



Testimony for the Leeward Sustainable Agriculture Program

1 message

Zeus Gean Paul Miguel <zeusgean@hawaii.edu>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, May 2, 2023 at 6:22 PM

Please see the attached.
Mahalo

V/r,
Zeus Miguel



Zeus Miguel Testimony_Leeward Sustainable Agriculture Program.pdf
33K

May 1st , 2023

Re: Provisional to Established Status Associate in Science (AS) in Sustainable Agriculture

Dear committee members,

My name is Zeus Miguel and I am a student at Leeward CC pursuing my A.S. degree in the Sustainable Agriculture program. I am here to provide testimony in support and request the Board to support the Established Status of the Associate in Science in Sustainable Agriculture.

I wanted to become a farmer like my father in the Philippines, but I did not know where to start. My first instinct was to go back to school and study it, and glad that I found Leeward Community College offering AS in Sustainable Agriculture. I began the program in Fall 2021 taking mostly agricultural classes.

The program enlightened me to the importance of sustainable farming in food production for our and future generations. With the program, I was able to recognize my skills in plant cultivation, strengthen my soil knowledge, and expertise in farming practices that prepared me to become a better farmer. I started my small farm in Waialua with the goal of producing vegetables that regenerate the land.

The program and its staff provided a way for me to connect to business owners, agricultural experts and farmers that assisted me to become a farmer. I am currently working with Hawai'i Food Products to grow luau leaves for their manufacturing business.

Within two years at the Sustainable Agriculture program, I was exposed to scientific and cultural practices in agriculture that prepared me to participate in two different programs. One of my internships was at the GoFarm Hawaii where I learned to grow crops commercially. This summer, I will be interning at CTAHR for an undergraduate research program that focuses on data-driven agriculture.

These and much more are the reasons why I am writing this letter.

I strongly support the establishment of the Associate in Science in Sustainable Agriculture at Leeward Community College

Mahalo,

Zeus Gean Paul Miguel
zeusgean@hawaii.edu



Provisional to Established Status Associate in Science (AS) in Sustainable Agriculture

1 message

Bryceson Tugade <btugade@hawaii.edu>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, May 2, 2023 at 11:11 PM

Aloha mai kākou,

Here is my testimony in support of the Sustainable Agriculture Program to acquire permanent status. Mahalo nui.

E mālama pono,

Bryceson Tugade



Graduate_Testimony_Draft_Bryceson_Tugade (3).pdf
35K

May 1, 2023
Bryceson Tugade
1032 Hulaku'i Drive

Re: Provisional to Established Status Associate in Science (AS) in Sustainable Agriculture

Aloha mai kākou,

I am writing this letter in support of the Sustainable Agriculture Program to acquire permanent status. I graduated from the program in (Spring of 2021) with an A.S. in Sustainable Agriculture. Transferred to University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu to pursue a B.A.S in the Sustainable Community Food Systems Program.

I am now employed at UH Mānoa as a lab technician with the Tropical Plant Soil Sciences Department, alongside being employed with the DOE as a paraprofessional.

In my current studies at UHWO, we utilize a multidisciplinary approach to understanding the need for systemic change of our current food system. While pursuing both my A.S in SA, and my B.A.S in SCFS, I've had the opportunity to conduct research and study at various scales. From local, national, and international. While remaining focused in advancing sustainability in our 'āina, using Hawai'i as an example, to understand the rest of the world.

What skills has the Sustainable Agriculture Program helped you acquire?

The skills in the Sustainable Agriculture Program helped me to acquire the ability to have an academic career centered around plant biology & tropical agriculture, focusing on sustainable practices. This entails the ability to understand various facets of plant propagation, integrated pest management, soil science, etc. Considering this, the SA program has been instrumental in providing me with the skills necessary to pursue further academic and career interests. Such as opportunities ranging from research with the USDA to the International rice research institute in the Philippines, to opportunities for work at UHM.

Why do you think the Sustainable Agriculture Program is important?

This program fit my career goals immediately after the program, allowing me to have an in-depth perspective of plant sciences combined with an emphasis on sustainability in Hawai'i's growing environmental obstacles and the like. Also, meeting with professors that have prepared me for career development in agriculture and plant science. The SA program assisted in a seamless transition to programs like at UH West O'ahu, in the Sustainable Community Food Systems program, furthering my educational pathway. And giving me the opportunity to advance my degree with prospects following my undergraduate degree.

I strongly support the establishment of the Associate in Science in Sustainable Agriculture at Leeward Community College

Mahalo piha,

Bryceson Tugade
btugade@hawaii.edu



Integrated Industrial Technology Testimony

1 message

Rin Kusaka <rkusaka@hawaii.edu>

Wed, May 3, 2023 at 10:52 AM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

My Name is Rin Kusaka, I am a student at Leeward Community College in my fourth semester of the Integrated Industrial Technology Associate in Science Degree program.

I am submitting this testimony in support of transitioning the Integrated Industrial Technology program for a provisional to established status.

I am presently employed at Toell USA, Pure Hawaiian Water as a maintenance technician. The company bottles water that is sold in Japan and Hawaii. Initially my company sent me to Leeward CC to attend the electrical technology workforce training, while enrolled I found out about the IIT AS degree and shared the program with my company. The coursework in the IIT program directly relates to the skills necessary to conduct preventative and corrective maintenance on the water bottling plant.

Pure Hawaiian Water has struggled in the past to recruit and hire trained maintenance workers, the plant is highly automated and requires a working knowledge of multiple disciplines, the IIT degree program has provided me with the knowledge and skills to maintain the equipment and systems that bottle our water. Moreover, the coursework includes lab work that allows students to understand the integration of multiple equipment and systems.

During my time as a student I have been able to directly apply the concepts taught in the IIT program to troubleshoot and repair our bottling equipment. I am thankful that I have been able to attend the IIT program and immediately apply my knowledge and skills at my company.

Rin Kusaka



Testimony in support of BS in Dietetics

4 messages

Amy C Brown <amybrown@hawaii.edu>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu
Cc: Monica Esquivel <monicake@hawaii.edu>

Tue, Apr 18, 2023 at 9:47 AM

Dear Chair and Board of Regents Members,

I am a University of Hawaii at Manoa professor for 23 years that graduated with a BS and MS from the Human Nutrition and Food Science program in 1981 and 1983 respectively. I continued in my graduate studies to receive a doctorate from Virginia Tech in 1986, the year I became a nutrition professor. I have been teaching college nutrition and clinical research for 37 years. I wrote the textbook Understanding Food (7th edition) which is the number one textbook in it's field of dietetics for 23 years. I was also a Dietetic Program Director for many years. I am very familiar with UHM's Dietetic program and especially the overall field of nutrition, dietetics, and food science.

I wholeheartedly support the granting of an established BS Degree in Dietetics for the following reasons:

- The curriculum track already exists and does not need additional faculty or administrative support. It existed when I went to college as a separate track under Food Science and Human Nutrition.
- The BS in Dietetics simply needs to be recognized as a separate track in a department that has experienced several merges of different degrees (animal science).
- The distinction makes the curriculum clear to students pursuing a profession in dietetics.
- The degree name also makes it clear to institutions trying to accept dietetic students into required internships, and eventual job positions. There is a lot of delineation between the courses required for the different tracks (nutrition, dietetics, food science, animal science) under the "Department of Human Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences" that are not clear to outside agencies. If you group "dietetic" students with "nutritional sciences" (for pre-med, pre-dental, pre-graduate school, etc that do not need many of the dietetic requirements) and "animal sciences," it could hurt our graduates competing with other students for the very limited number of internships necessary to become a registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN).
- The BS of Dietetics is one of the few degrees where students can graduate and pursue an allied health professional degree with a very respectable salary in a state that needs financially viable jobs.
- The BS of Dietetics is one of the strongest programs I have seen. It was started many years ago by a University of California at Berkeley scientific researcher that infused a new program at the University of Hawaii with a very strong scientifically based curriculum. I was proud to be a graduate, and I know that future graduates will all benefit from the BS of Dietetics designation.

Aloha,
Amy Brown

Amy C. Brown, PhD
Professor
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John A Burns School of Medicine
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BS in dietetics proposal

Monica Esquivel <monicake@hawaii.edu>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Mon, May 1, 2023 at 8:23 AM

Aloha,

I am writing in support of the proposal for the UHM dietetics proposal's advance to established status.

As the only accredited training program for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs), the BS in Dietetics serves as an important degree to ensure that there is a pool of qualified nutrition professionals to serve the state of Hawai'i. RDNs provide medical nutrition therapy and other nutrition services to treat and prevent diet-related chronic conditions (diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease). In Hawai'i these chronic health conditions disproportionately impact Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations, who are also underrepresented in the RDN profession. The UHM dietetics program has the opportunity to address these disparities.

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Monica K. Esquivel PhD RDN CSSD
Associate Professor
Dietetics Program Director ([UHM Dietetics Website](#) & [UHM ISPP Website](#))
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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.