



TESTIMONY ON SAVING MONEY DURING THE BUDGET CRISIS

1 message

Lilikala Kameeleihiwa <lilikala77@me.com>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 10:54 AM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Cc: Lilikalā Kameeleihiwa <lilikala@hawaii.edu>, Keali'i Gora <lgora@hawaii.edu>, Kaiwipuni Lipe <kaiwipun@hawaii.edu>, "Jon Osorio >" <osorio@hawaii.edu>, "Kekuewa Kikiloi >" <kikiloi@hawaii.edu>, Ashley Maynard <amaynard@hawaii.edu>

October 1, 2020

TESTIMONY**TO:** UH BOARD OF REGENTS COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND FINANCE Members:
Regents Sullivan (Chair), Moore (Vice-Chair), Nahale-a, Tagorda, and Westerman**FROM:** Lilikalā Kame‘eleihiwa, PhD

Professor and Brandt Chair for Comparative Polynesian Studies Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies

Hawai‘inuiākea School for Hawaiian Knowledge, UH-Mānoa Pūko‘a Council Budget Subcommittee Chair

Kūali‘i Council Founding Member

Cell: 808-753-5826, Web: AVAkonoiki.org**RE: Saving \$30 M annually on Electricity at UH-Mānoa during the Budget Crisis by Shutting Down UHM buildings while Professors work at home teaching on Zoom**

Aloha to all of you on the hard working Budget and Finance committee, Chair Sullivan, and members Moore, Nāhale‘ā, Tagorda and Westerman. Aloha!

I am Lilikalā Kame‘eleihiwa, Professor and Brandt Chair for Comparative Polynesian Studies at the Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies, in the Hawai‘inuiākea School for Hawaiian Knowledge here at UH-Mānoa. I also have served as the Pūko‘a Council Budget Subcommittee Chair since 2002, and am a founding member of the UHM Kūali‘i Council.

I come before you today with a simple but hopefully elegant suggestion on how to save approximately \$30 M annually on the UHM Electric bill. Instead of closing colleges, we should consider closing buildings during the Pandemic, to save on Electricity. 90-95% of all UHM classes are now online. Like most professors I am teaching at home, and paying for my own electricity. Why should the university

pay for electricity for my empty office at work? As my mother would say, “Waste money!”

We may be forced to look at many uncomfortable budget saving measures for the next 4 years until the economy can rebound, or pivot. This suggestion is relatively painless and maybe one way to pay other bills instead.

Ok! But you will ask, what shall we do when the Pandemic is over and students return to classes? Good question! I suggest we delay the return of students to campus until we can afford to turn on the electricity. In the meantime, may I also suggest Performance Contracting with a large company like Siemens Corporation, who can install solar panels on all of our UHM buildings, thereby cutting the cost of electricity forever.

Since Siemens is international with a local office in Hawai'i, I suspect that we could find an amenable payment plan overtime. Perhaps we can also work with them to host interns from UHM in their company, if we are not doing so already.

And if you would like to see how it can be done, please see attached a 16 story building, entirely covered with a Photovoltaic skin, designed by Mike Barns, a Māori architect, graduate of the UHM School of Architecture. This is the Mālama 'Āina building proposal for the Hawai'i inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge.

Perhaps when the BOR is considering building new buildings again, to help the construction industry, you might want to lead the State of Hawai'i with this design. If all State buildings incorporated Photovoltaic skins, we would save a lot of money on electricity from the State of Hawai'i Budget. By the way, Mike Barns has been building these type of buildings in Dubai for the past 15 years.

Finally, we professors at UHM have a lot of great ideas, and we urge the BOR and the UH Administration to consult with faculty before you shut down the Schools and Colleges educating the youth of Hawai'i. Afterall, Faculty consultation is required by law; no use waste money on lawsuits. Mahalo nui loa.

6 attachments



Hawai'i inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge
Kamakūākūkalani Center for Hawaiian Studies

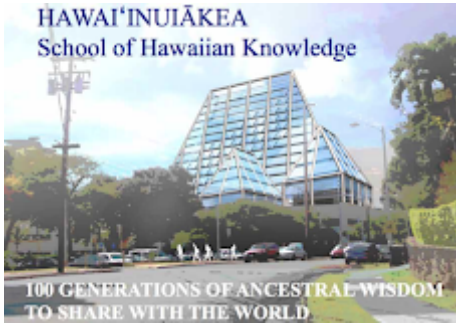
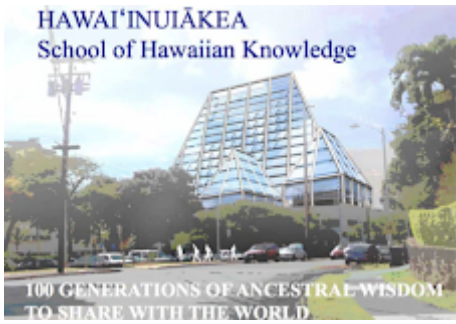
page1image13919584.png
15K

page1image3330176.png
3K

2645 Dole Street, Kamakūākūkalani Building, Rm 209A Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822
Telephone: (808) 973-0909 Fax: (808) 973-0938
Email: chuhen@hawaii.edu
An Equal Opportunity/Alternative Action Institution

page1image13918960.png
8K

page2image13878704.png
570K



HSHK PHOTOVOTAIC BUILDING.png
563K





UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII[®]

MĀNOA

Hawaiʻinuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge
Kamakakūōkalani Center for Hawaiian Studies

Al Kamal

2645 Dole Street, Kamakāōiokalani Building, Rm 209A Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

Telephone: (808) 973-0989 Fax: (808) 973-0988

Email: chsuhm@hawaii.edu

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

HAWAI'INUIĀKEA

School of Hawaiian Knowledge



100 GENERATIONS OF ANCESTRAL WISDOM
TO SHARE WITH THE WORLD

HAWAI'INUIĀKEA

School of Hawaiian Knowledge



**100 GENERATIONS OF ANCESTRAL WISDOM
TO SHARE WITH THE WORLD**



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII
MĀNOA

October 1, 2020

TESTIMONY

TO: UH BOARD OF REGENTS COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND FINANCE

Members: Regents Sullivan (Chair), Moore (Vice-Chair), Nahale-a, Tagorda, and Westerman

FROM: Lilikalā Kameʻeleihiwa, PhD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lilikalā Kameʻeleihiwa'.

Professor and Brandt Chair for Comparative Polynesian Studies

Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies

Hawaiʻinuiākea School for Hawaiian Knowledge, UH-Mānoa

Pūkoʻa Council Budget Subcommittee Chair

Kūaliʻi Council Founding Member

Cell: 808-753-5826, Web: AVAkonohiki.org

RE: Saving \$30 M annually on Electricity at UH-Mānoa during the Budget Crisis by Shutting Down UHM buildings while Professors work at home teaching on Zoom

Aloha to all of you on the hard working Budget and Finance committee, Chair Sullivan, and members Moore, Nāhaleʻā, Tagorda and Westerman. Aloha!

I am Lilikalā Kameʻeleihiwa, Professor and Brandt Chair for Comparative Polynesian Studies at the Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies, in the Hawaiʻinuiākea School for Hawaiian Knowledge here at UH-Mānoa. I also have served as the Pūkoʻa Council Budget Subcommittee Chair since 2002, and am a founding member of the UHM Kūaliʻi Council.

I come before you today with a simple but hopefully elegant suggestion on how to save approximately \$30 M annually on the UHM Electric bill. Instead of closing colleges, we should consider closing buildings during the Pandemic, to save on Electricity. 90-95% of all UHM classes are now online. Like most professors I am teaching at home, and paying for my own electricity. Why should the university

pay for electricity for my empty office at work? As my mother would say, “Waste money!”

We may be forced to look at many uncomfortable budget saving measures for the next 4 years until the economy can rebound, or pivot. This suggestion is relatively painless and maybe one way to pay other bills instead.

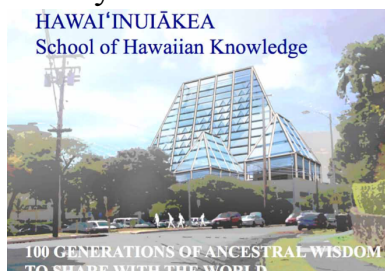
Ok! But you will ask, what shall we do when the Pandemic is over and students return to classes? Good question! I suggest we delay the return of students to campus until we can afford to turn on the electricity. In the meantime, may I also suggest Performance Contracting with a large company like Siemens Corporation, who can install solar panels on all of our UHM buildings, thereby cutting the cost of electricity forever.

Since Siemens is international with a local office in Hawai‘i, I suspect that we could find an amenable payment plan overtime. Perhaps we can also work with them to host interns from UHM in their company, if we are not doing so already.

And if you would like to see how it can be done, please see attached a 16 story building, entirely covered with a Photovoltaic skin, designed by Mike Barns, a Māori architect, graduate of the UHM School of Architecture. This is the Mālama ‘Āina building proposal for the Hawai‘inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge.

Perhaps when the BOR is considering building new buildings again, to help the construction industry, you might want to lead the State of Hawai‘i with this design. If all State buildings incorporated Photovoltaic skins, we would save a lot of money on electricity from the State of Hawai‘i Budget. By the way, Mike Barns has been building these type of buildings in Dubai for the past 15 years.

Finally, we professors at UHM have a lot of great ideas, and we urge the BOR and the UH Administration to consult with faculty before you shut down the Schools and Colleges educating the youth of Hawai‘i. Afterall, Faculty consultation is required by law; no use waste money on lawsuits. Mahalo nui loa.





Meeting of 1 October 2020

1 message

Sheryl B. Seaman <sheryls@g70.design>
To: "bor.testimony@hawaii.edu" <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 2:27 PM

Please see attached my testimony regarding the Fiscal Policy for the Biennium 2021-2023



Sheryl B. Seaman, AIA, IIDA, LEED AP

Vice Chairman

[111 S. King Street, Suite 170](#)

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

t 808.523.5866

m 808.277.1771

e sheryls@g70.design

www.G70.design

[Click here to download Outlook vCard.](#)

 **BOR.pdf**
266K



30 September 2020

111 S. King Street
Suite 170
Honolulu, HI 96813
808.523.5866
www.g70.design

To Whom It May Concern:

This testimony is being offered with regard to the BOR budgetary meeting of 1 October, 2020.

My name is Sheryl Seaman, AIA, IIDA, LEED-AP. I am Vice chair of the multidiscipline design firm G70. Our gross revenue last year was \$34,000,000. I am a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture, as are 36 of our staff including our CEO.

On page six of your Budget Policy Paper Fiscal Biennium 2021-2023, dated September 2020, there is a reference to educating “thoughtful **designers** of sustainable built environments appropriate for Hawaii and out post-pandemic future.” I would suggest that it should say **architects**. It continues, “Hawaii will also need more high performing construction engineers and managers.” These roles are also quite often **architects**. I do not understand the reluctance to acknowledge this profession since it is regulated and licensed by the State and many of the highly qualified individuals that we employ are graduates of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture.

We discover these talented students through our collaboration with the school in offering Practicum placements and internships as suggested in Section II of the policy on page 7.

In Section III the “tight set of economic and workforce sectors for priority and investment” include “Climate change, Resilience, Energy and Conservation” all part of the School of Architecture curriculum. It also includes “Sustainable Tourism” another area of architectural expertise.

Section IV discusses research enterprise. It discusses “Pacific engagement” and “study of Asia and the Pacific (all disciplines).” The School of Architecture’s Global Track Program wherein the students graduate with a Doctor of Architecture from UH and a Master of Architecture from Tongji University in Shanghai, has produced more than 40 students who have done detailed research in all of the areas of energy, resilience, culture, and education. This program is a goldmine of intellect and ability that could be more successfully leveraged with better support from the university.

In conclusion, if the BOR and the State are serious about promoting a more successful, resilient, and healthy community post-pandemic, I would urge you to fund and support your School of Architecture. It is producing the people who will assist you in the development of your RIM program. It is worthwhile noting that in building construction, the architect holds the master contract and the engineers are, for the most part, sub-consultants under the architect. Under State law “designers” are not allowed to

BOR
30 September 2020
Page 2 of 2

prepare, stamp and oversee construction. Please correct your terminology and support our School of Architecture.

Mahalo,

GROUP 70 INTERNATIONAL, INC., a Hawaii corporation, dba G70

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheryl Seaman", written in a cursive style.

Sheryl Seaman, AIA, ASID. LEED AP
Vice-Chairman

SBS/ata



**Testimony for BOR mtg 1oct202 --re 3 sep budget & finance mtg notice page188--
preparing residents to fill jobs**

1 message

Stephen H. Yuen <stevey@g70.design>
To: "bor.testimony@hawaii.edu" <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 3:32 PM

Testimony for BOR mtg 1oct202 –
re 3 sep budget and finance mtg notice page188--preparing residents to fill jobs

Dear BOR,

Concerned local architect practicing in Hawaii for the last 30 years, and offering this testimony as an individual and not in any connection to my design business.

Please accept this email as testimony concerning the addressing of UH priorities and any possible refocus of programs to prepare residents to fill future jobs needed in Hawaii needs.

I understand that this could imply a consolidation of the school of architecture and placement of the school's programs under the college of engineering. This would be a mistake and I urge you to avoid any reorganization that would consider this. The most cost effective and logical direction should be to maintain the integrity of the school.

Anything less would diminish the students' value and standing in the hiring criteria of the local architectural community, placing both at a disadvantage, and encourage prospective students to go elsewhere, and logically create more administrative layers, since architectural practice is so unique and different from engineering, effectively reducing the budget available and thus the value of the architectural education offered.

Mahalo,

Steve Yuen

**Stephen H. Yuen, AIA**

Principal

111 S. King Street, Suite 170

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

t 808.523.5866

d 808.441.2162

m 808.341.6597

e stevey@g70.design

[Click here to download Outlook vCard.](#)

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) *

Maryann Overstreet

Your Organization (optional)

University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

overst@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

B&F IV.D. Budget Policy Paper

Your Position (required) *

Comments Only

Your Testimony/Comments

Dear Board of Regents:

I'm writing in regard to the proposed "stop-out" of the German BA program, not simply to ask you to reject the plan to "pause" or eliminate this essential, high-quality, effective and efficient program, but to sound an alarm about the way in which the MBC and upper administration have identified targets for elimination, relying on inaccurate data and hastily moving forward without proper consultation with the faculty.

I would also like to address the misguided view of "small programs" as a drag on the university, and will offer an alternative perspective which I hope you will consider with an open mind before allowing our state's only R1 institution to be gutted and irreversibly damaged, resulting in a great disservice to future generations of local students who will be less likely to afford to travel to the mainland to attend college.

I. The German BA

1. Inaccurate data, misleading interpretation

The data used by the MBC was inaccurate and its interpretation misleading with regard to the German BA on several counts. We have recently crossed the threshold of 10 graduates. **The UH Mānoa German program was nationally ranked in the Chronicle of Higher Education for numbers of graduates in 2017** (12 that year), placing us at no. 13 on a list of 200 German programs, and within one graduate of the top ten in the country (the three above us graduated 13 that year). This put us ahead of much larger, high-prestige, and well-funded German programs such as: U. of Notre Dame (10), U.C. Berkeley (9), U. of Texas at Austin (9), Georgetown (5), Michigan State (4), and Princeton (4).

In 2017, German also had more graduates than all of the other 'small' BA programs listed in the MBC data for the college of LLL and in Arts and Humanities.

Following this record year of German graduates at UHM, there was a temporary dip in majors to 7 (2017-2018), followed by a bounce back up to 17 last Spring. The lower numbers of majors during that brief period should be seen in context as a temporary dip in **a generally upward trend in majors, following on the heels of a remarkable success, as shown in the attached graph.**

2. Size and efficiency

Correction: We no longer have a lecturer, as stated in the MBC report.

Our average class size is currently over 16 and this number is likely to grow dramatically as our new 100- and 200-level lecture courses are rolled out over the next two semesters. These LLEA courses (taught in English on German topics) with FG designations or focus requirements will undoubtedly appeal to large numbers of freshmen and sophomores. This will not only raise our average class sizes considerably, but will serve as a fertile ground for recruitment into our German language program, strengthening those numbers, as well.

We also plan to explore the possibility of cross-listing our courses with other departments in our new college, including: history, political science, philosophy, music, theater, ACM, etc., or having some of these count toward our major.

3. Excellence

Associate Dean of CALL Kimi Kondo-Brown manages the BA exit surveys and has access to all of them. **The German BA student exit surveys are consistently excellent.** The few significant suggestions for improvement that were made over a decade ago involved programmatic changes to include more culture and film courses and were used as part of the argument to hire a new professor in 2011. Since that time, we have radically restructured our curriculum, adding new courses and deleting older ones. In response to the BA exit survey question (2016-2019), "Would you recommend this program to other students?", 18 out of 20 graduates said: "definitely yes".

The high quality of our German program is also demonstrated by a high retention rate. In 2017, we also had the highest retention rate (0.057) in our department, based on the number of graduates per number of students enrolled in each program. Others were 0.037, 0.015, and 0.013.

Our strong retention rate in German is due to the responsive nature of our program, our continually evolving curriculum, the streamlined path to satisfy requirements, the personal attention and support we offer students, the sense of community we strive to create in the classroom, the outreach efforts we have engaged in, and the high-quality of instruction.

Personal testimonials about the importance of our German BA and attesting to the quality of the program were recently sent to President Lassner by Denis Salle, the **Honorary Consul of Germany in Hawai'i, and Dr. Alexander Krot, a prominent UH researcher from the Hawai'i Institute of Geophysics and Planetology** and recipient of the Alexander von

Humboldt Foundation Award, 2017, and Leonard Medal Award of the Meteoritical Society, 2018. [These letters were sent separately as an attachment to an email.](#)

4. Essential

German is a **heritage language in Hawai'i and provides a direct link to Pacific Scholarship**. The German program offers a popular course that explores the history of Europeans in the Pacific, encourages the study of original sources in German, and also counts toward the major.

German has been an essential part of a liberal education in the islands since the University of Hawai'i began offering classes in 1908. It is a leading language of science, literature, art, music philosophy, history and political science.

The in-depth study of German language, history and culture offered through a BA program is considered vital to an R1 university. All 18 of our peer and benchmark institutions offer a German BA and 14 of them also offer an MA.

The German BA is **internally highly valued, with a petition of over 200 signatures** from concerned members of the UH faculty, including **LOTS of scientists:** [Faculty Petition](#)

The German BA is **externally highly valued, with a petition of over 600 signatures** from the community and many former students, including the source of our endowed funds (\$200,000) for student scholarships, the members of the German Benevolent Society:

[Student/Community Petition](#)

5. Impact

Our German BA program offers in-depth and advanced study that is relevant to the very 'areas of strength' that President Lassner has been highlighting as crucial to our future, including: Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences; Astronomy and Space Sciences; Environmental Microbiology, Climate change and resilience, and Energy. Germany is a world leader in these fields and works closely with US companies. For an increasing number of students, the option of a post-graduate degree in Germany becomes an attractive alternative, especially because they can obtain the degree almost free of charge.

The German BA program helps students acquire prestigious positions and scholarships that enable our graduates to study, do internships and work in German-speaking countries. Over the past decade alone, we have helped over two dozen students acquire several different types of scholarships: 6 Congress Bundestag Youth Exchange Awards (a year-long scholarship funded by the U.S. Department of State to study and work in Germany), 3 German Academic Exchange Awards (sponsoring the exchange of students and scholars between Germany and countries world-wide), 2 Fulbright awards (teaching assistantships in Austria), 1 scholarship to attend the MA program in German and European Studies at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown, and 9 Doyle scholarships to study in Berlin, and 7 German Benevolent Society scholarships of \$2,000 (for German majors) to help cover UH tuition. This Google doc includes a description of these awards and the names of all the recipients:

[Scholarships and Awards](#)

II. The importance of small programs

Please consider the question: What is the problem with preserving high-quality, efficient and effective smaller units within the larger university? I would like to challenge the premise that such programs are a drag on the university. Many of our programs are relatively inexpensive to run, are integral to other fields of study, are relevant to our cultural context, have healthy SSH and, most importantly, enrich our institution by increasing the variety of offerings and fostering diversity. Cutting them would be a short-sighted move that would be detrimental to our institution and be a disservice to both current and future students of Hawai'i. Just imagine if the business world were to assert that the only kind of businesses that count are large businesses, and all small businesses should be closed. Just as small businesses are crucial to the economy and the society as a whole, so are smaller programs, which offer more personal experiences and create natural 'learning communities' of students who form long-lasting friendships and support networks that help motivate them to stay in school and complete their BAs. It is these programs that make students feel less anonymous,

more included, and more supported throughout their undergraduate education. We have not seen any cost-benefit analysis offered by the MBC in their proposals to eliminate small programs, but weighing what would be lost in terms of diversity and status as an R1 institution, vs. the presumably negligible sums of money that might be saved, targeting small programs will almost certainly result in a net loss to the university.

I respectfully request that your administration (the MBC in particular) provide accurate data, so that we might draw more valid conclusions from their study, and provide the criteria on which they based their decisions and recommendations. In addition, please add *efficiency*, *excellence* and *impact* to the criteria to be taken into account and require that all faculty be included in transparent discussions of any data, criteria and suggested changes.

Sincerely,
Maryann Overstreet
Professor and Section Head, German

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[Graph.pdf](#) (409.3 kB)

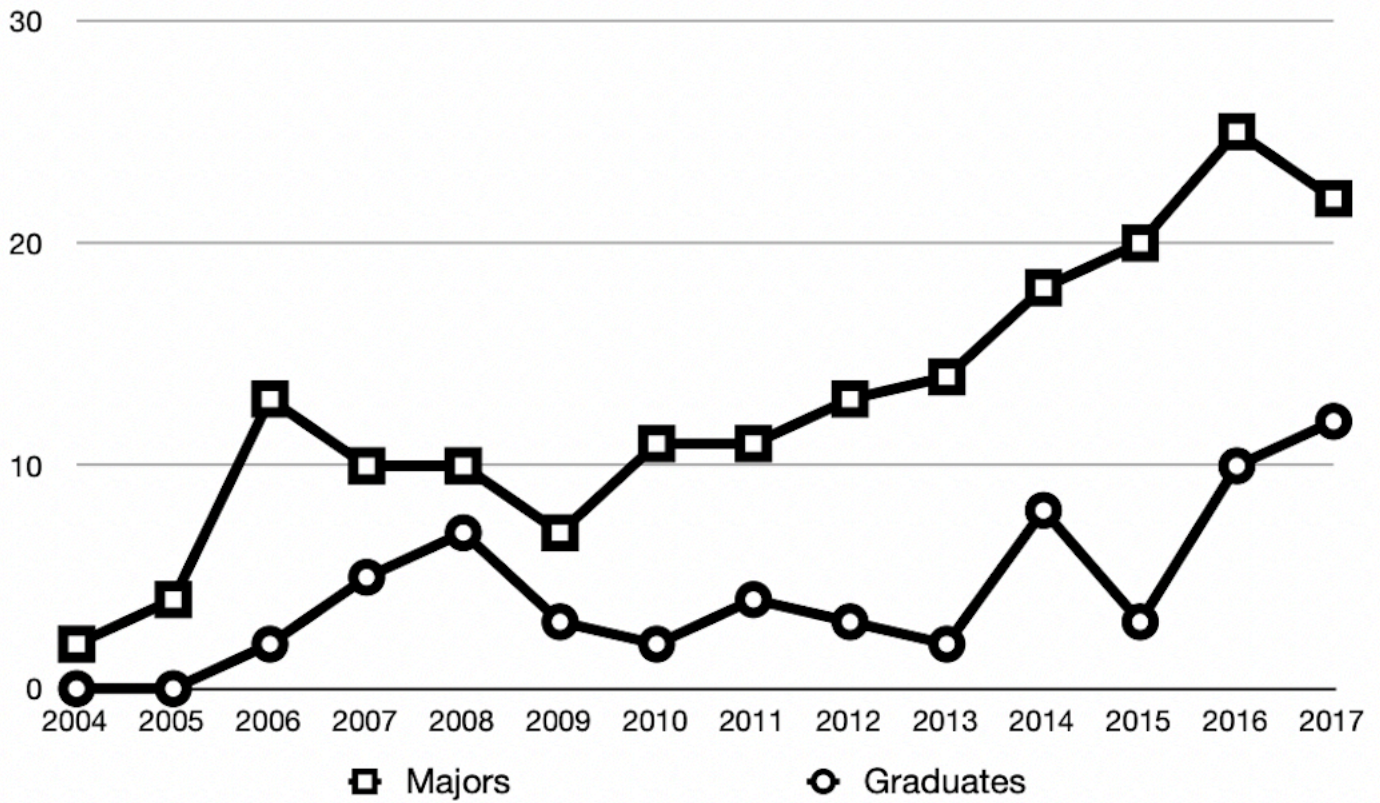
Actions

Close

Export

The U.H. Mānoa German program, 2004-2017

Figure 1. German Majors and B.A. Graduates



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) *

Kevin Nute

Your Organization (optional)

School of Architecture

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

knute@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

B&F IV.D. Budget Policy Paper

Your Position (required) *

Oppose

Your Testimony/Comments

No evidence has been presented that the School of Architecture would “thrive under a different organizational structure” or that its reorganization “would position the campus to develop/increase area(s) of excellence.” On the contrary, it would reduce the school’s standing in the local profession, encourage prospective students to go elsewhere, and create *more* administrative layers, effectively reducing architects’ say in architectural education in the state. The proposed removal of the School’s autonomy would be a massive step backwards for both the state of building design and the profession of architecture in the state of Hawai’i.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

No file attached

Actions

Close

Export

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) *

Jim Nicolow

Your Organization (optional)**Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) ***

jnicolow@sbcglobal.net

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

B&F IV.D. Budget Policy Paper

Your Position (required) *

Comments Only

Your Testimony/Comments

The "Construction Design and the Built Environment" section states, "UH must educate thoughtful designers of sustainable built environments appropriate for Hawai'i and our post-pandemic future," which I fully support. However, it goes on to state that Hawai'i will need more "high-performing construction engineers and managers." Construction engineers and managers are not "designers of sustainable built environments," they are builders. **Architects** are the primary designers of sustainable built environments, though the profession is oddly not even mentioned. I commend your call for educating thoughtful designers of sustainable built environments but, as an architect and sustainable design specialist, I respectfully request that this document be updated to correctly identify the profession responsible for designing sustainable built environments: Architecture.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

No file attached

Actions

Close

Export

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) *

Laura McGuire

Your Organization (optional)

School of Architecture, University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

m McGuire@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

B&F IV.D. Budget Policy Paper

Your Position (required) *

Oppose

Your Testimony/Comments

Dear Members of the Hawai'i Board of Regents,

According to the Budget Policy Paper, on page 6 of the report under the Section "Construction, Design, and the Built Environment," a statement reads:

Construction, Design and the Built Environment

If Hawai'i decides to lead out of the current recession with construction, as we have traditionally done in times of economic challenge, then UH needs to ensure that Hawai'i residents are prepared to fill the jobs that will be created. This must include a fast-track to move the currently unemployed into skilled labor jobs, a clear role for the UH community colleges. Additionally, UH must educate thoughtful designers of sustainable built environments appropriate for Hawai'i and our post-pandemic future. Hawai'i will also need more high-performing construction engineers and managers.

As a faculty member at the School of Architecture, Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Bachelor of Environmental Design (BEnvD) program, and an architectural historian and critic, I must point out that this summary fails to adequately address or understand the role of the architect in the envisioning and designing the built environment. It emphasizes the constructional and engineering aspects of the the fabrication of the built environment, while it does not acknowledge the fundamental role of the architect as a primary creator of the structures that are carried out. Architecture is fundamentally not a technical field, but rather an interdisciplinary field encompassing art, social sciences, and environmental concerns, as well as a strong understanding of the history and social forces shaping a community in which a building or a plan is carried out. Architects design spaces for Hawaii's people and communities and must do so sensitively and only after significant research into the environmental, social, and aesthetic impact of a project on a given place and community.

Indeed, the architect is the primary visionary and researcher (in both humanities and social science-based ways) of shaping our built world. Construction managers and engineers may be tasked with carrying out these visions, but they themselves are not typically responsible for formulating them in the first place. This paragraph is troubling, as it acknowledges the technicians in constructing our state's environment, but not the research and formulations of the architects who shape it in the first place. The equivalent would be saying that the person who fabricates a musical instrument is somehow the primary creator of a piece of music. But, for example, Beethoven's 9th symphony was not originally designed and created either by the orchestra that plays it or by the people who made their musical instruments. The language in the Policy paper suggests the reverse is true.

Professor Lance Walters of the School of Architecture has recently shared a response with you on this topic, and it is copied below:

The UH School of Architecture's bachelor's degree, which the majority of our graduate students receive, is a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Design. Environmental design in this context means the built environment. While I appreciate that the Budget Policy Paper makes reference to design and the need for more thoughtful designers of sustainable built environments, it fails to include architects or architecture in this narrative- despite the fact that the design of the built environment is the primary charge of the architect. The Budget Policy Paper also fails to include the state's need for more architects. The School of Architecture offers the only accredited architecture degree program in the State of Hawai'i and directly supports a thriving professional community.

In the administration's budget committees recently posted post-pandemic Suggestions, they have recommended that the School of Architecture move underneath Engineering. I, and many others, believe that this would be detrimental to the School, and that this suggestion is likely due to a fundamental misunderstanding of the profession and the role the Architect plays in the built environment. As both professions and academic programs, Architecture, Construction, and Engineering are interrelated, but distinct. Again, I request that this section be rewritten to clarify these distinctions and to specifically recognize architecture and the architect as primary drivers of the built environment. Clarifying this section of the Budget Policy Paper may be one small step towards resolving this misunderstanding- and would indicate to the School of Architecture, the professional architecture community, and our students that the University understands and appreciates the important role architecture plays in the design of sustainable built environments.

The School of Architecture faculty have recently shared their initial response to the Budget Committees Suggestions with the post-pandemic website, the President, Provost, and the Board of Regents. In addition to trying to clarify the differing missions that the SoA and Engineering have, we also: voice our concern about the lack of a clear process, the lack of clearly articulated and specific goals regarding a merger.

We invite the Regents and their designated liaisons to meet with the School of Architecture faculty, students, and staff in order to more fully understand these important professional distinctions, the

importance of our administrative autonomy, and our concerns over good-faith shared governance.

I strongly share Lance's opposition to the language of this Policy Paper, as well as the suggested merger of the independent School of Architecture with the College of Engineering.

Sincerely,
Laura McGuire, PhD
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Assistant Professor of Architectural History, Theory, and Criticism
School of Architecture
University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

No file attached

Actions

Close

Export

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) *

Martin Despang

Your Organization (optional)

UHM School of Architecture

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

despang@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

B&F IV.D. Budget Policy Paper

Your Position (required) *

Comments Only

Your Testimony/Comments

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[BOR meeting 100120 Testimony_Despang.pdf](#) (61.5 kB)

Actions

Close

Export

September 30,2020

I am writing regarding tomorrow's monthly Board of Regents meeting and relative to the "Construction, design and the build environment" chapter section of the Budget Policy Paper (page 6).

Having just been coming out of Think Tech Hawaii's:

https://www.youtube.com/user/ThinkTechHawaii/featured?disable_polymer=1

hosted by me and Bishop Museum's DeSoto Brown weekly TV Show "Human(e) Architecture:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQpkwcNJny6kDcGh5KYsLd28-x3DBXGjI>

I read my colleague Associate Professor Lance Walter's testimony regarding this issue and couldn't agree more with Lance (thank you) .

Jay Fidell's "Think Tech Hawaii working hard to raise public awareness about the importance of technology, energy, diversification and globalism to the future of Hawaii" with its 3,926,205 YouTubed views besides the University being one of if not the most important research disseminating organ for a post pandemic future of Hawaii has strategically included this show about architecture being essential and existential for Hawaii growing stronger out of the pandemic.

As perfectly put by Professor Walters I would equally appreciate and be thankful for further recognizing this essential relevance of the disciplinary and professional role of architecture represented by our UHM School of Architecture's staff's, student's and faculty's diligent work.

Martin Despang

Professor School of Architecture University of Hawaii Manoa / Diplom Ingenieur Architekt

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) *

Hyoung-June Park

Your Organization (optional)

School of Architecture, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

hjpark@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

B&F IV.D. Budget Policy Paper

Your Position (required) *

Oppose

Your Testimony/Comments

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[BORmeeting_1001_testmony_PARK.pdf](#) (74.3 kB)

Actions

Close

Export

Dear Members of the Hawai'i Board of Regents,

As a faculty member in the UH School of Architecture, I am writing this to make the following clarifications related to the "Construction, design, and the built environment" section of the Budget Policy Paper (page 6).

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Design degree program offers a pre-professional degree in architecture/ landscape architecture for undergraduate students. It also allows the students to find a job/internship in practice, at the same time, to directly apply for professional degree programs in architecture/ landscape architecture at graduate level. The BEnvD is in the last stages of seeking permanent degree status at UHM (Fall 2020)

The School of Architecture is poised to grow. We have added a new Master of Landscape Architecture degree that features an innovative place-based curriculum and intends to attract students to study in one of the most unique ecological environments in the world. The MLA has achieved accreditation candidacy status in 2019.

The UH School of Architecture offers the accredited architecture professional degree program in the State of Hawai'i and directly supports a thriving professional community. After their visit to the UH School of Architecture for the review in 2018, National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) granted a full eight-year term of accreditation to Doctor of Architecture Degree (DArch) program. Doctor of Architecture Degree is a professional degree like Juris Doctor (JD) or Doctor of Medicine (MD). It is NOT a Ph.D.

Furthermore, the School of Architecture has already prepared a draft ATP for the Master of Architecture (MArch) degree, which would reduce the time to a professional architecture degree from 3 years (DArch) to 1.5 to 2 years (MArch)

With finishing my clarifications, I would like to share the Aesop's fable below.

The Goose that Laid the Golden Eggs: A farmer had many ducks in his house. One of the ducks would lay a golden egg everyday. He sold the golden egg and became rich. One day, he thought that there would be more golden eggs in the stomach of the duck. If he cut the stomach, he could take all the golden eggs and he would become rich in a very short period of time in stead of waiting for those eggs for many more days. So, without any second thought, he took a knife and cut the stomach of the duck. But he found only one golden egg and felt very sad for what he did.

Sincerely,

Hyoung-June Park, Ph.D.

Graduate Chair/ Director of DArch Program
Associate Professor of Design & Computation
School of Architecture
University of Hawai'i at Manoa



BOARD OF REGENTS TESTIMONY

Silayan Casino <silayan.casino@gmail.com>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 4:46 PM

To: david.lassner@hawaii.edu, david@hawaii.edu, mbruno2@hawaii.edu, COVID19@hawaii.edu, bor.testimony@hawaii.edu, parnade@hawaii.edu, tbrisliln@hawaii.edu, kondo@hawaii.com, laranda@hawaii.edu, overst@hawaii.edu

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find attached my testimony for the BOR re: BA in German Program

Sincerely,

Silayan L. Casino



UHM_German_ltr_20200930.docx

19K

September 29, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

In this statement, I would like to share my experiences, gratitude, and concerns for the BA in German Program at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

I started studying German in Canberra, Australia where I went to school from 7th -10th grades. I am half Dutch (mother) and half Filipino (father). Because there was no opportunity to study Dutch, I studied German to be able to converse with my Dutch relatives. Additionally, with the goal of working for the United Nations, I also studied French.

Upon returning to Hawaii to complete high school grades 11-12, I attended Kalani High School where I could continue learning German and French at higher levels. When it came time to think about where to go to university, I had an easy decision. UHM had one of the highest numbers of foreign language programs taught among state universities in the United States. I could further my interest in German, French, and Dutch (with Prof. Cornelia N. Moore).

As an undergraduate student at UHM in the mid-90's, I was an active member of Delta Phi Alpha (DPA), the German Club. This was one way students could socialize and practice German with each other and the German TA's.

We would have regular bake sales, purchasing *brötchen* at a local bakery, buying delicious fillings like ham, salami, and cheese. We set up the *brötchen* preparation time in the conference room on the fourth floor of Moore Hall. We would have an assembly line making sandwiches for sale. We also had a sign-up sheet for student members to volunteer selling, to raise funds for DPA. With the funds, we would have t-shirts printed and sell them as well. One t-shirt I remember well said, "*Ich träume auf Deutsch*" (I dream in German). There were several activities coordinated by the DPA Coordinator (I remember Prof. Edda Hodnett, Prof. Crean, Prof. William Scherer, Prof. Juergen Sang, and Prof. Niklaus R. Schweizer) to involve students studying German.

Another fun activity of DPA organized, was the regular *stammtisch* at Manoa Gardens on Friday afternoons. We would have some drinks (non-alcoholic), and speak German. Other German speakers from the university community also joined, giving students more opportunity to practice German.

In addition to DPA activities, I took part in two Study Abroad summer session programs to the Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany. My first trip as an undergraduate, was under the guidance of Prof. Bill Scherer, in 1995. I returned to Berlin in 1997 to conduct research for my Master's thesis, under the guidance of Prof. Juergen Sang. Both times visiting Berlin were extremely positive. I received the short-term exposure to the German language and culture that I sought.

After graduating with my Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies: International Studies: Western Europe, I was fortunate to receive a Teaching Assistantship in the German Division with a two-year contract. I thus completed my graduate coursework and taught elementary level German for four semesters. While completing my Master's Degree, I applied for a Fulbright Scholarship to teach English in Germany.

Within two weeks after defending my thesis (Nationalism and Friendship: The Rizal-Blumentritt Correspondence, 1999), I embarked on my Fulbright year at the *Marienschule Muenster* in Muenster, Northrhine Westfalia, Germany. It was an awesome, truly memorable experience. Through Fulbright, I was able to experience living in Germany for an academic year, making new friends, several with who I am still in touch, and teaching English to students from grades 5-13.

I lived in an international dormitory, where I made more friends from other countries in Europe and Asia (Latvia, Italy, Bulgaria, Hungary and others, including two Korean girls). The finale of my time at the *Marienschule* was visiting the 2000 World Expo in Hannover. My school had decided to make it the annual school trip. It was amazing!

The courses in German which I took, still resonate with me today. I remember taking German phonetics with Professor Crean, and a course with Professor Sang on Philosophy where we did sentence diagrams of German philosophers like Kant and Nietzsche. They were challenging, but I got through.

I share these memories with you to illustrate the value of the German division. Had it not been for the opportunity to study German further (after studying it in high school for several years), I would not have had these wonderful life experiences in Europe and Germany.

German is likely the most spoken language in Europe, being the main language spoken in Germany (the largest country in Europe) and Austria, and parts of Switzerland. During my time as a TA in German, I had students with various majors, such as Music, History, Law, Psychology, Medicine, and students who just wanted to learn German because their relatives were German and they wanted to travel to Germany. Additionally, German was the FIRST foreign language offered at UHM.

The importance of German is crucial to understanding Hawaii's history. The first missionaries, who came to Hawaii, were German speakers. They were the ones who created a written Hawaiian language. It is the reason why we correctly say, "Havai`i" instead of Hawai`i, because the German /w/ is pronounced with a /v/ sound in German.

I believe language learning goes hand-in-hand with learning culture. For UHM students, the chance to learn German means giving them an open door to learn not just a foreign language but also culture. Being familiar with the culture of the language you are learning is essential to understanding others.

I humbly request UH President, David Lassner, and the Board of Regents, to reconsider their decision to eliminate the BA in German program at the University of Hawai`i at Manoa. I hope that German courses will continue to be offered to students interested in studying German.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter. Should you wish to contact me, I may best be reached through email at silayan.casino@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Silayan Laarhoven Casino, M.A.

UH President, David Lassner (david@hawaii.edu and david.lassner@hawaii.edu)

Cc: UHM Provost, Michael Bruno (mbruno2@hawaii.edu)

The Board of Regents (bor.testimony@hawaii.edu)

The Dean of CALL, Peter Arnade (parnade@hawaii.edu)

Associate Dean of CALL, Tom Brislin (tbrislin@hawaii.edu)

Associate Dean of CALL, Kimi Kondo-Brown (kondo@hawaii.edu)

Associate Chair of Dance, Lucia Aranda (laranda@hawaii.edu)

Chair of German, Maryann Overstreet (overst@hawaii.edu)

Testimony for the Board of Regents Budgetary Meeting on October 1, 2020.

Linda C. Miki <lindam@g70.design>
To: "bor.testimony@hawaii.edu" <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>

Thu, Oct 1, 2020 at 12:50 AM

To *UH Board of Regents*:

My name is Linda Miki, currently Vice Chair and former President & COO of G70 and a graduate of the University of Hawaii School of Architecture. G70 has been serving Hawaii for nearly 50 years and will continue to do so with the creative visions brought into reality by architects who understand our islands. I am very thankful for the UH School of Architecture, having 36 graduates at our firm.

I support the statements in Sheryl Seaman's letter and especially want to emphasize the role of architects as the designers of our sustainable built environment. I'm writing to you as not only a practicing Hawaii licensed architect but also as a concerned mother. It's important to provide local students access to professional degrees that will help to keep the best and brightest in Hawaii. Far too many of our next generation feel that going away provides the opportunity to get a "better" education, while in reality, we have the best location to advance a vigorous sustainable design program.

As an alumni along with many other graduates who have contributed their talents and skills to keep Hawaii the most beautiful place to live, work, and play, I strongly urge you to fund and support the School of Architecture for our future generations.

Aloha,



Linda C. Miki, AIA

Vice Chair, Principal

[111 S. King Street, Suite 170](#)

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

t 808.523.5866

e lindam@g70.design

www.G70.design



Budget Policy - Testimony from AIA HSC

Katie MacNeil <katiem@g70.design>
To: "bor.testimony@hawaii.edu" <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 11:11 PM

Submitting on behalf of AIA Hawaii State Council, testimony providing comments regarding the BOR Budget Policy.

Also submitted via website.

Regards,

Katie



Katherine M. MacNeil, AIA, LEED AP

Principal

[111 S. King Street, Suite 170](#)

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

t 808.523.5866

d 808.441.2147

e katiem@g70.design

www.G70.design

[Click here to download Outlook vCard.](#)



UHBoR Letter093020.pdf

98K



AIA
Hawaii

University of Hawaii, Board of Regents
Committee on Budget and Finance
2444 Dole Street, Bachman 209
Honolulu, HI 96822

September 30, 2020

Dear Board of Regents,

The American Institute of Architects Hawaii State Council (AIA HSC) is writing on behalf of AIA members statewide regarding the Board's "Construction, design, and the built environment" section of the Budget Policy Paper (page 6). We strongly recommend that "architecture" as a profession and "architecture" as it relates to University-level education be included in all policy statements relative to construction, design, and the built environment.

The American Institute of Architects

AIA Hawaii
828 Fort Street Mall, Suite 100
Honolulu, HI 96813

T (808)628-7243
contact@aiahonolulu.org
aiahonolulu.org/StateWideAdvocacy

We ask the Board or Regents to highlight that the architectural profession is an essential professional service within Hawaii's construction industry, Statewide design efforts, and the creation of a sustainable built environment. Design and construction are the first indicators of a successful economy and as the economy begins to open back up to a new normal, architecture will be foundational in moving Hawaii's economy forward. The role architects will have in the post-COVID-19 economy will be significant. The architect is not dependent on any one economic sector as our services are of value and necessary to all sectors. Architects envision the places of these new economies, of these new communities. New economies need places to live, to work, to educate, to worship and to play. Architects design these places all while delivering a built environment that protects public health, safety and welfare to provide our communities with the resiliency needed to face ever increasing threats due to climate change. To succeed, Hawaii's architectural firms need well educated architects. It is the University of Hawaii's School of Architecture (SoA) a nationally accredited program that prepares these architects and therefore it is the SoA that is a most critical factor for our State's future economic success.

We understand that per the administration's budget committee suggestions potential plans have recommended that the School of Architecture (SoA) be consolidated under the College of Engineering. Although AIA HSC cannot predict the ramifications of such a consolidation, we are attempting to first make it clear that the SoA provides a critical pipeline and training ground for emerging professionals within our industry of design and construction, specifically architecture. Most of our AIA member firms historically and consistently hire graduates from the accredited School of Architecture and invest in the mentoring of UH's SoA graduates to become licensed architects for the State of Hawaii. To have the autonomous and nationally accredited Architectural program in our backyard at the University of Hawaii at Manoa is a significant benefit to our profession. It is truly a factor in the success of our local firms practicing throughout our state.

Lastly, for the University's discussions regarding the future autonomy of the School of Architecture and any suggested consolidation whether it be under the College of Engineering or other, we ask that the AIA Hawaii State Council be invited to participate. As representative of the AIA members statewide, we can provide voice to the reasons to support the continued autonomy of the School of Architecture and relate to the Board of Regents the critical role the SoA graduate has in our local economy. Actions that adversely affect the national accreditation of the program as provided by the UH SoA will be detrimental and devastating to architectural practice here in Hawaii. We are here to support the University; we welcome dialogue and offer to provide any further information needed to achieve a mutual understanding.

Best Regards,

Katie MacNeil, AIA, LEED AP
AIA Hawaii State Council
President

Reid T. Mizue, AIA, LEED AP
AIA Hawaii State Council
Secretary / Treasurer



AIA Honolulu's Testimony

Purnima McCutcheon <mccutcheon.purnima@gmail.com>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 10:08 PM

Re: Budget Policy Paper Testimony, UH BOR Meeting, 10/1/20

Aloha, UH BOR,

Kindly see attached testimony from AIA Honolulu regarding the Budget Policy Paper, UH BOR Meeting, 10/1/20. I did upload the testimony on the website below, but also emailing it, as I have not received a notification of upload.

<https://www.hawaii.edu/offices/bor/archive/index.php>

Please acknowledge receipt of this email and attached testimony.

Mahalo,
Purnima

Purnima McCutcheon, AIA, CDT, LEED AP BD+C
mccutcheon.purnima@gmail.com
(808) 393 6094



AIA Honolulu Testimony.pdf
119K



September 30, 2020

Re: Budget Policy Paper Testimony, UH BOR Meeting, 10/1/20

Dear University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

We have only recently come to understand through the [UH Manoa's posted Planning for Post-Pandemic, Suggestions for the School of Architecture](#), that the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents (BOR) is considering moving the School of Architecture under the College of Engineering.

On behalf of AIA Honolulu, with a membership of over 700 architects, associate architects and allied professionals, we would like to urge the Board of Regents to engage with the architectural community and practitioners via the School of Architecture faculty, students and alumni, and the boards of local organizations, including but not limited to, AIA Honolulu, AIA Maui, AIA Hawai'i State Chapters, and the Hawai'i Architecture Foundation, prior to making significant decisions impacting the School of Architecture in the long term.

Architects have the crucial task of designing and shaping our environment. The School of Architecture is the only accredited architecture degree program in Hawai'i. It provides the high-quality education necessary for practicing architecture, and our firms and government agencies depend on graduates of the program to join our workforce and continue to contribute to our built environment.

The mission and culture of an engineering school is very different than that of an architectural school. Architectural education is neither engineering nor the arts, rather a combination of them and significantly more. Architects lead the charge on building projects, with engineers typically as sub-consultants to architects.

Dilution of our architecture program or loss of accreditation would result in losing potential local talent to mainland schools and cities, from which they may never return. Additionally, studying in Hawai'i and subsequently working here is far more advantageous to our state, as architectural design needs to reflect an understanding of place with its geography, climate, environment, culture and people.

Reorganizing the school without due consideration can be detrimental to our state's built environment and our building industry. AIA Honolulu is available to facilitate and support further conversations on this urgent matter.

We respectfully request that the University of Hawai'i BOR

1. Amend "Construction, Design, and the Built environment" section of the Budget Policy Paper (Page 6) to demonstrate an understanding of the role of and architect, and,
2. Take no action towards changing the current structure of the School of Architecture until meeting all the major stakeholders referenced in paragraph 2

With thanks for your consideration,

Purnima McCutcheon,
AIA President, 2020

AIA Honolulu
A Chapter of the
American Institute of Architects

2020 Board of Directors

President
Purnima McCutcheon, AIA

Vice President
Karen Sakamoto, AIA

Secretary
Jennifer Toba-Davila, AIA

Treasurer
Jim Nicolow, FAIA

Directors
Richard Furst, AIA
John Hetherington, AIA
Melanie Islam, AIA
Chretien Macutay, AIA
Deepak Neupane, AIA
Jennifer Poepoe, AIA
Hale Takazawa, AIA
Kevin Wilcock, AIA
Ina Wong, AIA

Associate Directors
Reece Bonilla, Assoc. AIA
Danielle Yafuso, Assoc. AIA

Public Directors
Jill Misawa
Jennifer Pang

Ex Officio
Jacy L. Youn
Executive Vice President

AIA Honolulu
Center for Architecture
828 Fort St. Mall, Suite 100
Honolulu, HI 96813-4452

T 808-628-7243
contact@aiahonolulu.org
aiahonolulu.org

Oct 1 - Budget and Finance Mtg

Charles Y. Kaneshiro <charlesk@g70.design>
To: "bor.testimony@hawaii.edu" <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 7:59 PM

This testimony is being offered regarding the Board of Regents Budgetary Meeting on October 1, 2020.

To whom it may concern:

My name is Charles Kaneshiro and I am the President and Chief Operating Officer of G70. G70 is one of the largest architectural firms in Hawaii and have been in practice since 1971. Our staff is comprised of 36 graduates of the University of Hawaii School of Architecture including myself. Together, we are working on projects throughout Hawaii and the Pacific Rim.

I am writing in support of the School of Architecture and its importance in the training of future architects. My partner and our Vice-chair, Sheryl Seaman has provided an eloquently written statement, dated Sept 30, 2020. I support the statements in her letter and especially want to emphasize the role of architects as the designers of our sustainable built environment.

Engineers are important to the design of sustainable project but every sustainable building in Hawaii that I'm aware of was lead by an architect, not an engineer. Personally, I have designed the C-MORE Hale, the first LEED Platinum Laboratory at UH and Pu'u Kukui Elementary, the first LEED certified public school campus on Maui and Kihei HS, the first net zero campus in Hawaii. Each of these projects were lead by an architectural team supported by engineers. For me, it was the School of Architecture where I first was exposed to the idea of sustainability. If Hawaii is to reach its sustainability and energy efficiency goals, it will need architects who understand our environment and the School of Architecture is the only place in Hawaii where this will occur.

Sincerely,



Charles Y. Kaneshiro, AIA, LEED AP

President, Chief Operating Officer

[111 S. King Street, Suite 170](#)
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
t 808.523.5866
e charlesk@g70.design
www.G70.design

Budget and Finance Meeting Testimony

Woravudh (Lek) Lekprathum <woravudhl@g70.design>
To: "bor.testimony@hawaii.edu" <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 7:55 PM

Aloha,

I am writing this email in support of Sheryl Seaman's testimony letter dated September 30, 2020 (attached) for the October 1, 2020 BOR budget and finance meeting. I graduated with Architecture Doctorate Degree (currently called as Doctor of Architecture) from the School of Architecture (SOOA University of Hawaii Moana. I have been working with architects and engineers for over 15 years. The role of Architect in "Construction, Design and the Built Environment" is very important and should be acknowledged as stated in this letter. Also, the University of Hawaii should continue to support the School of Architecture as they are the only accredited Architecture school in Hawaii and plays an important role in our community. Moreover, the school attracts students from Asia and Pacific Region to the University of Hawaii, and helps the University to be well known internationally.

Mahalo,



Woravudh (Lek) Lekprathum, D.Arch.
LEED AP, International Associate AIA

Project Architectural Technician

111 S. King Street, Suite 170
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
t 808.523.5866
d 808.441.2173
e woravudhl@g70.design
www.G70.design

 **20200930-UHSOA-SSeaman.pdf**
266K



30 September 2020

111 S. King Street
Suite 170
Honolulu, HI 96813
808.523.5866
www.g70.design

To Whom It May Concern:

This testimony is being offered with regard to the BOR budgetary meeting of 1 October, 2020.

My name is Sheryl Seaman, AIA, IIDA, LEED-AP. I am Vice chair of the multidiscipline design firm G70. Our gross revenue last year was \$34,000,000. I am a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture, as are 36 of our staff including our CEO.

On page six of your Budget Policy Paper Fiscal Biennium 2021-2023, dated September 2020, there is a reference to educating “thoughtful **designers** of sustainable built environments appropriate for Hawaii and out post-pandemic future.” I would suggest that it should say **architects**. It continues, “Hawaii will also need more high performing construction engineers and managers.” These roles are also quite often **architects**. I do not understand the reluctance to acknowledge this profession since it is regulated and licensed by the State and many of the highly qualified individuals that we employ are graduates of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture.

We discover these talented students through our collaboration with the school in offering Practicum placements and internships as suggested in Section II of the policy on page 7.

In Section III the “tight set of economic and workforce sectors for priority and investment” include “Climate change, Resilience, Energy and Conservation” all part of the School of Architecture curriculum. It also includes “Sustainable Tourism” another area of architectural expertise.

Section IV discusses research enterprise. It discusses “Pacific engagement” and “study of Asia and the Pacific (all disciplines).” The School of Architecture’s Global Track Program wherein the students graduate with a Doctor of Architecture from UH and a Master of Architecture from Tongji University in Shanghai, has produced more than 40 students who have done detailed research in all of the areas of energy, resilience, culture, and education. This program is a goldmine of intellect and ability that could be more successfully leveraged with better support from the university.

In conclusion, if the BOR and the State are serious about promoting a more successful, resilient, and healthy community post-pandemic, I would urge you to fund and support your School of Architecture. It is producing the people who will assist you in the development of your RIM program. It is worthwhile noting that in building construction, the architect holds the master contract and the engineers are, for the most part, sub-consultants under the architect. Under State law “designers” are not allowed to

BOR
30 September 2020
Page 2 of 2

prepare, stamp and oversee construction. Please correct your terminology and support our School of Architecture.

Mahalo,

GROUP 70 INTERNATIONAL, INC., a Hawaii corporation, dba G70

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheryl Seaman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sheryl Seaman, AIA, ASID. LEED AP
Vice-Chairman

SBS/ata

**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) *

Janice Li

Your Organization (optional)

WATG

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

jli@watg.com

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

B&F IV.D. Budget Policy Paper

Your Position (required) *

Comments Only

Your Testimony/Comments**Your Testimony (pdf or word)**[UH BOR Testimony_Janice Li.pdf](#) (79.6 kB)**Actions**

Close

Export

30 September 2020

University of Hawaii at Manoa
Board of Regents

Subject: Testimony for the Board of Regents Budgetary Meeting on 01 October 2020

Dear Board of Regents,

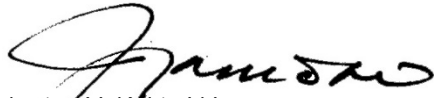
My name is Janice Y.K. Li, AIA. I'm an Associate Vice President at Wimberly Allison Tong & Goo (WATG) - an international multi-disciplinary design firm founded in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1945 and the only architecture firm in Hawaii that has expanded globally with offices in Honolulu, Los Angeles, New York, London, Dubai, Singapore, and Shanghai. We currently have seven incredibly talented architects in our Honolulu office and countless others working in WATG offices across the globe who are graduates of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture (UH SoA).

I am writing in response to the wording appearing in the "Construction, design, and the built environment" section (page six) of your *Budget Policy Paper Fiscal Biennium 2021-2023*, dated September 2020. There is a reference to educating "thoughtful **designers** of sustainable built environments appropriate for Hawaii and our post-pandemic future." The word "designers" should be replaced by "architects." As for the following sentence that reads, "Hawaii will also need more high performing construction engineers and managers." These roles are also quite often performed by **architects**. Architects play an integral part within the design and construction industry as they possess the knowledge that bridge the inventive aspects of design and spatial programming, with the technical know-how of the building process. Architects should be given proper recognition. Without proper acknowledgement in your *Budget Policy Paper*, I worry about what it means for the funding and the future of the School of Architecture at the University of Hawaii.

As industry leaders working hard to sustain Hawaii's economy and create job opportunities for our communities, we need the UH SoA to help educate and prepare qualified candidates to power our specialized type of work in our unique island environment. In the past few years, we have acutely felt the ramifications of the "brain drain" as more and more qualified architects opted to relocate to the mainland, leaving local firms with a less competitive edge. Rather than reserve valuable job positions for the local community, we reluctantly recruit out of state to fill vacant spots. We are losing market share to mainland firms and this trend is not sustainable for our local design and construction industry. In the field of architecture, it is the human capital that drives our success. We need qualified "homegrown" architects who understand Hawaii's unique environment to design and build appropriately on our islands.

We all need to work together to promote a resilient, healthy, and successful Hawaii post-pandemic. I urge you to give architects the proper recognition and to continue to fund and support our School of Architecture. The school trains future architects who in turn stay to invest in the growth of our home environment, helping to build and develop a sustainable Hawaii. Please consider changing the wording in your paper and continue your support for the UH SoA.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janice Li', written in a cursive style.

Janice Y. K. Li, AIA
Associate Vice President
Wimberly Allison Tong & Goo Inc.

**LATE TESTIMONY****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) *

Lance Hirai

Your Organization (optional)

G70

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

lanceh@g70.design

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

B&F IV.D. Budget Policy Paper

Your Position (required) *

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Please see attached my support of Sheryl Seaman's letter.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)[20200930-UHSEA-SSeaman.pdf](#) (271.6 kB)**Actions**

Close

Export



30 September 2020

111 S. King Street
Suite 170
Honolulu, HI 96813
808.523.5866
www.g70.design

To Whom It May Concern:

This testimony is being offered with regard to the BOR budgetary meeting of 1 October, 2020.

My name is Sheryl Seaman, AIA, IIDA, LEED-AP. I am Vice chair of the multidiscipline design firm G70. Our gross revenue last year was \$34,000,000. I am a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture, as are 36 of our staff including our CEO.

On page six of your Budget Policy Paper Fiscal Biennium 2021-2023, dated September 2020, there is a reference to educating “thoughtful **designers** of sustainable built environments appropriate for Hawaii and out post-pandemic future.” I would suggest that it should say **architects**. It continues, “Hawaii will also need more high performing construction engineers and managers.” These roles are also quite often **architects**. I do not understand the reluctance to acknowledge this profession since it is regulated and licensed by the State and many of the highly qualified individuals that we employ are graduates of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture.

We discover these talented students through our collaboration with the school in offering Practicum placements and internships as suggested in Section II of the policy on page 7.

In Section III the “tight set of economic and workforce sectors for priority and investment” include “Climate change, Resilience, Energy and Conservation” all part of the School of Architecture curriculum. It also includes “Sustainable Tourism” another area of architectural expertise.

Section IV discusses research enterprise. It discusses “Pacific engagement” and “study of Asia and the Pacific (all disciplines).” The School of Architecture’s Global Track Program wherein the students graduate with a Doctor of Architecture from UH and a Master of Architecture from Tongji University in Shanghai, has produced more than 40 students who have done detailed research in all of the areas of energy, resilience, culture, and education. This program is a goldmine of intellect and ability that could be more successfully leveraged with better support from the university.

In conclusion, if the BOR and the State are serious about promoting a more successful, resilient, and healthy community post-pandemic, I would urge you to fund and support your School of Architecture. It is producing the people who will assist you in the development of your RIM program. It is worthwhile noting that in building construction, the architect holds the master contract and the engineers are, for the most part, sub-consultants under the architect. Under State law “designers” are not allowed to

BOR
30 September 2020
Page 2 of 2

prepare, stamp and oversee construction. Please correct your terminology and support our School of Architecture.

Mahalo,

GROUP 70 INTERNATIONAL, INC., a Hawaii corporation, dba G70

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheryl Seaman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sheryl Seaman, AIA, ASID. LEED AP
Vice-Chairman

SBS/ata

**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) *

Purnima P McCutcheon

Your Organization (optional)

AIA Honolulu

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

mccutcheon.purnima@gmail.com

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

B&F IV.D. Budget Policy Paper

Your Position (required) *

Oppose

Your Testimony/Comments**Your Testimony (pdf or word)**[AIA Honolulu Testimony.pdf](#) (121.4 kB)**Actions**

Close

Export



AIA
Honolulu

September 30, 2020

Re: Budget Policy Paper Testimony, UH BOR Meeting, 10/1/20

Dear University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

We have only recently come to understand through the [UH Manoa's posted Planning for Post-Pandemic, Suggestions for the School of Architecture](#), that the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents (BOR) is considering moving the School of Architecture under the College of Engineering.

On behalf of AIA Honolulu, with a membership of over 700 architects, associate architects and allied professionals, we would like to urge the Board of Regents to engage with the architectural community and practitioners via the School of Architecture faculty, students and alumni, and the boards of local organizations, including but not limited to, AIA Honolulu, AIA Maui, AIA Hawai'i State Chapters, and the Hawai'i Architecture Foundation, prior to making significant decisions impacting the School of Architecture in the long term.

Architects have the crucial task of designing and shaping our environment. The School of Architecture is the only accredited architecture degree program in Hawai'i. It provides the high-quality education necessary for practicing architecture, and our firms and government agencies depend on graduates of the program to join our workforce and continue to contribute to our built environment.

The mission and culture of an engineering school is very different than that of an architectural school. Architectural education is neither engineering nor the arts, rather a combination of them and significantly more. Architects lead the charge on building projects, with engineers typically as sub-consultants to architects.

Dilution of our architecture program or loss of accreditation would result in losing potential local talent to mainland schools and cities, from which they may never return. Additionally, studying in Hawai'i and subsequently working here is far more advantageous to our state, as architectural design needs to reflect an understanding of place with its geography, climate, environment, culture and people.

Reorganizing the school without due consideration can be detrimental to our state's built environment and our building industry. AIA Honolulu is available to facilitate and support further conversations on this urgent matter.

We respectfully request that the University of Hawai'i BOR

1. Amend "Construction, Design, and the Built environment" section of the Budget Policy Paper (Page 6) to demonstrate an understanding of the role of and architect, and,
2. Take no action towards changing the current structure of the School of Architecture until meeting all the major stakeholders referenced in paragraph 2

With thanks for your consideration,

Purnima McCutcheon,
AIA President, 2020

AIA Honolulu
A Chapter of the
American Institute of Architects

2020 Board of Directors

President
Purnima McCutcheon, AIA

Vice President
Karen Sakamoto, AIA

Secretary
Jennifer Toba-Davila, AIA

Treasurer
Jim Nicolow, FAIA

Directors
Richard Furst, AIA
John Hetherington, AIA
Melanie Islam, AIA
Chretien Macutay, AIA
Deepak Neupane, AIA
Jennifer Poepoe, AIA
Hale Takazawa, AIA
Kevin Wilcock, AIA
Ina Wong, AIA

Associate Directors
Reece Bonilla, Assoc. AIA
Danielle Yafuso, Assoc. AIA

Public Directors
Jill Misawa
Jennifer Pang

Ex Officio
Jacy L. Youn
Executive Vice President

AIA Honolulu
Center for Architecture
828 Fort St. Mall, Suite 100
Honolulu, HI 96813-4452

T 808-628-7243
contact@aiahonolulu.org
aiahonolulu.org



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) *

Katherine MacNeil

Your Organization (optional)

AIA Hawaii State Council

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

katiem@g70.design

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

B&F IV.D. Budget Policy Paper

Your Position (required) *

Comments Only

Your Testimony/Comments

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[UHBoR Letter093020.pdf](#) (99.5 kB)

Actions

Close

Export



AIA
Hawaii

University of Hawaii, Board of Regents
Committee on Budget and Finance
2444 Dole Street, Bachman 209
Honolulu, HI 96822

September 30, 2020

Dear Board of Regents,

The American Institute of Architects Hawaii State Council (AIA HSC) is writing on behalf of AIA members statewide regarding the Board's "Construction, design, and the built environment" section of the Budget Policy Paper (page 6). We strongly recommend that "architecture" as a profession and "architecture" as it relates to University-level education be included in all policy statements relative to construction, design, and the built environment.

The American Institute of Architects

AIA Hawaii
828 Fort Street Mall, Suite 100
Honolulu, HI 96813

T (808)628-7243
contact@aiahonolulu.org
aiahonolulu.org/StateWideAdvocacy

We ask the Board or Regents to highlight that the architectural profession is an essential professional service within Hawaii's construction industry, Statewide design efforts, and the creation of a sustainable built environment. Design and construction are the first indicators of a successful economy and as the economy begins to open back up to a new normal, architecture will be foundational in moving Hawaii's economy forward. The role architects will have in the post-COVID-19 economy will be significant. The architect is not dependent on any one economic sector as our services are of value and necessary to all sectors. Architects envision the places of these new economies, of these new communities. New economies need places to live, to work, to educate, to worship and to play. Architects design these places all while delivering a built environment that protects public health, safety and welfare to provide our communities with the resiliency needed to face ever increasing threats due to climate change. To succeed, Hawaii's architectural firms need well educated architects. It is the University of Hawaii's School of Architecture (SoA) a nationally accredited program that prepares these architects and therefore it is the SoA that is a most critical factor for our State's future economic success.

We understand that per the administration's budget committee suggestions potential plans have recommended that the School of Architecture (SoA) be consolidated under the College of Engineering. Although AIA HSC cannot predict the ramifications of such a consolidation, we are attempting to first make it clear that the SoA provides a critical pipeline and training ground for emerging professionals within our industry of design and construction, specifically architecture. Most of our AIA member firms historically and consistently hire graduates from the accredited School of Architecture and invest in the mentoring of UH's SoA graduates to become licensed architects for the State of Hawaii. To have the autonomous and nationally accredited Architectural program in our backyard at the University of Hawaii at Manoa is a significant benefit to our profession. It is truly a factor in the success of our local firms practicing throughout our state.

Lastly, for the University's discussions regarding the future autonomy of the School of Architecture and any suggested consolidation whether it be under the College of Engineering or other, we ask that the AIA Hawaii State Council be invited to participate. As representative of the AIA members statewide, we can provide voice to the reasons to support the continued autonomy of the School of Architecture and relate to the Board of Regents the critical role the SoA graduate has in our local economy. Actions that adversely affect the national accreditation of the program as provided by the UH SoA will be detrimental and devastating to architectural practice here in Hawaii. We are here to support the University; we welcome dialogue and offer to provide any further information needed to achieve a mutual understanding.

Best Regards,

Katie MacNeil, AIA, LEED AP
AIA Hawaii State Council
President

Reid T. Mizue, AIA, LEED AP
AIA Hawaii State Council
Secretary / Treasurer

**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) *

Alisa Mills

Your Organization (optional)

G70

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

alisam@g70.design

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

B&F IV.C. Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Financial Update

Your Position (required) *

Oppose

Your Testimony/Comments

I am a graduate of USC School of Architecture (B.Arch) and the Yale School of the Environment (Master of Envir. Management). Having come to Hawaii four years ago, I have met and had the pleasure of working with many colleagues who hold a Doctorate from the School of Architecture at the University of Manoa. I have discussed their experience at the school and witnessed their professional achievements, as 36 of my colleagues at G70 are UM grads, including several principals. It is a unique program that I wish I had known about when I was charting my own educational course. I strongly believe that architects are a vital part of solving economic, health, and environmental problems post-pandemic, and becoming a licensed architect in the State of Hawaii should remain possible. I support and urge you to consider the attached letter from Sheryl Seaman. Please do not cut or consolidate the only architectural degree program in the State. Mahalo for your attention and consideration.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)[20200930-UHSOA-SSeaman.pdf](#) (271.6 kB)

Actions

Close

Export



30 September 2020

111 S. King Street
Suite 170
Honolulu, HI 96813
808.523.5866
www.g70.design

To Whom It May Concern:

This testimony is being offered with regard to the BOR budgetary meeting of 1 October, 2020.

My name is Sheryl Seaman, AIA, IIDA, LEED-AP. I am Vice chair of the multidiscipline design firm G70. Our gross revenue last year was \$34,000,000. I am a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture, as are 36 of our staff including our CEO.

On page six of your Budget Policy Paper Fiscal Biennium 2021-2023, dated September 2020, there is a reference to educating “thoughtful **designers** of sustainable built environments appropriate for Hawaii and out post-pandemic future.” I would suggest that it should say **architects**. It continues, “Hawaii will also need more high performing construction engineers and managers.” These roles are also quite often **architects**. I do not understand the reluctance to acknowledge this profession since it is regulated and licensed by the State and many of the highly qualified individuals that we employ are graduates of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture.

We discover these talented students through our collaboration with the school in offering Practicum placements and internships as suggested in Section II of the policy on page 7.

In Section III the “tight set of economic and workforce sectors for priority and investment” include “Climate change, Resilience, Energy and Conservation” all part of the School of Architecture curriculum. It also includes “Sustainable Tourism” another area of architectural expertise.

Section IV discusses research enterprise. It discusses “Pacific engagement” and “study of Asia and the Pacific (all disciplines).” The School of Architecture’s Global Track Program wherein the students graduate with a Doctor of Architecture from UH and a Master of Architecture from Tongji University in Shanghai, has produced more than 40 students who have done detailed research in all of the areas of energy, resilience, culture, and education. This program is a goldmine of intellect and ability that could be more successfully leveraged with better support from the university.

In conclusion, if the BOR and the State are serious about promoting a more successful, resilient, and healthy community post-pandemic, I would urge you to fund and support your School of Architecture. It is producing the people who will assist you in the development of your RIM program. It is worthwhile noting that in building construction, the architect holds the master contract and the engineers are, for the most part, sub-consultants under the architect. Under State law “designers” are not allowed to

BOR
30 September 2020
Page 2 of 2

prepare, stamp and oversee construction. Please correct your terminology and support our School of Architecture.

Mahalo,

GROUP 70 INTERNATIONAL, INC., a Hawaii corporation, dba G70

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheryl Seaman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sheryl Seaman, AIA, ASID. LEED AP
Vice-Chairman

SBS/ata