of a New Provisional Certificate in Labor Studies at the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Position (required) *</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Testimony/Comments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Testimony (pdf or word)</td>
<td>2022.05.04_Hirono Letter to UH BOR Chair-Moore re Labor Studies Certificate Program- (88.7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
May 4, 2022

Mr. Randolph G. Moore  
Chair  
University of Hawaii Board of Regents  
2444 Dole Street  
Honolulu, HI 96822

Dear Chair Moore:

I strongly support the establishment of a Labor Studies certificate program at the University of Hawaii at West Oahu (UHWO).

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics in the U.S. Department of Labor, Hawaii had the highest union membership rate in the U.S. in 2021. Our rate of 22.4 percent is well above the national average of 10.3 percent. Despite having almost one-fourth of our employees active in a union, UHWO lacks a Certificate in Labor Studies to help our large unionized workforce make the most of their organization.

A certificate program would build upon studies regarding worker rights and labor theory by promoting labor education and research on labor governance and leadership, labor economics, and labor law, while building a better understanding of these important topics. UHWO students and members of the labor community would gain the education and apprenticeships necessary to prepare them for positions in labor relations and gain a deeper understanding of their working life.

The implementation of this certificate program would also fulfill a provision in the Hawaii Revised Statutes §304A-160(4) that calls on the Center for Labor Education and Research (CLEAR) to “Develop and implement a labor studies degree program or programs in the University of Hawaii system.”

Hawaii’s large union workforce, and our state as a whole, will benefit from a more expansive and formalized labor education in our state as we continue to build a stronger, more inclusive
economy for working families. I urge you to support this program and make the Certificate in Labor Studies a reality in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

MAZIE K. HIRONO
United States Senator

CC: Dr. Maenette Benham, UHWO Chancellor; Dr. Jeffrey Moniz, UHWO Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Dr. William J. Puette, CLEAR Director
### 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.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Name (required) *</th>
<th>Dr. Chloe Lozano</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your Organization (optional)</td>
<td>Pennington Biomedical Research Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chloe.lozano@pbrc.edu">chloe.lozano@pbrc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *</td>
<td>ASA IV.A. Recommend Board Approval of Established Status for the PhD Program in Nutritional Sciences at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (UHM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Position (required) *</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Your Testimony/Comments | Dear UH Board of Regents,  

I am in great support of the Nutritional Sciences PhD program's application to permanent status. I graduated from this PhD program in December 2019, and I am now a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center. During my time as a PhD student, I was a finalist in the American Society of Nutrition's Emerging Leaders Award and was able to publish three manuscripts in high impact peer reviewed journals. Over my three years in the program, I was also able to work as a study dietitian on a randomized control trial at the University of Hawaii Cancer Center, and to teach a foundations of nutrition course online. |
for over 100 students across the Pacific Region. The mentorship and training I received during my time as PhD student have set me up for success in my research career and I am still in contact with the faculty in the Nutritional Sciences PhD program for ongoing mentoring.

I hope to return to the University of Hawaii and to be faculty in the Nutritional Sciences PhD program. It really is an essential program that offers incredible opportunities for their graduates.

Kind regards,

Dr. Chloe Lozano