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**Notice of Special Meeting  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I  
BOARD OF REGENTS**

*Board business not completed on this day will be taken up on another day and time  
announced at the conclusion of the meeting.*

**Date:** Friday, February 16, 2024  
**Time:** 12:00 p.m.  
**Place:** University of Hawai'i at Hilo  
Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy  
Hale Kiho'ihoi Room 101  
722 South Aohoku Place  
Hilo, HI 96720

**See the Board of Regents website to access the live broadcast of the  
meeting and related updates: [www.hawaii.edu/bor](http://www.hawaii.edu/bor)**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call Meeting to Order**
- II. Approval of the Minutes of the December 7, 2023, and January 04, 2024  
Special Meetings**
- III. Public Comment Period for Agenda Items:**

Individuals who are unable to provide testimony at this time will be allowed an opportunity to testify when specific agenda items are called.

All written testimony on agenda items received after posting of this agenda and up to 48 hours in advance of the meeting will be distributed to the board. Late testimony on agenda items will be distributed to the board at the beginning of the meeting. Written testimony may be submitted via the board's website through the testimony link provided on the Meeting Agendas, Minutes and Materials page. Testimony may also be submitted via email at [bor.testimony@hawaii.edu](mailto:bor.testimony@hawaii.edu), U.S. mail at 2444 Dole Street, Bachman 209, Honolulu, HI 96822, or facsimile at (808) 956-5156.

Those wishing to provide oral testimony virtually may register [here](#). Given the constraints with the format of hybrid meetings, individuals wishing to orally testify virtually must register no later than 7:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting in order to be accommodated. Registration for in-person oral testimony on agenda items will also be provided at the meeting location 15 minutes prior to the meeting and closed at the posted meeting time. It is highly recommended that written testimony be submitted in addition to registering to provide oral testimony. Oral testimony will be limited to three (3) minutes per testifier.

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If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact the Board Office at (808) 956-8213 or [bor@hawaii.edu](mailto:bor@hawaii.edu) as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.

Although remote oral testimony is being permitted, this is a regular meeting and not a remote meeting by interactive conference technology under Section 92-3.7, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS). Therefore, the meeting will continue notwithstanding loss of audiovisual communication with remote testifiers or loss of the public broadcast of the meeting.

All written testimony submitted are public documents. Therefore, any testimony that is submitted orally or in writing, electronically or in person, for use in the public meeting process is public information and will be posted on the board's website.

**IV. Agenda Items**

- A. Update on Presidential Search – Selection of Search Firm and Presidential Search Survey
- B. Board Approval of Presidential Search Advisory Group Members
- C. Discussion and Potential Action on Regent Liaisons to the Presidential Search Advisory Group
- D. Discussion and Potential Action on Assignment of Tasks to the Presidential Search Advisory Group

**V. Executive Session (closed to the public):** To consult with the board's attorneys on questions and issues pertaining to the board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities, pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(4), HRS

- A. Presidential Selection Process – Compliance with HRS Chapter 92

**VI. Adjournment**

**DISCLAIMER – THE FOLLOWING ARE DRAFT MINUTES AND ARE SUBJECT TO FURTHER REVIEW AND CHANGE UPON APPROVAL BY THE BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**BOARD OF REGENTS SPECIAL MEETING**

**DECEMBER 7, 2023**

A video recording of this meeting may be viewed at the Board of Regents website as follows:

[Meeting Video #1](#)

[Meeting Video #2](#)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Alapaki Nahale-a called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. on Thursday, December 7, 2023, at the University of Hawai'i (UH) at Mānoa, Information Technology Building, 1st Floor Conference Room 105A/B, 2520 Correa Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822, with regents participating from various locations.

Quorum (11): Chair Alapaki Nahale-a; Vice-Chair Gabriel Lee; Vice-Chair Ernest Wilson; Regent Neil Abercrombie; Regent Lauren Akitake; Regent William Haning; Regent Wayne Higaki; Regent Laurel Loo; Regent Abigail Mawae; Regent Diane Paloma; and Regent Laurie Tochiki.

Others in attendance: President David Lassner; Vice President (VP) for Administration Jan Gouveia; VP for Legal Affairs/UH General Counsel Carrie Okinaga; VP for Research and Innovation Vassilis Syrmos; VP for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer Garret Yoshimi; VP for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer Kalbert Young; VP for Advancement/UH Foundation (UHF) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Tim Dolan; Interim Vice President for Community Colleges Della Teraoka; UH-Mānoa (UHM) Provost Michael Bruno; UH-Hilo Chancellor Bonnie Irwin; UH-West O'ahu (UHWO) Chancellor Maenette Benham; Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents (Board Secretary) Yvonne Lau; and others as noted.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Board Secretary Lau announced that the Board Office received written comments from Craig Nakamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA), about the university's participation in a multi-agency Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to facilitate and support the development of housing and complimentary commercial uses on UHWO parcels.

The Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Mānoa Faculty Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, UH Staff Council, Kelsie Aguilera, Michele Mahi, Petersen Gross, Erin Centeio, Kristin Bacon, Siobhán Ní Dhonacha, Rayna Fujii, and

Nicole Alia Salis Reyes submitted written comments on the presidential selection process.

Late written comments on the university's participation in a multi-agency MOA to facilitate and support the development of housing and complimentary commercial uses on UHWO parcels was received from Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks, Ashley Cameron, Danielle Thompson, and Mika Thompson.

Late written comments on the awarding of an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Haunani-Kay Trask were received from Erin Wright.

Late written comments on the presidential selection process were received from the Association of Emeritus Regents, Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i (ASUH), ASUH Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, Kapi'olani Community College (KapCC) Staff Council, UHM Staff Senate, KapCC Faculty Senate, University of Hawai'i Professional Assembly, Waynele Yu, David Duffy, Randolph Moore, Lois Yamauchi, Marguerite Butler, Sonja Giardina, and Mariko Quinn.

Christie Nitta, Erin Centeio, Shawn Ford, James Lee, Marguerite Butler, Mariko Quinn, Bronson Azama, Kyson James-Foree, Jaret Leong, and Jill Nunokawa provided oral comments on the presidential selection process. Additionally, Jill Nunokawa provided oral comments supporting the awarding of an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Haunani-Kay Trask and Bronson Azama provided oral comments on student housing at UHM.

Written testimony may be viewed at the Board of Regents website as follows:

[Written Testimony Received](#)

[Late Written Testimony Received](#)

Chair Nahale-a announced that Agenda Items IV.A. and IV.B. which relates to the awarding of Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degrees to Haunani-Kay Trask and Dave Shoji would be taken up at this time.

#### **IV. AGENDA ITEMS**

##### **A. Approval to Award an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Haunani-Kay Trask**

Laura Lyons, Interim Vice Provost for Academic Excellence at UHM, remarked that the bestowing of an honorary degree to nationally or internationally distinguished individuals is an authority retained by the board under Regents Policy (RP) 5.209; provided information on the support received for the awarding of an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Dr. Haunani-Kay Trask; and stated that, among other things, Dr. Trask's noteworthy influences on the Native Hawaiian community and significant contributions to the university warrants approval of this recommendation.

Regent Wilson moved to approve the awarding of an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Dr. Haunani-Kay Trask, seconded by Regent Haning, and noting the excused

absence of Regent Mawae, the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

### **B. Approval to Award an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Dave Shoji**

Interim Vice Provost Lyons provided information on the support received for the awarding of an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Dave Shoji, who served as the head coach of the UHM women's volleyball team for 41 years. She stated that, among other things, Coach Shoji's noteworthy impacts on women's intercollegiate volleyball and numerous contributions to athletics at UHM merits approval of this recommendation.

Vice-Chair Lee moved to approve the awarding of an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Dave Shoji, seconded by Regent Loo, and noting the excused absence of Regent Mawae, the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

### **III. REPORT OF UHF**

VP/UHF CEO Dolan reported on the fundraising efforts of UHF for the current fiscal year, stating that just over \$51 million has been raised to date as compared to \$43 million received at the same time last year, and discussed the formal launch of UHF's \$1 billion comprehensive capital campaign, which continues to raise money at an aggressive pace garnering slightly more than \$587 million in contributions thus far. He also spoke about the efforts behind obtaining what is expected to be a seven-figure gift for the Ethnomusicology Program at UHM which serves to illustrate the significance of facilitating community interaction and engagement activities.

Regent Abercrombie stressed the importance of promoting UHF's legacy, accomplishments, and university fundraising aspirations to the broader community as part of its philanthropic efforts, and expressed his belief that the maintenance of a close relationship between UHF and the university would be mutually beneficial to both entities. VP Dolan concurred with Regent Abercrombie's assessment noting some of UHF's current public relations efforts. He also recognized President Lassner as the individual most responsible for bringing about and ensuring greater collaboration between UHF and the university.

Regent Akitake sought clarification about the role of UHF, particularly with respect to the provision of financial support of administrative positions within the university. VP Dolan replied that UHF serves as the central fundraising organization for the university system. While UHF often receives donations for programmatic administrative support in the form of endowments for professorships or department chairs, he was unaware of situations in which financial contributions have been received to support the administrative personnel of the university. He also offered to meet with individual regents to discuss the work of UHF at greater length and in more detail.

Chair Nahale-a opined that providing the community with information about the direction of the university and efforts being made to achieve its goals is of importance when it comes to generating philanthropic support for the institution. VP Dolan agreed wholeheartedly with Chair Nahalea's statement.

#### **IV. AGENDA ITEMS**

##### **C. Recommend Board Approval of Annual Salary Adjustments for Positions that Report to the Board of Regents**

Chair Nahale-a explained that RP 9.212 requires the board to approve any salary adjustments for Executive and Managerial (EM) personnel reporting directly to the board which includes the President, Board Secretary, and Director of the Office of Internal Audit. Accordingly, board action is necessary to extend the five percent salary increase received by other eligible EM personnel of the university to the three direct reports, each of whom was evaluated to have met the performance criteria established by the board.

Regent Wilson moved to recommend board approval of the proposed salary increase for EM personnel reporting directly to the board, seconded by Regent Loo, and noting the excused absence of Regent Mawae, the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

##### **D. Presentation and Update on UHM Student Housing and KMH LLC Work Plan**

VP Gouveia continued with the presentation on UHM Student Housing begun during the November 2, 2023, meeting of the Committee on Institutional Success providing a brief recap of the current organizational hierarchy of UHM Student Housing Services (SHS). She gave a general overview of the complex issues facing SHS, noted that multiple units under the purview of the Office of the VP for Administration (OVPA) are coordinating with SHS to improve student housing facilities and operations, and introduced several individuals who would be providing further details on these matters.

Blake Araki, Director of Campus Operations and Facilities at UHM, Lisa Dau, Director of the Facilities Business Office at UHM, and Jeff Long, Director of the Office of Human Resources for the UH System, discussed operational, infrastructure, fiscal, and human resources challenges being encountered by SHS; summarized some of the actions being taken by their respective units to tackle these issues, such as the streamlining of operational procedures and prioritizing the hiring of additional personnel, emphasizing that efforts are currently focused on attending to SHS's most pressing needs; highlighted a number of accomplishments achieved since the organizational restructuring of SHS which consisted of, among other things, the completion of window and roofing repairs at a number of residence halls, the filling of several SHS staff positions, and the processing of more than 50 dated and unpaid invoices; and went over strategies being contemplated to contend with SHS's needs going forward including the development of long-term repair and maintenance schedules and facility operational plans. VP Gouveia also referenced the work of Kathy Wong-Nakamura, Director of the Office of Systems Integration, who established a team of individuals to address a host of deficiencies with SHS's legacy information technology (IT) systems, synchronize these systems with the university's IT system, and improve IT infrastructure at UHM's residence halls.



David Akana, Interim Director of Student Housing at UHM, talked about the core roles and responsibilities of the residential life component of SHS stating that its primary focus is on fostering student development and engagement. He discussed various programs and activities that were afforded to student residents over the last 10 months; presented the current vision and mission of SHS, which was developed after his appointment as Interim Director in April 2023; reviewed some of the priorities that have been established for SHS including the filling of staff vacancies, improving the overall student experience for housing residents, and changing the mindset of individuals so that residence halls are viewed as more than just a place to sleep; and spoke about ongoing, as well as planned, infrastructure improvement projects for UHM residence halls.

Kyle Phillips, Senior Business Analyst within OVPA, went over the process used to develop and perform a 26-point condition assessment of all residential facilities within SHS's portfolio remarking that utilizing this methodical approach will lead to improved planning for, and the proper sequencing of, capital improvement projects related to UHM's residential facilities, which is of particular value given the university's limited resources in this area. While each point-in-time assessment only provides a snapshot of an individual facility's current state, the information gathered can also serve as a tool for measuring the progress being made on infrastructure improvements to that facility. Mr. Phillips proceeded to discuss the creation of a priority list of projects for SHS, expounded upon the factors that served as the basis for the prioritization of these projects, and stated that, based upon early cost estimates, roughly \$180 million would be needed to address the projects on the list.

Although many of the issues and problems surrounding student housing at UHM have endured for decades, President Lassner accepted full responsibility for not making UHM student housing the priority it needed to be sooner. He provided historical context to the situation currently being faced by student housing at UHM; noted some of the administrative, facility management and oversight, and fiscal challenges experienced by SHS over the past several years; and talked about past and current efforts to address these predicaments. President Lassner also conveyed his utmost confidence in the ability of VP Gouveia and her team to implement the short-term goals established for SHS while simultaneously developing long-range plans to identify and address the many problems associated with the university's aging student housing facilities, which in turn will improve the quality of life for students, faculty, and staff.

Chair Nahale-a questioned whether any currently operating UHM student housing facility jeopardized the health and safety of students. VP Gouveia replied that no student housing facility currently in operation on the UHM campus jeopardizes the health and safety of students.

Even though he believed that seeking out information about SHS with respect to the conditions of UHM's residence halls and the progress it is making in dealing with these matters was within the board's purview, Chair Nahale-a urged regents to be more judicious with their line of questioning on this issue lest the queries brought forth be interpreted as having an accusatory tone.

Regent Mawae arrived at 10:46 a.m.

Regent Abercrombie asked if the administration would be able to determine a more concrete figure for the amount of funds needed to address the SHS's priority projects by the time the university's next proposed biennium capital improvement project (CIP) budget is presented to the board for approval. He also inquired as to whether oversight and responsibility for SHS facilities could be permanently placed under the auspices of the Director of Campus Operations and Facilities at UHM. VP Gouveia replied that the administration is expecting to establish more definitive figures regarding the fiscal resources needed to contend with SHS's prioritized projects list. She also stated that consideration is being given to placing oversight responsibility for SHS facilities under the Director of Campus Operations and Facilities at UHM.

Citing a notation within the presentation which indicates that the ability of SHS to implement its priority investments is contingent upon funding availability, Regent Tochiki questioned if this alluded to the administration continuing to envision SHS as a financially self-sustaining enterprise. VP Gouveia replied that sources of revenue for student housing facilities at UHM other than CIP requests submitted to the Legislature and existing student housing fees have yet to be identified and are currently nonexistent. President Lassner remarked that a number of factors have impacted and continue to impact funding for student housing including the lack of adjustments to bed rates commensurate with rising operational costs and the need to maintain and improve facilities as well as the fringe benefit rates being paid by the university which is over 60 cents for every dollar paid in salary to employees of self-funded operations such as student housing. He noted that the administration is currently discussing options for seeking a one-time infusion of capital to support student housing improvement efforts and is hopeful that a proposed 3-year, tiered rate increase for student housing will generate sufficient funding to support operational and facility needs going forward.

Referencing concerns raised by regents regarding the aesthetic conditions of UHM's student residence halls and adjoining landscaping during a recent tour of SHS's facilities, Regent Abercrombie asked if improvements to these common areas were going to be addressed. Interim Director Akana replied in the affirmative. VP Gouveia added that, while landscaping around the student housing facilities was not part of the 26-point facility condition assessment mentioned earlier, such a project is currently being scoped out by the administration.

Regent Mawae asked how revenues generated by public-private partnerships for student housing are factored in when determining the amount of financial resources available for SHS to utilize. VP Gouveia stated that, fundamentally, public-private partnerships for student housing fall outside of the realm of SHS. Given that these projects are financed and operated by a third party, they do not serve as a revenue source for SHS.

Discussions ensued on the financing challenges facing SHS, whether SHS can or should continue to be a self-sufficient operation, and the necessity for greater clarity when presenting the university's student housing needs and expectations to the Legislature.



The meeting recessed at 11:04 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

**E. Authorizing the University of Hawai'i to Participate in an MOA with HCDA and the State of Hawai'i Housing Finance Development Corporation (HHFDC) for the Development of Infrastructure and Housing on University of Hawai'i Property in West O'ahu**

VP Young provided background information on the administration's request for board authorization to participate in an MOA with HCDA and HHFDC for the development of infrastructure and housing on approximately 20 acres of university property located in West O'ahu. He reviewed 2006 and 2014 Long Range Development Plans for the roughly 500 acres conveyed to the university in 2002 for the relocation of UHWO; spoke about the parcel in question which was contained within what is being called the University District Lands, a 168-acre area deemed to be available for mixed-use residential development; pointed out the proximity of two Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation rail stations to the parcel in question; and touched upon the proposed multi-agency development partnership between the university, HCDA, and HHFDC emphasizing that details of this partnership still would need to be determined as part of the MOA process. He also explained that, despite the lack of a requirement within regent policy for the administration to seek board approval prior to entering into MOA negotiations, this issue was being brought before the board at this time in light of the fact that the Director of HCDA has already been authorized to begin negotiations on this matter with HHFDC's Director expected to receive similar permission in the very near future. Should an official MOA be formulated, the administration would return to the board to seek its approval of the agreement.

Conversations took place on the concept of housing to be located on the University District Lands, the benefits such a project would afford the university, and the roles of the university, HCDA, and HHFDC on this matter. VP Young stated that, to be clear, a MOA between the university, HCDA, and HHFDC did not currently exist, that there was no guarantee such a document would be formalized, and that the administration was simply informing the board of its intent to enter into negotiations with HCDA and HHFDC on this issue, and if possible, obtain a commitment from the board to proceed with this action.

Chair Nahale-a suggested deferral of this agenda item until more information becomes available. Regents concurred with Chair Nahale-a's suggestion.

**F. Deliberation and Decision Making Regarding the Final Report from the Presidential Search Process Permitted Interaction Group, formed pursuant to Section 92-2.5(b), HRS, to Investigate and Make Recommendations Regarding the Presidential Search Process and Potential Action on the Presidential Search Process**

Chair Nahale-a briefly summarized the actions involved in reaching this stage of the presidential selection process highlighting the formation of a Presidential Selection Process

Permitted Interaction Group (PSPPIG) on October 19, 2023, to investigate and recommend a well-articulated presidential selection process to the full board and the board's receipt of a final report containing the PSPPIG's findings and recommendations on November 16, 2023. He stated that, in accordance with statutory requirements governing permitted interaction groups, discussions on the contents of the PSPPIG's final report and decisions on its recommendations could not take place until today's meeting. As such, the purpose of this agenda item was to proceed with discussions on this matter. He then invited Vice-Chair Lee, who served as Chair of the PSPPIG, to talk about the PSPPIG's final report and recommendations.

Vice-Chair Lee reported on the work undertaken by the PSPPIG, drew attention to a few of its recommendations, and provided the rationale for establishing an aggressive timeline with respect to the selection of the next university president as proposed in the PSPPIG's final report noting concerns raised about leadership continuity for the 2024-2025 Academic Year and the involvement of the incoming president in crafting the university's ensuing biennium budget request.

Barring any objections, Chair Nahale-a proposed taking up discussion on the various recommendations made by the PSPPIG separately. No objections were raised by any regent.

### **1. Sections II.A. - II.e.: Using a Search Firm**

Deliberations occurred on the benefits and disadvantages of utilizing a search firm in the presidential selection process; the desirable qualifications of any search firm chosen including having an understanding of Hawai'i's culture and the uniqueness of the university as an indigenous serving institution; the necessity of selecting a search firm with Hawai'i expertise, as was suggested by the PSPPIG; the importance of choosing a search firm with the ability to meet all of the service expectations outlined within the PSPPIG's final report; and the processes a selected entity would use in conducting its search for qualified candidates.

Regent Tochiki suggested the possibility of fashioning a more generic request for proposal (RFP) based upon the guidance provided in the PSPPIG's final report to solicit the services of a search firm and allow the process to screen out the most qualified organizations for consideration by the board. Several regents agreed with Regent Tochiki's suggestion.

Regent Abercrombie sought confirmation that decisions with respect to the presidential selection and its associated processes going forward will be made by whatever entity is charged with this task by the board. Chair Nahale-a replied in the affirmative.

Regent Tochiki moved that a more generic RFP be developed to procure the services of a search or recruitment firm with access to Hawaii expertise and/or a Hawai'i focus to conduct a national search to assist the Board in its hiring of the next President of UH, with the recommendations contained in Section II.B. of the PSPPIG report to serve as guidance for the scope of services to be rendered. The motion was seconded by Regent Haning.

Regent Loo proposed amending the motion to be less restrictive by stipulating that the search firm simply have access to Hawaii expertise and/or a Hawai'i focus. Regent Tochiki and Regent Haning were both amenable to this change.

There having been an amended motion that was moved and seconded, a voice vote was taken, and the amended motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

## **2. Sections II.F. and II.G.: Separation of System President and Manoa Chancellor**

PSPPIG members provided their rationale for the recommendation to divest the positions of President of UH and UHM Chancellor as currently designed which included, among other things, the belief that separating these positions would expand the pool of candidates for the next university president. While a number of regents voiced their support for this proposition, with several stating that doing so would also allow the next president to focus more attention on the overall needs of the university system, some regents expressed concerns with the manner in which this detachment was trying to be achieved particularly given the complexity of the linked positions and the absence of adequate feedback and input on this matter from the various university constituencies who would be most impacted by this change.

Dialogue ensued on the roles and responsibilities of the university president as compared to those of a campus chancellor; some of the attributes candidates for the position of university president ought to possess; the qualities a new university president should exemplify; the necessity of clearly defining the criteria for the position of university president; the issues that must be taken into consideration when selecting the next university president; the prospect of providing a newly selected president of the university with an opportunity to weigh-in on this matter along with the latitude to choose the next UHM Chancellor should the board establish this position; the board's desire for the next university president to focus on the university system; the obligation to inform potential candidates that a separation of the duties of the President of UH and UHM Chancellor is an issue presently under consideration; the length of time it would take to separate the duties of the aforementioned positions; and the possibility of addressing this matter in the term of the new president.

Given these discussions, Chair Nahale-a offered a compromise proposal to initiate the search for the position of President of UH, as that role is presently articulated, with the understanding that the current regents see the role of the President as being focused on the university system and will be considering future separation of the duties of the President of UH from those of the campus chancellor for UHM.

Regents were in general support of Chair Nahale-a's proposal stating that it addressed the issue of due process concerning the matter of separating the positions of President of UH and UHM Chancellor while signaling the board intended to transition away from the president serving a dual role as President of UH and UHM Chancellor. However, a few regents requested that this topic be placed on a board agenda as soon as practical.

Vice-Chair Wilson moved to accept Chair Nahale-a's compromise proposal and the motion was seconded by Regent Abercrombie. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

### **3. Sections II.H. and II.I.: Listening Phase**

Regents shared their thoughts on the PSPPIG proposal that the board engage in a listening phase to provide opportunities for university stakeholders to share their views on a new university president through the use of a survey and open community forums.

Although agreeing with the approach to the engagement of university constituencies as presented in the PSPPIG report, Chair Nahale-a opined that this methodology should serve as a guideline for whatever presidential search committee the board eventually establishes to use for determining the manner in which the listening phase is conducted.

Regent Akitake spoke about the reasons behind the suggestion for conducting a survey emphasizing that the majority of PSPPIG members believed utilizing this approach would allow feedback on this issue to be gathered as efficiently and expeditiously as possible. She also expressed her belief that delaying engagement with university stakeholders until a search committee was formed would be less than ideal in light of the proposed timeframe for selecting a new university president.

Taking into consideration earlier discussions about the separation of the duties of the President of UH from those of the Chancellor of UHM and the concerns raised about due process for receiving comments on this matter, Regent Tochiki recommended that a question regarding the separation of these two positions be included in the list of proposed survey questions contained within the PSPPIG report.

Chair Nahale-a asked if any regents were opposed to the idea of commencing with a survey comprised of the survey questions contained within the PSPPIG report as part of the presidential selection process's listening phase to gather input from and the views of various stakeholders to share on a new President of UH and deferring further details regarding the listening process to whatever search committee is established by the board. He also inquired if there were any objections to including a query regarding the separation of the positions of UH System President and UHM Chancellor, as was advocated for by Regent Tochiki, in the survey. Hearing no opposition or objections from regents, Chair Nahale-a announced that such a survey would be initiated as expeditiously as possible.

### **4. Sections II.J. - II.M.: Presidential Search Permitted Interaction Group (PIG2)**

Regents debated the PSPPIG's recommendation regarding the establishment of a permitted interaction group (PIG2) to serve as the presidential search committee and charging this group with the responsibilities of developing and screening a pool of candidates for the position of university president and recommending a list of three finalists for consideration by the full board. Although a few regents offered their support for this proposal contending that the creation of a PIG2 affords greater flexibility, urgency, and efficiency to the presidential selection process, a majority of regents voiced their opposition to this concept advocating for more openness, transparency, and

regent inclusivity than would be allowed under the statutory requirements governing permitted interaction groups.

In lieu of a PIG2, Regent Higaki suggested forming a “committee of the whole” to serve as the presidential search committee which, in his opinion, offered increased openness and transparency and presented the best option for all regents to participate in the process. A number of regents concurred with and supported Regent Higaki’s proposition.

Regents offered their opinions on Regent Higaki’s suggestion and engaged in robust discourse on the advantages and disadvantages of having a “committee of the whole” serve as the presidential search committee as opposed to a PIG2, as well as issues that may arise from utilizing each process. Since this would be one of the most important decisions to be made by the board for the foreseeable future, several regents communicated their belief that searching for the next university president in a more cautious, thoughtful, and thorough manner was of more import than expediency of the process.

Regent Abercrombie contended that the creation of a temporary committee rather than a PIG2 could also be an option for consideration.

Though she concurred with the importance of regent and stakeholder participation in the presidential selection process, Regent Akitake stressed the need to achieve a balance between the exhaustiveness of this participation and the exigency of choosing a new university president before the start of the next academic year.

Taking into consideration the deliberations on this topic thus far, a number of regents continued to emphasize the need for broader participation and inclusiveness in the presidential selection process believing that this was critical for achieving buy-in from both internal and external constituencies. However, regents also acknowledged that the final decision on the next university president remains a privilege and obligation of the board.

Echoing the remarks of other regents regarding the role of the board in selecting the next university president, Chair Nahale-a held forth that, in reality, the board was currently contemplating the process by which a list of finalists for this position would be determined. Conversations ensued on the overall roles and responsibilities of regents in this matter.

Regent Akitake asked about the possibility of holding additional meetings to deal with the selection of the university president should it become necessary. Chair Nahale-a replied that scheduling additional meetings could occur so long as statutory meeting notice requirements were met.

Discussions occurred on the practicality of scheduling additional meetings regarding the selection of a new university president; factors that need to be taken into consideration when arranging for and organizing these meetings; the impacts additional meetings could have on staff resources; the option of holding virtual meetings; and past practices of holding meetings on multiple, consecutive days.



Regent Mawae sought clarification as to whether the finalists for the position of university president would be interviewed by the board in an executive session. Chair Nahale-a replied in the affirmative.

Should a decision be made to establish a PIG2 and include non-regent members on this entity, Vice-Chair Lee remarked that it ought to be done in such a way so as to ensure only regents would have a vote on the pool of candidate finalists to be recommended to the full board.

Referencing applicable appointment process and financial disclosure requirements, Regent Akitake added that regents must remain cognizant of their being held to a higher standard than what may be expected of non-regents when considering whether or not to include non-regent members on a PIG2 or “committee of the whole”.

Regent Abercrombie moved to form a “committee of the whole” to serve as the presidential search committee and the motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Wilson.

Regent Akitake sought clarification as to whether a “committee of the whole” would encompass participation from all regents in the presidential selection process communicating her preference for this to be the case. Chair Nahale-a's stated that, in his opinion, the board should not compel a regent to serve on a committee if the regent was unwilling to do so. He then asked if any regent wanted to opt out of participating on a “committee of the whole” that would serve as the presidential search committee. No regent chose to withdraw. As such, Chair Nahale-a announced that the “committee of the whole” would consist of all regents.

There having been a motion that was moved and seconded, a voice vote was taken and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

#### **5. Section II.K.1.: Selection of Advisory Committee Members**

Chair Nahale-a verbalized his concern about the lack of clarity regarding the advisory group's role noting perceptions about this entity among the various university constituencies that were contained within some of the public testimony. He also expressed his belief that a well-formed advisory group has the potential to serve as a venue by which university constituencies can provide input on the selection of a new university president and address the concerns about participation and inclusion mentioned in preceding discussions.

Regent Tochiki questioned why the recommended composition of a PIG2 was limited to regents and did not include a broader spectrum of members such as was considered for the proposed advisory group. Regent Akitake replied that the PSPPIG did consider adding non-board members to the PIG2. However, the PSPPIG felt that doing so would result in non-regents serving as substitutes for the six regents who could not serve on a PIG2, given the constraints of Chapter 92, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, with respect to the membership of permitted interaction groups. The PSPPIG reasoned that constituting a PIG2 comprised of only five regents, along with a representative advisory group consisting of non-regents who would provide the PIG2 with advice as requested, was the best option to afford regents with a maximum say in the selection of finalists for



the position of university president while still giving a voice in the process to the various university constituencies.

Conversations took place on the purposes, roles, responsibilities, and consultative nature of an advisory group as it relates to the presidential selection process, as well as the potential for special interest agenda to compromise this process.

Regent Tochiki echoed the remarks of Chair Nahale-a and communicated her desire to see the advisory group used as a robust, authentic platform for university constituencies to weigh-in on the selection of a new university president.

Chair Nahale-a asked if there was any opposition to creating an advisory group. No objections were raised by any regent.

Stating that the Committee on Independent Audit (IA Committee) meeting was scheduled to begin at 2:00, Chair Nahale-a suggested calling a recess of the board meeting and reconvening after completion of the IA Committee agenda to continue on with this dialogue. He also inquired about the availability of regents for a special meeting on January 4, 2024, should one be necessary. Regents stated that they would be available to meet on January 4, 2024.

The meeting recessed at 1:56 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 3:53 p.m.

In light of the other decisions made at this meeting and testimony received, regents indicated their desire to resume discussions in regard to the final details of the advisory group including its roles, responsibilities, function, makeup, and membership selection process at the January 4, 2024, special board meeting, thus allowing regents more time to reflect on this topic.

## **6. Sections II.N. and II.O: Timeline, Finalist Interviews**

Vice-Chair Lee presented the rationale for the timeline put forth by the PSPPIG which aims to appoint a new university president by fall 2024.

Regents shared their views on the timeline put forth in the final report of the PSPPIG acknowledging its ambitiousness while also recognizing that practical considerations may necessitate adjustments to the scheduled milestones. Regents also stressed the importance of the special meeting on January 4, 2024, towards staying on track with respect to the aforementioned timeline and urged fellow regents to submit their perspectives about the advisory group to the board office prior to the meeting.

Vice-Chair Lee asked if the feedback survey on the presidential search could still be launched by mid-December and an RFP to solicit the services of a search firm could be issued on December 15, 2023, as noted in the aforementioned timeline. Board Secretary Lau responded that it would be possible for the Board Office to generate a survey based upon the questions contained within the PSPPIG's final report with the addition of the question regarding separating the positions of UH System President and

UHM Chancellor as previously discussed by mid-December. However, she was unsure whether an RFP seeking to procure the services of a search firm could be issued by December 15, 2023, and would need to speak with the Office of Procurement Management (OPM) to determine if this would be achievable.

Dialogue took place on the survey's relationship to the hiring of a firm to assist the presidential search committee with its quest, the benefits of performing a presidential search survey, the timeframe and plan for dissemination of the survey, and public relations efforts to solicit responses to the survey.

Regent Abercrombie moved to adopt the timeline as proposed in the PSPPIG report with the understanding that adjustments to the timeline can be made as needed going forward and to proceed with a presidential search survey based upon the questions contained within the PSPPIG's final report with the addition of the question regarding separating the positions of UH System President and UHM Chancellor. Regent Haning seconded the motion.

Regent Akitake asked if an open-ended question soliciting any other information to be shared with the presidential search committee could also be added to the survey.

Chair Nahale-a asked if there were any objections to including the question suggested by Regent Akitake in the presidential search survey. No objections were raised by any regent.

There having been a motion that was moved and seconded, a voice vote was taken and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

Regent Tochiki requested that the Office of Communications be asked to generate press releases regarding the presidential search survey as appropriate in consultation with the Board Office. Chair Nahale-a acknowledged Regent Tochiki's request.

Questions were raised about, and discussions ensued on, the process for procuring the services of a search firm. VP Gouveia confirmed that specifics regarding the group being charged with selecting the search firm to assist the board with the selection of the next university president was not needed to begin the procurement process and sought to clarify for the record that the board was requesting OPM to work with the Board Office to begin the procurement process for the selection of a firm to conduct the search for the next university president. Chair Nahale-a replied that VP Gouveia's understanding of the request being made by the board was accurate.

VP Gouveia also explained that a document for the solicitation of services generally contains scoring or evaluation criteria and that these criteria would need to be developed for the selection of a search firm.

Chair Nahale-a asked if regents were inclined to delegate the task of working with VP Gouveia and her procurement team to come up with scoring criteria for the selection of a search firm based upon all of the foregoing discussions to himself and Vice-Chair Lee. Regents were amenable to this suggestion.

Vice-Chair Wilson moved to delegate the task of working with VP Gouveia and her procurement team to come up with scoring criteria for the selection of a search firm based upon all of the foregoing discussions to Chair Nahale-a and Vice-Chair Lee. The motion was seconded by Regent Loo. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

Chair Nahale-a asked VP Gouveia about her thoughts as to whether the expectation of issuing an RFP by December 15, 2023, was realistic. VP Gouveia replied that, although every effort will be made to meet this deadline, it will be challenging, and briefly highlighted a couple of posting and procurement processing requirements that could impact the timeline for the issuance of an RFP on this matter.

Board Secretary Lau provided a recap of the decisions made with respect to recommendations contained with the PSPPIG's final report which included the following:

- Procure a search or recruitment firm with access to Hawaii expertise and/or a Hawai'i focus to conduct a national search to assist the board in its hiring of the next President of UH, with the recommendations contained in Section II.B. of the PSPPIG report to serve as guidance for the scope of services to be rendered;
- Delegate Chair Alapaki Nahale-a and Vice-Chair Gabriel Lee to work with the VP for Administration's procurement team to come up with criteria for selection of the search firm;
- Initiate the search for the position of President of UH in its current form with the understanding that the current regents see the role of the president as being focused on the University of Hawai'i System, and will be considering future separation of the duties of the President of UH from those of UHM campus chancellor;
- Initiate a survey as part of the presidential selection process's listening phase to gather input from various stakeholders to share their views on a new president and defer further details regarding the listening process to the presidential search committee. A question regarding the separation of the President of UH and UHM Chancellor positions and an open-ended question soliciting any other information to be shared with the presidential search committee shall be added to the survey questions contained within the PSPPIG report;
- Decline to create a second permitted interaction group, and instead afford all regents the opportunity to serve on the search committee as a "committee of the whole";
- Hold a special meeting on January 4, 2024, to continue the discussion on the presidential search process; and

- Adopting the proposed timeline with the understanding that adjustments to the timeline can be made as needed going forward

**V. EXECUTIVE SESSION (closed to the public)**

Chair Nahale-a announced that it would not be necessary to meet in executive session.

**VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Nahale-a announced that a special meeting of the “committee of the whole” would take place on January 4, 2024, at UHM and that the next regular board meeting was scheduled for January 18, 2024, at UHWO.

Prior to adjournment, Regent Akitake requested a moment of silence in honor and remembrance of the heroes and victims of December 7, 1941, the day of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Nahale-a adjourned the meeting at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Yvonne Lau  
Executive Administrator and Secretary  
of the Board of Regents

**DISCLAIMER – THE FOLLOWING ARE DRAFT MINUTES AND ARE SUBJECT TO FURTHER REVIEW AND CHANGE UPON APPROVAL BY THE BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**BOARD OF REGENTS SPECIAL MEETING**

**JANUARY 4, 2024**

A video recording of this meeting may be viewed at the Board of Regents website as follows:

[Meeting Video](#)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Alapaki Nahale-a called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. on Thursday, January 4, 2024, at the University of Hawai'i (UH) at Mānoa, Information Technology Building, 1st Floor Conference Room 105A/B, 2520 Correa Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822, with regents participating from various locations.

Quorum (11): Chair Alapaki Nahale-a; Vice-Chair Gabriel Lee; Vice-Chair Ernest Wilson; Regent Neil Abercrombie; Regent Lauren Akitake; Regent William Haning; Regent Wayne Higaki; Regent Laurel Loo; Regent Abigail Mawae; Regent Diane Paloma; and Regent Laurie Tochiki.

Others in attendance: President David Lassner; Vice President (VP) for Administration Jan Gouveia; VP for Academic Affairs Debora Halbert; VP for Legal Affairs/UH General Counsel Carrie Okinaga; VP for Research and Innovation Vassilis Syrmos; VP for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer Garret Yoshimi; VP for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer Kalbert Young; UH-Mānoa (UHM) Provost Michael Bruno; UH-Hilo (UHH) Chancellor Bonnie Irwin; Executive Assistant of the Board of Regents (Executive Assistant) Jamie Go; and others as noted.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Executive Assistant Go announced that the Board Office received written comments about the presidential selection process from the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Mānoa Faculty Senate, All Campus Council for Faculty Senate Chairs, Gordon Knowles, Quinn Goo, Ashley Maynard, Marguerite Butler, Mahina Kaomea, Rosanna Rombawa, Rachael Downham, Keali'i Gora, Kelsie Aguilera, Joel Fischer, Mae Ha, Hema Kealohanuikaiama Watson, Bronson Azama, Mananakealoha Paschoal, RJ Kaleohano Nadal, April Bautista, Sonja Giardina, Ke'ala'iliahia Ford, Mariko Quinn, and Kawaiola Kapuni.

Late written comments on the presidential selection process were received from the University of Hawai'i Professional Assembly, UH Staff Council, Office of Hawaiian Affairs Trustee Mililani Trask, Kaiqing Su, Cardenas Pintor, Lauren Tajeron, Kyson James-Foree, May Okihiro, Nicole Reyes, Shannon Pōmaika'i Hennessey, Creighton Litton, Dianne Deauna, Benjamin Wiseman, Rosiana "Nani" Azman, Jocelyn Brody,

Carolyn Stephenson, Michael Oishi, Kristen Ferrer, Karla Hayashi, Ethan Chang, KianaRose Dulan, Sam Peck, Kayla Oshiro, Christie Ann Nitta, Kyla-Marie Turner, and Dustin Miguez.

Kaipo Hata, Ethan Hope-Cruz, Cardenas Pintor, Christie Ann Nitta, Karla Hayashi, Sonja Giardina, Rosiana “Nani” Azman, Ashley Maynard, Bronson Azama, Kyson James-Foree, Mariko Quinn, Erin Centeio, Jaret Leong, Kanoa Ventura-Barreto, Shannon Pōmaika’i Hennessey, Sam Peck, and Dustin Miguez provided oral comments on the presidential selection process.

Written testimony may be viewed at the Board of Regents website as follows:

[Written Testimony Received](#)

[Late Written Testimony Received](#)

Prior to beginning discussions on the noted agenda items, Chair Nahale-a went over the basic premise of, and rationale for, having a Committee of the Whole, which in essence was the board, address matters associated with the selection of the next university president.

### **III. AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **A. Further Deliberation and Decision Making Regarding the Final Report from the Presidential Search Process Permitted Interaction Group (PSPPIG), formed pursuant to Section 92-2.5(b), Hawai’i Revised Statutes(HRS), to Investigate and Make Recommendations Regarding the Presidential Search Process and Potential Action on the Presidential Search Process**

##### **1. Sections II.K.1: Roles, Responsibilities, Function, Makeup, and Membership Selection Process of the Advisory Group**

Barring any objections, Chair Nahale-a proposed using a methodical approach to discussing this issue by first determining the role of the Advisory Group which would then be followed by deliberations on the Advisory Group’s make-up and membership selection process. No objections were raised by any regent.

Chair Nahale-a began the dialogue on this matter by suggesting the inclusion of the phrase “and recommendations” to the Advisory Group’s overall charge as currently spelled out in the PSPPIG’s final report which, in his opinion, would provide the Committee of the Whole with the ability to assign decision-making responsibilities to the Group. As amended, the Advisory Group’s general task will be to “provide advice and recommendations to the Committee of the Whole as requested”.

Regent Abercrombie moved to accept Chair Nahale-a’s suggested amendment and the motion was seconded by Regent Akitake.

Regents expressed their belief that the Advisory Group was a crucial and fundamental component of the presidential selection process and would be utilized by the Committee of the Whole in a deliberate and intentional manner.



There having been a motion that was moved and seconded, a voice vote was taken and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

Noting the absence of explicit duties for the Advisory Group within the PSPPIG's final report save for a recommendation regarding the attendance of at least one member from the Advisory Group at open forums about the selection of the next university president held in each county, Chair Nahale-a asked regents to share their thoughts as to whether specific tasks should be assigned to the Advisory Group.

Extensive conversations occurred on the purpose for establishing an Advisory Group, as well as its intended function; the importance of articulating concrete tasks for the Advisory Group to undertake while simultaneously affording the Committee of the Whole with the flexibility to amend or add to these duties as necessary; the value of meaningful, yet reasonable, inclusivity of various university constituencies in the presidential selection process and respecting any input and feedback received; the broad array of university stakeholder input being sought through the conducting of an ongoing survey; the necessity for establishing and maintaining trust between the board and university stakeholders throughout the presidential selection process; the breadth of information provided to regents about the university's past presidential searches and the presidential selection process used by other institutions of higher education; the consultative nature of the Advisory Group given the board's exclusive jurisdiction over, and responsibility for, the appointment of the President of UH under the State Constitution and HRS; the need for an Advisory Group to be representative of the university community; the preservation of the openness and transparency exhibited by the board thus far with respect to the presidential selection process; and the overall benefits and possible disadvantages of utilizing an empowered Advisory Group in the presidential selection process.

Regents also engaged in discussions about the potential roles, responsibilities, and tasks that could be delegated to the Advisory Group including, among other things, working with the selected search firm to develop key attributes candidates for the university should possess, conducting an initial evaluation and screening of applicants for the position, and forwarding a list of finalists for the position to the board for vetting in a more public forum; the prudence of attempting to enumerate a comprehensive list of duties for the Advisory Group at this juncture of the presidential selection process; the impacts of Hawai'i's open meetings law (Sunshine Law) on the Advisory Group's ability to complete these assignments; the relationship of the Advisory Group to the Committee of the Whole; and the cruciality of Advisory Group members maintaining confidentiality throughout the presidential selection process.

VP Okinaga briefly spoke about the general requirements of the Sunshine Law and mentioned a declaration by the Hawai'i Supreme Court that board members in general are obligated to understand the requirements of the Sunshine Law and act in good faith and accord with its spirit and purpose.

In light of these deliberations, Chair Nahale-a sought regents' opinions on further amending the Advisory Group's overall charge as previously approved by adding the

phrase “on all aspects of the presidential search” thus providing the Advisory Group with a broader, unfettered scope of work.

Several regents expressed their preference for the Advisory Group’s scope of work to remain more narrowly focused.

While she understood and respected many of the concerns cited in the testimony, Regent Paloma shared her thoughts on some misconceptions included in several of the statements made. She also spoke about the voluntary nature of the board, noted the diversity of its makeup, and reemphasized the board’s exclusive jurisdiction over, and responsibility for, the appointment of the President of UH.

Regent Akitake echoed the remarks of Regent Paloma, underscoring the voluntary nature of the board, the holding of regents to a higher standard as evidenced by requirements to file ethics and financial disclosure statements, and the vetting process each regent must go through to attain confirmation.

Regent Tochiki conveyed her appreciation for the testimony received from faculty, staff, and especially students, as well as the willingness of individuals to serve on an advisory group, to share their various perspectives about the desired attributes for the next university president, and to comment on the presidential selection process. Although the board ultimately retains exclusive jurisdiction over the selection of the next university president, she voiced her strong belief in the value of building trust between the board and the various university stakeholders to ensure a successful presidential selection process.

The meeting recessed at 10:44 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:55 a.m.

Chair Nahale-a remarked that, while a majority of regents appeared to support the creation of a legitimate Advisory Group and empowering this entity with a larger, more meaningful role in the presidential selection process, discussions on this matter are delving into legal questions regarding the dynamics of establishing and operationalizing the Advisory Group relative to legal requirements. As such, he suggested convening in executive session to consult with the board’s attorney on legal issues and requested a motion to that effect.

Regent Loo moved to convene into executive session, seconded by Vice-Chair Wilson, and with all members present voting in the affirmative, the board approved convening in executive session to consult with the board’s attorneys on questions and issues pertaining to the board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities, pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(4), HRS.

#### **IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION (closed to the public)**

The meeting recessed at 10:58 a.m.

Chair Nahale-a called the meeting back to order at 12:10 p.m. and announced that the board met in executive session to discuss the matters as stated on the agenda.

### **III. AGENDA ITEMS (Continued)**

Regents resumed their deliberations on Agenda Item III.A.1., reiterating the importance of developing a balanced, collaborative, reasonably inclusive, and robust approach to selecting the next university president. Regents also spoke about the challenges of formulating a comprehensive list of tasks for the Advisory Group to undertake at this meeting; noted possible scenarios for developing the Advisory Group's tasks including allowing the entity to submit a list of recommended duties to the board for approval; went over methods by which the Advisory Group could be assembled; highlighted the ability for university constituencies and community stakeholders to provide input on the presidential selection throughout the process; and continued to underscore the board's intent for the Advisory Group to play a more active role in selecting the next university president.

To assuage concerns about inclusivity raised by a number of stakeholder groups, Chair Nahale-a suggested further amending the original charge of the Advisory Group by removing the phrase "as requested" and inserting the following language in its place "to ensure key stakeholders and the broader community are included in the presidential selection process." Accordingly, the amended directive would read, "The Advisory Group will provide advice and recommendations to the Committee of the Whole to ensure key stakeholders and the broader community are included in the presidential selection process."

Vice-Chair Wilson moved to adopt the language as recommended by Chair Nahale-a and the motion was seconded by Regent Loo. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

Chair Nahale-a stressed that the aforementioned amendment only involved the general function of the Advisory Group and did not forego the creation of specific tasks for this body to carry out.

Discussions commenced on the composition of the Advisory Group using the make-up proposed within the PSPPIG's final report as a starting point.

Regent Paloma advocated for the inclusion of a representative from each of the university's four, officially recognized shared governance organizations on the Advisory Group thus incorporating the university's student, faculty, staff, and Native Hawaiian constituencies into the presidential selection process.

Regent Tochiki proposed amending Regent Paloma's suggestion to specify that each shared governance organization would be given the responsibility of selecting their representative to sit on the Advisory Group.

Regent Paloma moved to include a representative from each of the university's four, recognized shared governance organizations on the Advisory Group with the understanding that each individual would be chosen by their respective organization

and the motion was seconded by Regent Akitake. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

Vice-Chair Lee suggested the inclusion of a representative from the UH Alumni Association, the UH Foundation, and either the Hawai'i Business Roundtable or the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i on the Advisory Group, with each being selected in a manner similar to what was proposed for the shared governance organizations. Regent Higaki proposed adding a member of the Association of Emeritus Regents to this list. Regent Mawae recommended representatives from the UHM and UHH Athletic Departments also be included on the Advisory Group.

To avoid the creation of an extremely large and unwieldy entity, Regent Tochiki put forth a proposition to have the four individuals selected by their respective shared governance group work with two regents to craft and present a proposed composition of the Advisory Group to the Committee of the Whole for approval.

Although she was in general agreement with Regent Tochiki's proposal, Regent Akitake expressed her concerns about creating an overly large Advisory Group and suggested establishing parameters about its membership so as to remain in line with the PSPPIG's rationale for creating a smaller advisory body.

Conversations ensued on the number of groups with a vested interest in the selection of the next university president for possible inclusion on the Advisory Group.

Chair Nahale-a sought clarification about the membership of the Advisory Group as outlined in the PSPPIG's final report, asking whether the intent was for membership to include four to six individual representatives from the noted constituencies in total or four to six individuals in addition to the various stakeholder group members. Vice-Chair Lee confirmed that the PSPPIG envisioned the former.

Regent Abercrombie urged caution in determining membership for the Advisory Group, verbalizing his belief in selecting individuals who were genuinely concerned about the university's success to serve on this entity.

Referencing Regent Tochiki's proposal, Regent Mawae concurred with the need to include a representative from each of the four officially recognized shared governance groups on the Advisory Group. She also inquired about the possibility of establishing a limitation on the number of individuals who could serve on the Advisory Group. Chair Nahale-a replied that the composition of the Advisory Group as originally recommended by the PSPPIG in its final report was intended to consist of between four and six members and include individuals representing groups such as faculty, staff, students, administrators, alumni, and members of the broader community or other constituencies. He also stated that, while Regent Tochiki's proposition would result in four positions on the Advisory Group being filled, this did not preclude regents from suggesting proposals to expand the membership of the Advisory Group or set a cap on its membership number.

Regent Akitake provided background information on and the rationale for the PSPPIG's decision to limit the representative membership of the Advisory Group to between four and six individuals.

Further discussions took place on Regent Tochiki's proposal and included conversations on, among other things, the limited expansion of the Advisory Group's membership, the possible inclusion of regents on this body, the establishment of specific parameters for community stakeholders to be included on the Advisory Group, and the process for selecting individuals to serve on the Advisory Group.

Regent Abercrombie suggested that the size of the Advisory Group be limited to 12 individual members.

In view of the dialogue thus far, Regent Tochiki moved that the Advisory Group include a representative from each of the four officially recognized shared governance organizations of the university as selected by their respective bodies and that these four individuals work with two regents to craft a proposed composition of the Advisory Group, which shall include no more than 12 members in total. The recommendation would then be presented to the Committee of the Whole for final approval. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Wilson.

Debate ensued on the motion. Although a few regents voiced their concerns about the potential for certain constituencies to have a larger representation on the Advisory Group using this process and supported the need to establish more specific membership parameters, other regents expressed their support for the proposal noting the involvement of the largest and most key constituencies of the university in the process and the safeguard on over-weighted membership afforded by requiring the recommended membership of the Advisory Group be approved by the Committee of the Whole.

Regent Abercrombie asked if regents or other groups would be allowed to submit nominees for inclusion as additional members of the Advisory Group. Chair Nahale-a replied that Regent Tochiki's motion could be amended to include such a stipulation.

Dialogue then took place on the need for members of the Advisory Group to observe discretion throughout the process and the ways in which this could be assured such as requiring the signing of confidentiality agreements.

Chair Nahale-a asked if Regent Tochiki and Vice-Chair Wilson would be open to amending their motion and second of the motion to include requirements for the acceptance of nominations for Advisory Group membership from regents and other groups and for Advisory Group members to maintain confidentiality throughout the presidential selection process. Regent Tochiki and Vice-Chair Wilson voiced their agreement with these changes.

There having been an amended motion that was moved and seconded, a voice vote was taken and the amended motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

Chair Nahale-a remarked that the next matter of business would be to select the two regents who would work with the four Advisory Group members selected by their respective shared governance organization to compose a list of additional persons for inclusion in the Group. He then asked if any regents were willing to undertake this role.

Regent Akitake nominated Regent Tochiki and Regent Abercrombie to carry out this assignment. Both Regent Tochiki and Regent Abercrombie declined the nomination.

Vice-Chair Lee and Vice-Chair Wilson volunteered to accept the task as noted by Chair Nahale-a.

There being no other regents coming forward, Chair Nahale-a asked for a motion to approve assigning Vice-Chair Lee and Vice-Chair Wilson to undertake the task as previously noted.

Regent Haning moved to authorize Vice-Chair Lee and Vice-Chair Wilson to undertake the task of working with the four Advisory Group members as previously stated by Chair Nahale-a and the motion was seconded by Regent Loo. A voice vote was taken and noting the abstention of Regent Mawae, the motion carried with all other members present voting in the affirmative.

## **A.2. Other Elements of the Presidential Search Process**

Chair Nahale-a requested an update on the presidential search survey being conducted by the Board Office. Executive Assistant Go remarked that the presidential search survey was launched on December 15, 2023, and had garnered 828 responses as of January 3, 2024. He noted the survey will remain open and continue to collect feedback until February 15, 2024. Chair Nahale-a encouraged individuals to continue to share their thoughts with the board on the next university president.

Citing the upcoming start to the spring semester, Regent Mawae asked if additional announcements will be made about the board's ongoing effort to solicit feedback on the presidential search via the abovementioned survey. Executive Assistant Go replied in the affirmative mentioning that a plan is in place for sending out communications referencing the survey over the course of the next several weeks.

Referencing the work conducted by himself, Vice-Chair Lee, and the administration's procurement team to develop the selection criteria for the solicitation of a search firm under authorization granted by the board at its December 7, 2023, special meeting, Chair Nahale-a remarked that it was unclear whether this delegated authority extended to the selection of the search firm itself and suggested the board make clear its intent concerning this issue. He also spoke about the advantages of having himself, Vice-Chair Lee, and a member of the administration choose the search firm as opposed to having the full board make the selection.

Vice-Chair Lee concurred with Chair Nahale-a's assessment of the situation and offered his rationale for the inclusion of an individual from the administration, particularly someone who is well-versed in the university's candidate selection and human resources processes.



Regent Abercrombie expressed a desire to make the process of selecting a search firm as efficient and expeditious as possible.

Regent Haning moved to authorize Chair Nahale-a, Vice-Chair Lee, and a member of the administration to select a firm to conduct a search for the next university president, and the motion was seconded by Regent Loo. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

Going back to earlier conversations about the Advisory Group, Regent Mawae asked if specific parameters governing this body were included in the earlier motion to establish its composition. Chair Nahale-a responded that specific parameters were not included in the formal motion to establish the composition of the Advisory Group. Nevertheless, he hoped that the Advisory Group would take all of the discussions, comments, and concerns raised about the presidential selection process, as well as the guidance specific to this entity contained within the PSPPIG's final report, into consideration when conducting its work. Regent Akitake added that some parameters regarding the Advisory Group had been established in the earlier motion such as limiting membership to 12 individuals total.

Building upon Chair Nahale-a's remarks, Regent Akitake stressed the importance of ensuring the individuals under consideration for membership on the Advisory Group possessed the qualities enumerated in section K.3. of the PSPPIG's final report, particularly with respect to the disclosure of conflicts of interest, and suggested informing those assigned with the task of proposing the membership of the Advisory Group be advised as such. Chair Nahale-a acknowledged Regent Akitake's remarks for the record and asked whether his understanding that these qualifications would also apply to Advisory Group members chosen by the four, officially recognized shared governance organizations was correct. Regent Akitake replied in the affirmative.

Questions were raised by Regent Akitake, Regent Mawae, and Regent Abercrombie seeking clarification on whether Vice-Chair Lee and Vice-Chair Wilson would be serving on the Advisory Group; regents, in general, could serve on the Advisory Group; the total number of individuals serving on the Advisory Group would be 12; and the Committee of the Whole would be voting on the recommended membership once a list of names is submitted. Chair Nahale-a responded by stating that Vice-Chair Lee and Vice-Chair Wilson were only tasked with assisting those chosen by the four officially recognized shared governance organizations to serve on the Advisory Group with making recommendations for up to eight additional members for inclusion on this entity. However, regents, including Vice-Chair Lee and Vice-Chair Wilson, could serve on the Advisory Group should their names be included in the membership recommendation submitted to the Committee of the Whole for final approval. Membership of the Advisory Group would also be limited to a maximum of 12 individuals inclusive of the four chosen by the respective shared governance groups. Chair Nahale-a also noted the possibility of assigning up to a maximum of two regents, due to the Sunshine Law, to work with the Advisory Group on specific tasks should the Committee of the Whole decide to do so.

#### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Nahale-a announced that the next board meeting was scheduled for January 18, 2024, at UHWO.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Nahale-a adjourned the meeting at 1:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Go  
Executive Assistant  
Board of Regents

# Item IV.A.

Update on Presidential  
Search – Selection of Search  
Firm and Presidential Search  
Survey

**NO MATERIALS  
ORAL REPORT**

February 9, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Board of Regents

CC: David Lassner  
President

VIA: Yvonne Lau  
Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents

FROM: Erin Centeio and Jaret KC Leong  
Co-Chairs, Presidential Search Advisory Group (PSAG)

SUBJECT: UH Presidential Search Advisory Group Membership Proposal

Aloha Chair Nahale-a and members of the Board of Regents.

The initial four members of the Presidential Search Advisory Group (PSAG), along with Board Vice Chairs Regents Wilson and Lee worked together to propose a list of eight individuals to complete the twelve-person PSAG.

The process to arrive at this list was extensive. First, we gathered feedback from the regents, faculty, and staff regarding the groups/entities that should be represented on the PSAG, as well as asked for suggested names of specific people who were thought to be good candidates. A comprehensive list was provided with over 45 different areas wanting representation and over 60 names suggested as good candidates to serve. Based on the feedback, the PSAG discussed and prioritized key areas to be represented and then started identifying individuals who could represent multiple areas deemed priorities. A final list of eight was developed, individuals were asked if they were willing to serve on the PSAG, and a final list of eight names was chosen. Although not all groups/entities can be represented on the PSAG, it is our intent, with the approval of the BOR, that the PSAG will work with many community groups to listen to what the community wants. Although we cannot be all-inclusive within the advisory board, we are hopeful that this group will work with the community to understand the needs and desires of the next UH president.

Below, you will find biographies of all twelve proposed members of the PSAG. The first four are the individuals put forth from the four codified groups and the remaining eight

are the proposed individuals who, we believe, will create a diverse and broad scoping team.

**Jaret KC Leong, MPA - UH Staff Council (UHSC)**

Mr. Leong was born and raised in O‘ahu and attended Saint Louis (SLS) High School. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from UH West O‘ahu (UHWO), Master in Public Administration (MPA) + Graduate Certificate - Nonprofit Management Track from UH Mānoa (UHM), and is currently a PhD student in the UHM Communication & Information Sciences (CIS) Interdisciplinary Program.

He has been at the University of Hawai‘i for over 23+ years as a student (HonCC, KapCC, LCC, UHWO, and UHM), student assistant at the UHM College of Education, RCUH project staff for CRDG, program manager for the CRDG Summer Programs, academic advisor/program manager/course instructor for the Public Administration Program, and currently the Director of Mānoa Academy and Academic Pathways for the UHM College of Social Sciences (CSS).

Mr. Leong is the Co-Chair of the UH Staff Council (UHSC) and is a Senator on the Mānoa Staff Senate (MSS) - where he once served as their Executive Board Chair. He is also the current HGEA State Board Director representing BU08.

During his time at UH, Mr. Leong was awarded a Certificate of Special Presidential Recognition for Exceptional Service to UH in 2022 by President Lassner and UHM Provost Bruno. Additionally, he was awarded the COE Congress Award for Exceptional Service in 2017 and the COE Congress Award for Innovation and Transformation in 2015.

Notable | Committees (within the past few years):

- CSS Student Recruitment Team
- Mānoa Campus Climate Committee
- Mānoa Design Team - Reorganization Phase 2 | Team 5: Equity, Climate, and Conflict Resolution
- RCUH Personnel Committee and Audit Committee
- UHM Performance Indicators for Prioritization Committee
- UH COVID-19 Health & Well-Being Working Group
- UH Esports Academic Task Force
- UH System Strategic Plan (2023-2029) Steering Committee
- served on numerous search committees as a member and chair. Recently served on the Executive Search Advisory Committee for the UHM Vice Provost for Enrollment Management (VPEM).

Notable | Service (currently):

- Board of Directors | Hawaii Government Employees Association (HGEA)
- Board of Directors | The Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i (RCUH)
- Board of Advisors | Public Administration Program (PUBA)
- Board Member | UHM Student Activity & Program Fee Board (SAPFB)
- Chapter President | Pi Alpha Alpha (PAA) Global Honor Society

**Erin E. Centeio, Ph.D. - All Campus Council for Faculty Senate Chairs (ACCFSC)**

Dr. Erin E. Centeio is an Associate Professor in the College of Education, Department of Kinesiology and Rehabilitation Science at The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She currently serves as the program coordinator of Health and Physical Education. Erin obtained her Bachelor's and Master's in Kinesiology from the University of Illinois in Urbana Champaign and her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Texas at Austin. Erin spent six years at Wayne State University before joining the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in 2018. Erin serves as chair of the Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee and Co-Chair of the All Campus Council for Faculty Senate Chairs (ACCFSC).

Within the KRS program, Erin teaches undergraduate and graduate students classes. Although her focus area is preparing health and physical education teachers, her classes serve all Health and Exercise Science majors, currently the largest undergraduate major at UH Mānoa. Erin's research focuses on integrating culturally relevant physical activity opportunities before, during, and after school. Additionally, she seeks to understand the implications of culturally relevant physical activity, fitness, and health interventions on children's overall health and well-being and the cognitive and psychosocial benefits. As such, she consults with numerous community programmers, physical education teachers, and schools in order to maximize the potential for quality physical education and additional opportunities for physical activity before, during, and after school. Through partnerships with the Hawai'i Department of Health, the Hawai'i Department of Education, and the Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance, Erin and her team are working in schools across the state to implement quality and culturally relevant health programming. Erin has received research and scholarship awards from the Society for Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE America), the American Education Research Association (AERA), and the International Organization for Physical Education in Higher Education (AIESEP). She has been a principal/co-investigator on over 10 million dollars in grant funding, authored/coauthored over 100 presentations at National and International conferences, and published 7 book chapters and over 60 peer-reviewed manuscripts focusing on integrating physical activity and healthy eating interventions



into school and community settings. In addition to her scholarship, Erin believes that service to the fields of physical education and physical activity is important. She currently serves as the past president of SHAPE America Western District and SHAPE America CSPAP SIG Chair. Erin is currently an executive board member of HAHPERD (Hawai'i Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance), and she is also part of local task forces in the State of Hawaii that focus on decreasing obesity among youth as well as the state association for physical education.

### **Lindsey Millerd - UH Student Caucus**

Lindsey is the ASUH President and a student caucus ambassador for UH West Oahu. She was born and raised in Waipahu and a graduate of Waipahu high school. Lindsey attended Cal State Humboldt, initially studying environmental engineering for her first year of college, and ended up settling back home to continue her education. She graduated with her associate degree in sustainable agriculture from LCC in 2022 and is now in her senior year studying Hawaiian and Indigenous Health and Healing at West Oahu. Currently, she is an intern at the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center under Elepaio Social Services and helps create recipes and wellness resources for the community. Lindsey is one of the vice-chairs for the Honolulu Youth Commission and writes for her school paper. She hopes to continue pursuing journalism and community health work focused on local food production and nutrition.

### **Kamakanaoakealoha Aquino, M.Ed. - Pūko'a Council**

Kamakana is from Waimānalo, O'ahu and a graduate of Kamehameha Schools Kapālama. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Hawaiian Studies, Masters of Education in Educational Administration with a concentration in higher education, and a Certificate in Online Learning and Teaching from UH Mānoa.

Kamakana has been a student assistant for the UHM College Opportunities Program, graduate and program assistant for the UHM College of Education, program assistant for UHM Hawai'i inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge, and a research analyst for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. He is currently the Native Hawaiian Coordinator for Hui 'Āina Pilipili: Native Hawaiian Initiative in the UHM College of Social Sciences. He has also been involved in the student organization Hui Aloha 'Āina Tuahine, member of the Hawai'i inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge Dean's Student Advisory Circle, and senator for UHM Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i (97th and 98th Senate). Kamakana is a member of the Kūali'i Council - UHM Native Hawaiian Council and an Executive Member to the Pūko'a Council - UH System-wide Native Hawaiian Council and has previously served on the executive search advisory committees for the UHM Assistant Provost for Global Engagement and UHM Dean of College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

Kamakana previously served as President of the Waimānalo Hawaiian Homes Association, Commissioner for the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission, and currently serves on the HGEA Board of Directors BU08 and Hawai'i-Pacific Evaluation Association as Secretary.

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Below are eight people who are recommended to fill the remaining eight seats of the PSAG. They are presented in alphabetical order by last name.

**1. Dom Bonifacio**

Dom graduated from Kalani High School, where he was involved with Student Government and served as senior class president. He was born and raised on the island of Oahu and is currently a student at Leeward Community College. He's hoping to transfer to either Mānoa or West Oahu to receive his Political Science Degree and a minor in Law. He's an ASUH senator at LCC and a student caucus ambassador. He's currently working as an 89-day Hire at the Department of Education. He strives to lead and serve his community and jumps at any opportunity to do so.

**2. Jerris R. Hedges, M.D., M.S., M.M.M.**

Dr. Jerris R. Hedges, Professor and Dean Emeritus of the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM), earned his bachelor's degree in aeronautics and astronautics, his master's degree in chemical engineering and his medical degree at the University of Washington. He completed his residency at the Medical College of Pennsylvania and served on the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine faculty before joining Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) School of Medicine. Jerris also holds a Master of Medical Management from the Marshall School of Business at the University of Southern California.

Before joining JABSOM, Jerris served as Professor and Department Chair in Emergency Medicine at UHSU and was named Vice Dean in 2005. He was pivotal in helping OHSU earn recognition as one of the "Top 10" National Institutes of Health-funded academic emergency medicine research departments in the nation. Even after leaving OHSU to go to the University of Hawaii Medical School, OHSU honored Dr. Hedges' contributions by recognizing him as a distinguished emeritus faculty member and establishing an endowed professorship in his name.

Throughout his career, Jerris has published over 200 peer-reviewed publications, 13 edited books, and 44 book chapters. He is known internationally as co-editor of one of the leading texts in patient care, Roberts and Hedges' Clinical Procedures in Emergency Medicine, now in its seventh edition. In addition to publications, Jerris has also received many awards throughout his career, including but not limited to a Distinguished Service Member of the American Association of Medical Colleges (September 2023), the President's Award from the Hawaii Medical Association (October 2023), ARCS (Achievement Rewards for College Scientists) Foundation Recognition Award and Physician of the Year from the Hawaii Medical Association (October 2013). Dr. Hedges has also served as President of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine and the Association of Academic Chairs of Emergency Medicine. He also served as interim Director of the University of Hawaii Cancer Center from November 2014 through June 2016.

In Hawai'i, he is also recognized as a leader who, over 15 years, strengthened the medical school by building vital bridges between JABSOM's community partners and collaborators. Under his leadership, he led JABSOM through two primary accreditation reviews, receiving a maximum of 8 years of re-accreditation both times. Additionally, during his tenure, JABSOM was able to better share its many contributions to the public's health, the many ongoing efforts to address the physician shortage across Hawai'i, its vital role in the provision of graduate medical education following medical school, and its growing contributions to research innovations and the Hawai'i state economy. Finally, during his service at JABSOM, the medical school quickly established itself as a national leader in National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant acquisition for public, community-based medical schools and earned top quartile rankings in the US News & World Report Survey

In addition to his many accomplishments and contributions, Jerris has experience serving on Executive Search Advisory Committees at the university, having been a member of the UH Chancellor search committee in 2012 and 2016.

To find out more about Dr. Jerris Hedges please use the following link:  
<https://jabsom.hawaii.edu/news-events/news/2023/03/dean-hedges-retires.html>

**3. Brandon Marc T. Higa, J.D., Esq.**

Regent Emeritus Brandon Marc Higa is a licensed attorney completing a doctorate in law (S.J.D.) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law, while serving as the director of the Kapi'olani

Community College Grants Office. Higa was selected for the White House Initiative, U.S.-ASEAN University Connections Initiative (UCI) to form partnerships with institutions of higher education in the Southeast Asia region and is a grantee of State ECA's IDEAS grant program for the project, Militourism and Indigenous Identities in Hawai'i and Okinawa, funded by the U.S. Department of State. Higa completed a federal service requirement in public diplomacy at the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo before returning home to the islands to work at UH. Higa's grant writing expertise helped the UH Community Colleges and University of Hawai'i at Mānoa secure federal grants promoting international education and study abroad programs. He directs a five-year Native Hawaiian Strengthening Institutions consortium grant establishing shared services centers to increase UH's extramural fundraising capacity. Higa received a NSEP Boren Fellowship to complete post-graduate research at Stanford University's Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies in Yokohama, Japan, while completing dual bachelor's and master's degrees in international relations at the University of Southern California.

Higa remains active as an emeritus regent in recruiting the future generation of leaders at the University of Hawai'i by vetting qualified candidates for the Board of Regents through the Regents Candidate Advisory Council and elevating emerging leaders throughout the UH's ten campuses through the President's Emerging Leaders Program Advisory Committee. Higa's governance experience includes serving as the President of the Student Bar Association and chairing the Staff Council at Kapi'olani Community College.

#### **4. Duane K. Kurisu, MBA**

Duane was born and raised on the Big Island of Hawaii. He graduated from Hilo High School and earned a BBA and MBA from the University of Hawai'i.

Duane is a minority owner of the San Francisco Giants. He was also the organizer and owner of Hawaii Winter Baseball, an off-season professional baseball league in Hawaii for A and AA minor league players affiliated with Major League Baseball and young major league players from Japan Professional Baseball and the Korea Baseball Organization.

Duane is also the Chairman and CEO of aio, a holding company for brands focused on Hawaii and the Pacific in the areas of media, sports, technology and food. Included in aio are: aio Media, owner and publisher of Honolulu, Hawaii Business, Hawaii Home + Remodeling, Hawaii, Honolulu Family and other

publications; Watermark Publishing, book publisher; Upspring Media, digital media development and consulting company; KKEA 1420AM and KHKA 1500AM, ESPN Radio affiliates and holder of the broadcast rights for all University of Hawai'i sports; B. Hayman Co., golf and landscape equipment distributor; Punaluu Bake Shop, bakery and visitor center on the Big Island, and Hukilau Restaurant in San Jose and Pagoda Floating Restaurant in Honolulu. Additionally, he is the minority owner of Oahu Publications, publisher of the Honolulu Star Advertiser.

In addition to being a former Regent of the University of Hawai'i, Duane is also a Trustee of Punahou School and Claremont McKenna College. He serves on the Board of Directors of Central Pacific Financial Corp, Island Holdings, Tradewind Capital Group, Nippon Golden Network and a number of nonprofit organizations. Duane leads the Board of the Hawaii Executive Collaborative and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Hawaii Asia Pacific Association (HAPA).

#### **5. Tammi Oyadomari-Chun, EdD, MPP**

Tammi Oyadomari-Chun is the deputy superintendent of strategy for the Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE). She is responsible for leading, directing, and supervising the strategic planning, transformation, and modernization, as well as implementation of the department's strategic initiatives.

She rejoined the HIDOE, having previously served as assistant superintendent of the Office of Strategy, Innovation and Performance from 2015 to 2017. Before returning to the HIDOE, Oyadomari-Chun most recently was interim associate vice president for academic affairs for the University of Hawai'i community college system, where she helped secure and implement more than \$25 million in grants and contracts for strategic initiatives.

Oyadomari-Chun's past work includes serving as vice president at the Hawaii Community Foundation, policy analyst for former Governor Neil Abercrombie, and executive director of Hawaii P-20. Previously, she also conducted education and social policy research at the RAND Corporation and the University of Pennsylvania. Tammi earned an educational doctorate from the University of Southern California Rossier School of Education, a master's degree in public policy from the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government, and a bachelor's degree from Pomona College. Tammi is the chair of the Center for Tomorrow's Leaders and a member of Aloha United Way's Community Impact Council; she previously served as an inaugural board member of the Data Quality Campaign and the 'Aina Haina Elementary School Community Council.

## **6. Dirk Soma, B.B.A., M.P.S.**

Dirk has spent his whole life in Hawai'i. Born on Kauai and raised on Oahu, he has spent a lifetime living, working, and enjoying all Hawaii offers. As a native Hawaiian with Asian and Caucasian ancestry, he is an example of the multicultural fabric that makes up our community. Dirk is a graduate of the Kamehameha Schools, has benefitted from the legacy of Bernice Pauahi Bishop, and has been provided with opportunities to excel as a servant leader and a good and industrious member of society. He received his BBA in Travel Industry Management and my MPS in TIM with an emphasis in Educational Administration from The University of Hawaii – Mānoa. Dirk's career in the hotel and restaurant industry has taken him to Kauai, Oahu, and the island of Hawai'i. As an entrepreneur, he has started and operated successful businesses in food and beverage, ground transportation, and business development consulting.

His career in higher education began in 1993 at Kapiolani Community College. In the 10 years he was there, he held the roles of Instructor, Assistant Professor, Department Chair, Interim Director for the Culinary Institute of the Pacific, and Assistant Dean for Business, Hospitality, and Culinary Arts. He has had the opportunity to work intimately with the Hawaiian community both in Hawaii and the Continent as Director of the Career Education and Lifelong Learning Department as part of the Kamehameha Schools' Extension Education Division and as the Community Outreach and as the Director for Community Outreach for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Dirk has spent the past 10 years on Kauai with Kauai Community College as an Instructor, Assistant Professor, and Associate Professor with the Business Program. As the Business Program Coordinator, he has taken the program from inception to becoming an established, fully online, asynchronous program serving UH students across the state and the continent. He currently serves on the Makaloa and International Education Committees and as the Faculty Senate Chair.

His service to the community over the years includes:

- Director – Travel Industry Management Alumni Association
- Director – Native Hawaiian Education Council Oahu and Kauai Island Representative
- Director – Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce
- President - Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce
- Founding Director – Kauai Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce
- President - Kauai Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce

- Director - Hale Opio Kauai
- Director – Kauai Chamber of Commerce
- Chair – Workforce and Education and Workforce Development Committee, Kauai Chamber of Commerce

## **7. Livingston “Jack” Wong**

Livingston “Jack” Wong is the chief executive officer for Kamehameha Schools.

Wong joined Kamehameha Schools in 1997, first serving as senior counsel from 1997-2000, then as director of the Endowment Legal Division from 2000-2013.

He began his legal career at Morrison and Foerster in Los Angeles, Calif., and then returned to Hawai‘i to practice law at Bendet, Fidell, Sakai and Lee.

Prior to joining Kamehameha Schools, Wong represented international, national and local businesses, financial institutions and landowners, in the areas of real estate, finance, and business associations. Wong also previously served as an adjunct professor at Hawai‘i Pacific University, teaching courses in business law.

Wong is a graduate of Punahou School, and received his undergraduate degree in economics from UCLA, receiving the school’s Outstanding Economics Undergraduate Award, and his law degree from the UCLA School of Law.

Wong is licensed to practice law in Hawai‘i and California. He is the past chair of the Real Property and Financial Services Section of the Hawai‘i State Bar Association and is currently the vice-chair of the Hawai‘i Council on Economic Education.

## **8. Noe Noe Wong-Wilson, Ph.D.**

Dr. Noe Noe Wong-Wilson is a Native Hawaiian educator, cultural practitioner, and community advocate. Noe Noe retired from Hawai‘i Community College, University of Hawai‘i, in 2016. She served as Assistant Professor in Hawaiian Studies and Coordinator of the Title III funded Hālaulani Native Hawaiian Student Success Center.

Noe Noe has a long history of community service. She currently serves as President of the Hawaiian Civic Club of Hilo, and is a Founding Co-Author of ‘Āina Aloha Economic Development Futures Initiative. She is a volunteer Executive Director of Lālākea Foundation, a non-profit organization of Hawaiian kumu hula and hula practitioners. She currently serves as Vice Chair of the Mauna Kea Stewardship & Oversight Authority.

She has a long history working in the hospitality industry at Hawai'i Visitor's Bureau and Island Holidays Tour in Waikiki and as Sales and Convention Services Director at Waiohai Resort in Poipū, Kauai, in state government at the legislature and DBEDT as the Hawai'i Island Coordinator, and in her own strategic planning firm in Hilo. She is a graduate of Kamehameha School for Girls and holds a Bachelor Degree with Honors in Anthropology from University of Hawai'i Hilo and a Master of Arts Degree in Pacific Islands Studies from University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She received her Doctorate in Philosophy from the School of Maori and Pacific Development at University of Waikato in Kirikiriroa, Hamilton, New Zealand. Born and raised in Kailua, O'ahu, Noe Noe is resides with her family in Kaiwiki, Hilo, Hawai'i

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In addition to the eight names listed above, we request that Regent Ernie Wilson and Regent Gabriel Lee remain as Board of Regent liaisons to the PSAG. It is important for there to be liaisons with the PSAG as there needs to be a consistent and clear line of communication between the PSAG and the BOR Committee of the Whole ("COW"). By allowing liaisons to attend meetings, they will be able to understand the process and the conversations behind decisions that the PSAG will be making. They can communicate this information with the COW and ask questions that the COW may have. Having assigned liaisons from the BORs is also essential for the PSAG's functioning. If the PSAG has questions or needs clarification from the BOR, they can start with the liaisons and ask for further clarification.

We ask that you approve the PSAG as presented. After careful consideration, we have created a diverse and dynamic group. These individuals have a broad range of expertise that will help listen to community needs and identify the needed characteristics of the next UH President.

Mahalo nui loa,

Erin E. Centeio, ACCFSC  
Jaret KC Leong, UH Staff Council  
Kamakanaokealoha Aquino, Pūko'a Council  
Lindsey Millerd, Student Caucus



# Item IV.C.

Discussion and Potential  
Action on Regent Liaisons  
to the Presidential Search  
Advisory Group

**NO MATERIALS  
DISCUSSION ONLY**

# Item IV.D.

Discussion and Potential  
Action on Assignment of  
Tasks to the Presidential  
Search Advisory Group

**NO MATERIALS  
DISCUSSION ONLY**

Item V.

Executive Session

**ITEM TO BE  
DISCUSSED IN  
EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**