

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING**  
**JANUARY 16, 2020**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Ben Kudo called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. on Thursday, January 16, 2020, at Windward Community College, 45-720 Kea'ahala Road, Hale Akoakoa 101 & 103, Kāne'ōhe, Hawai'i 96744.

Quorum (10): Chair Ben Kudo; Vice-Chair Wayne Higaki; Regent Simeon Acoba; Regent Eugene Bal; Regent Michael McEnerney; Regent Randy Moore; Regent Alapaki Nahale-a; Regent Michelle Tagorda; Regent Robert Westerman; and Regent Ernest Wilson Jr.

Excused (2): Vice-Chair Jan Sullivan; Regent Kelli Acopan.

Others in attendance: President David Lassner; Vice President (VP) for Administration Jan Gouveia; Interim VP for Community Colleges Erika Lacro; VP for Legal Affairs/University General Counsel Carrie Okinaga; VP for Academic Planning and Policy Donald Straney; 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; UH-Mānoa (UHM) Provost Michael Bruno; UH-Hilo Chancellor Bonnie Irwin; UH-West O'ahu (UHWO) Chancellor Maenette Benham; Windward Community College (WinCC) Chancellor Ardis Eschenberg; Interim Honolulu Community College Chancellor Karen Lee; Leeward Community College Chancellor Carlos Peñaloza; Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents (Board Secretary) Kendra Oishi; and others as noted.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 17, 2019, NOVEMBER 6, 2019, AND NOVEMBER 21, 2019 MEETINGS**

Regent Moore moved to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2019, November 6, 2019, and November 21, 2019 meetings, seconded by Regent Westerman. Noting the excused absence of Vice-Chair Sullivan and Regent Acopan, the motion carried, with all members present voting in the affirmative.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Board Secretary Oishi announced that the Board Office received written comments from Ms. Barbara Haight regarding Maunakea and that no one signed up to provide oral testimony.

**IV. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Lassner thanked WinCC for hosting the meeting and provided a report highlighting the following:

### Hawai'i Graduation Initiative

- Enrollment numbers continue to fluctuate on an almost daily basis with overall headcount numbers for the spring of 2020 being slightly above or slightly below the overall headcount numbers for the same dates in the spring of 2019, depending on when the counts were taken. UHWO and WinCC enrollment is currently up in comparison to last spring. Census data is expected to be received in approximately four weeks which will provide more accurate overall headcount numbers.

### Hawai'i Innovation Initiative

- As of January 15, 2020, UH received just under \$266,000,000 in extramural funding, which is approximately \$2,000,000 more than the same period last year, and this revenue stream is currently holding steady.
- The Hula Bowl has returned to Hawai'i and in coordination with Hula Bowl organizers, UH is hosting an Esports event that will be held on the evening of January 24<sup>th</sup> at the iLab on the UHM campus. The event will feature a livestreamed competition in Madden Football (a very popular video game) between National Football League players and students in the UH Esports program. Esports is a \$1 billion industry and is currently a bright spot for UH with a formally established competitive Esports team at UHM and Esports teams forming at UHWO and UH Maui College. Esports facilities are also being developed on all three campuses.

### High Performing System

- The reorganization of UHM continues to move forward as follows:
  - i. **Campus Administration.** Mini design teams were formed to review various administrative functional areas such as educational excellence and student success. The mini design teams have completed their reviews which have been shared with campus leadership, including all campus governance groups. The master design team is currently reviewing all of the input received, reconciling conflicts, and finalizing new functional statements and high-level organizational charts which will be presented during campus town hall meetings in February. Input received from the presentations, as well as formal input from campus governance groups, will be used to develop a final proposal by April with implementation anticipated on July 1.
  - ii. **College Reorganization.** The merger of the College of Language, Linguistics, and Literature; College of Arts and Humanities; and School of Pacific and Asian Studies to develop a newly conceived college that brings together arts, humanities, languages, and Pacific and Asian studies to create a more unique, dynamic, and cohesive liberal arts community at UHM is slightly ahead of schedule. A full proposal is anticipated to be

provided to campus governance groups for formal input in March. Recent data shows that a liberal arts education is worth nearly \$1 million in lifetime earnings.

- iii. **School of Travel Industry Management (TIM)/Shidler College of Business (Shidler) Merger.** The merger of TIM and Shidler was completed in the Fall of 2019. Recruitment is currently underway for a Director of TIM who will also serve as an Associate Dean of Shidler.

### Mission-Focused System

- Decommissioning of the Hokukea and currently underway. Preliminary Gantt charts outlining the schedule for the decommissioning of these two sites have been reviewed and will be presented to the Board at its scheduled February meeting. A Blue Ribbon Science Committee is being proposed to assess the future decommissioning of additional telescopes and ensure that the impacts to science, cultural sites, and natural resources are taken into consideration. Kahu Ku Mauna and other cultural groups will be consulted on the impacts the decommissioning of the telescopes may have on cultural resources. The Maunakea Management Board (MKMB) will also be consistently engaged in the decommissioning process.
- Initial, planned improvements to the Visitor Information Center (VIS) at Hale Pohaku that integrate education, culture, and astronomy, including the establishment of new interactive displays and exhibits, have been made. MKMB and Kahu Ku Mauna have expressed interest in reviewing plans for the VIS to provide more community input. 'Imiloa Astronomy Center is collaborating with the Office of Mauna Kea Management on developing improved training programs to ensure that employees, visitors, vendors, contractors, and others are appropriately educated on the unique and special nature of Maunakea.
- Establishment and siting of a new educational telescope continues to move forward, with Hale Pohaku remaining the preferred location. Issues and challenges facing the development of the telescope, including permitting requirements, funding issues, and notice of intent to decommission requirements, are currently being reviewed.
- A review of UH's management of, and stewardship responsibilities for, Maunakea, including a proposed reorganization of management structure, is being undertaken and a report will be provided to the Board at its April meeting. Existing management structure models being examined to aid in the development of a new Maunakea management structure include the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission, Ha'ena State Park Community Advisory Committee, and 'i trusts are also being consulted as these private land trusts have an inordinate amount of knowledge on complex land management issues.

- Preparations for the implementation of the Maunakea Rules signed by the Governor are underway including the drafting of an Executive Policy delegating administrative authority of the rules from the President to the Chancellor and others. Efforts to enhance stewardship of Maunakea through implementation of aspects of the Maunakea rules are ongoing including the reduction of casual, public, non-practitioner single-occupancy vehicular traffic and a restriction on the number of commercial tour operator permits issued.

President Lassner also noted the following:

- Mr. Christian Fern is the new Executive Director of the University of Hawai'i Professional Assembly. Mr. Fern was introduced to the Board and he provided brief remarks noting his background and philosophy regarding UH.

### Report of the Host Campus

Chancellor Eschenberg welcomed everyone and provided an overview of actions taken by WinCC to promote excellence in education and continued engagement of the educational needs of the community. She highlighted the success of the actions taken, noting that in 2019, WinCC welcomed its largest freshman class in three years, was the only community college to experience an increase in enrollment (2.6%) in the fall semester, and witnessed continued growth in enrollment in its Early College Program. WinCC continues to work to remove barriers to obtaining a post-secondary education, as well as provide support for current WinCC students, through the provision of services and programs such as scholarship workshops and on-site new student orientation at local high schools, the establishment of a campus childcare center, and the Kids at College program for school-age children of WinCC students. WinCC has also increased its presence on high school campuses and in doing so has piqued the interest of high school students who may not have otherwise considered a post-secondary education.

Chancellor Eschenberg spoke on the values of educating incarcerated individuals and the benefits this provides to society in general noting that WinCC's educational programs for incarcerated individuals have had a profound impact on this population. She highlighted several achievements of these programs stating that the program for incarcerated women has witnessed students maintaining a 3.6 grade point average and experiencing an 86 percent success rate, a rate that is 20 percent higher than WinCC's traditional, on-campus students. The program at the Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility has shown even more promising results with students in this program maintaining a 3.4 grade point average and experiencing a 94 percent success rate.

One area of concern that continues to be a challenge at WinCC is that of student persistence. Chancellor Eschenberg noted that, while continuing enrollment numbers for the fall semester were not what WinCC had hoped for, spring semester continuing enrollment numbers are up 8.7 percent. This increase in continuing enrollment numbers may be attributed to a number of factors including advising and increased support for student course selection through the establishment of career pathways.

Chancellor Eschenberg stated that many of the actions taken by WinCC have had success with WinCC continuing to experience increased graduation rates among all students, including among Native Hawaiians and Pell Grant recipients. Work still needs to be done to continue to close gaps in grade point averages and graduation rates and to increase continued student enrollment. Chancellor Eschenberg remarked that a working group was being formed to address these continuing challenges.

#### Faculty Report

Dr. Christian Palmer, WinCC Faculty Senate Chair, shared highlights about WinCC's tree restoration project which was done in collaboration with the Outdoor Circle and UHM and made possible by a \$30,000 grant from the Arbor Day Foundation. He noted that numerous trees around campus had succumbed to disease and other environmental factors necessitating their removal. Dr. Palmer described the process and planning involved for the tree restoration project, stating that WinCC received tremendous community support, and highlighted the various species of trees planted which included a number of native trees. He stated that this project not only helped to improve campus facilities but also would further the educational mission of the campus as the project and the trees planted will be used as learning tools for WinCC programs such as Hawaiian studies, botany, and courses in sustainability.

### **V. REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I FOUNDATION**

VP/UHF CEO Dolan provided the first quarter report for UHF noting that he was optimistic about UHF's direction and effort in supporting the ten campuses of the UH System. He acknowledged that UHF does face challenges in fulfilling its mission, including the changing landscape and dynamics of fundraising, but stated that it continues to work hard to strengthen areas of weakness and address these challenges. VP Dolan reported on fundraising efforts through the first quarter noting that UHF has received approximately \$28,000,000 and is anticipating the receipt an additional \$7,000,000 for a total of \$35,000,000 to date. He also expressed confidence that UHF would receive a number of large donations in the near future.

VP Dolan noted that, in an effort to create greater alignment with the mission of UH and maintain a more collaborative environment that will be beneficial to both UHF and the University, UHF has filled several positions at CTAHR, SOEST, the College of Engineering, JABSOM, the Cancer Center, and Lyon Arboretum. Although UHF is currently located at off-campus facilities, efforts are ongoing to relocate UHF to on-campus facilities which would be more ideal to continue these collaborative efforts.

UHF is also endeavoring to increase alumni involvement in fundraising efforts. VP Dolan explained that an alumni team has been established to plan alumni-focused events, both in Hawaii and across the county, that encourage and promote alumni engagement with UH. He also noted that UHF's development staff, along with the UHF's academic partners, are currently conducting training sessions across the UH System in an effort to provide increased education and direction in the solicitation of monetary donations to UH, not only among alumni but among private donors and the community at-large. VP Dolan remarked that enthusiasm regarding the provision of

post-secondary educational programs at the community colleges abounds among both the community and donors.

Regent McEnerney inquired as to whether donations to UHF are counted in the fiscal year (FY) the pledge is made or in the FY the donation is received. VP Dolan responded that donations are counted and recorded for the FY in which the pledge is made. Regent McEnerney further questioned why balance sheets were included in the first quarter report but not income statements. Mr. John Han, Chief Operating Officer for UHF, responded that the UHF's first quarter activity is generally very light and therefore income statement details were not provided. However, Mr. Han stated that income statements would be provided in detail at UHF's end-of-the-year fiscal report and that UHF could provide current income statements in its next report to the Board.

Regent Moore asked why expenditures for student-aid were low compared to other expenditure categories. Mr. Han responded that this is simply a matter of the timing of this report as student-aid payments are generally made in two large amounts in the fall and spring and that these numbers would be better reflected in the second quarter report.

## **VI. COMMITTEE AND AFFILIATE REPORTS**

### **A. Report from the Committee on Independent Audit**

Committee Chair McEnerney summarized the committee report.

### **B. Report from the Committee on Planning and Facilities**

Committee Chair Moore summarized the committee report.

### **C. Report from the Committee on Research and Innovation**

Committee Vice-Chair Tagorda summarized the committee report.

### **D. Affiliate Reports**

**Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i (RCUH):** Regent Bal reported that Dr. Sylvia Yuen, the Executive Director of RCUH, will retire in June and that a selection committee to find her successor has been formed. It is hoped that a new Executive Director will be selected prior to Dr. Yuen's retirement to allow for a smooth transition in leadership.

**Maunakea Management Board:** Vice-Chair Higaki reported that MKMB is planning to hold a half-day session sometime in February to discuss MKMB's views on the new proposed management structure for Maunakea. Chair Kudo noted that at the Board of Regents meeting held on November 6, 2019, important points were made about seeking and obtaining community input on both the governance and management structure of Maunakea, as well as issues regarding the establishment of an educational telescope on Maunakea. Chair Kudo suggested that the MKMB be asked to assist in the garnering of public input on both of these issues.

Chair Kudo called for a recess at 10:54 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:06 a.m.

## **VII. AGENDA ITEMS**

### **A. Approval to Authorize the Administration to Support and Participate in a Public Utilities Commission-Approved Green Tariff Program**

VP Gouveia provided an overview of the Green Tariff Program (Program) noting that the Program was a pilot program established by the Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) and would be a means of addressing statutorily established goals that UH become net-zero with respect to energy use by January 1, 2035. She highlighted that, under the Program, UH would be granted the ability to utilize remote real property under its control for a specified renewable energy facility and in turn experience the financial benefit associated with renewable energy rates at a distant site or campus. VP Gouveia provided a brief explanation of a power purchase agreement (PPA) and expounded on the differences between a traditional PPA and the Program, noting that the Program contained unique characteristics and in industry terms would more appropriately be referred to as a sleeved PPA. She also discussed the financial impacts and cost savings contemplated by UH as a result of its participation in the Program by providing a specific example of how the Program would work using lands located on the makai campus of UHWO for development of a renewable energy facility.

VP Gouveia stated that the Administration was requesting authorization to participate in HECO's initiation and pursuit of a docket with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) regarding implementation of the Program. She noted that Board authorization was necessary because the Program contemplated the initiation of a 20-year land use agreement and contained penalty provisions should UH decide not to participate in the Program once certain phases have been initiated. Upon the Program's receipt of approval from the PUC, the Administration would return to the Board to seek approval to participate in the Program. Additionally, the Administration would request authorization from the Board to negotiate, finalize, and execute services agreements, long-term use agreements, letters of intent with prospective photovoltaic developers, and other similar agreements and documents on the condition that the terms and conditions of these agreements and documents are favorable to UH. The Administration would also reevaluate the initial fiscal assumptions made regarding the Program to ensure that the Program was still fiscally beneficial to UH and provide this information to the Board as part of the Administration's authorization request.

Regent Westerman inquired as to whether it was possible to negotiate a maximum ceiling on penalties imposed by HECO should UH decide not to participate in the Program. VP Gouveia responded that while a maximum penalty of \$100,000 is being contemplated, the penalty imposed is also dependent on the number of proposals for the Program that HECO receives. HECO is anticipating charging a \$10,000 fee for developers to submit proposals and the fees charged would offset any penalty imposed. She noted that this information will be presented to the Board before a final decision is made.

Regent McEnerney asked whether the Administration had obtained a fair market appraisal of the lease value of the land that the Program would use at UHWO. VP Gouveia replied that an exact site for the placement of a renewable energy facility has not yet been selected and that the Administration continues to work with HECO on determining the most appropriate and cost-effective area to locate the facility to ensure proper connection to the electric grid. Once the actual site has been determined, an appraisal will be done for the land being used.

Regent Moore questioned what HECO would do to address the loss of a power source once the 20-year land use agreement ends. VP Gouveia responded that the Administration could not speak to HECO's plan but noted that the Program agreement requires the PPA developer to decommission the renewable energy facilities once the land use agreement ends.

Chair Kudo inquired as to whether UH had input into the selection of a PV developer. VP Gouveia replied that UH would not be able to provide direct input into the selection of a PV developer but that all documents concerning proposals submitted to HECO would be provided to UH for review and feedback. Chair Kudo questioned HECO's motivation for selecting a PV developer that may negatively impact their profit margin. VP Gouveia responded that the selection of a developer may not be profit-driven because the Program is a straight pass-through. She noted that HECO's RFP process does not allow for direct involvement by UH in the actual selection of a developer but reiterated that UH still has the option of not proceeding with the agreement if the terms are not fiscally beneficial to the University. VP Gouveia stated that the PUC would also play a role in determining HECO's proposed rate structure.

Chair Kudo asked what the average non-renewable power generation cost was for HECO. VP Gouveia stated that UH does not know what HECO's non-renewable energy costs are as this information had not been shared with UH.

Regent Moore asked whether HECO was required to report their per kilowatt hour production costs to the PUC. VP Gouveia was not aware if the PUC imposed this requirement on HECO.

Regent Moore moved to authorize the Administration to participate in HECO's initiation and pursuit of a docket with the PUC regarding implementation of the Program, seconded by Regent Nahale-a, and noting the excused absences of Vice-Chair Sullivan and Regent Acopan, the motion carried, with Chair Kudo and Regent Wilson voting no, Regent Acoba abstaining, and all others present voting in the affirmative.

**B. Approval of Name Change for the North Hawai'i Education and Research Center to Kō Education Center**

Interim VP Lacro provided background information on Hawai'i Community College's North Hawai'i Education & Research Center (NHERC) which was established in 2006 in the Honoka'a area to serve the educational and workforce development needs of the community after the demise of the sugar industry. Over time, the research component of NHERC was eliminated and the provision of educational services was



expanded to areas beyond North Hawai'i. In an effort to reflect these changes, while recognizing the historical importance of the sugar industry to the North Hawai'i community (Kō is Hawaiian for sugar cane), and better align the names of educational centers systemwide, interim VP Lacro stated that the Administration is requesting approval to change the name of NHERC to the Kō Education Center.

Regent Wilson moved to approve the name change, seconded by Regent Higaki, and noting the excused absences of Vice-Chair Sullivan and Regent Acopan, the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

**C. Approval of the Establishment of the Creative Eateries Singapore Endowed Faculty Fellowship at the School of Travel Industry Management at the Shidler College of Business, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (TIM School)**

**D. Approval of the Establishment of the Esquel-Yang Family Distinguished Professorship at the TIM School**

President Lassner requested that agenda items C and D be taken together as they both were related to the TIM School.

Provost Bruno provided information on two financial commitments that UHF has received for the TIM School. The first is a gift pledge of \$125,000 made by Singapore based Creative Eateries Pte Ltd, to establish an endowed, named faculty fellowship at the TIM School. The second is a gift pledge of \$250,000 made by the Esquel-Y. L. Yang Education Foundation Limited of Wanchai, Hong Kong SAR, to establish an endowed, named distinguished professorship at the TIM School. In addition, Mr. Jay Shidler has agreed to provide unrestricted matching funds to the two financial gifts given to the TIM School. In recognition of the receipt of these gifts, the Administration is requesting Board approval for the naming of the Creative Eateries Singapore Endowed Faculty Fellowship and the Esquel-Yang Family Distinguished Professorship.

Regent McEnerney inquired whether only the income from these established endowments is being allocated for their respective purposes. Provost Bruno responded in the affirmative. Regent McEnerney noted that, in the case of the endowed faculty fellowship, that would equate to approximately \$12,500 which did not appear to be a significant amount. Provost Bruno noted that Regent McEnerney's estimation was correct. President Lassner mentioned that while the amount appeared to be small, the provision of financial assistance and support in any amount helps in recruiting and retaining high-quality faculty.

Chair Kudo asked what the relationship of the donors was to UH. Provost Bruno responded that he was unaware of the relationship either of the donors had to UH. Chair Kudo opined that while the Board was grateful for the provision of funds to the University, due diligence needs to be considered when accepting funds from donors. He noted that it would be helpful, in the future, to receive more background information on the donors. Provost Bruno responded that he would provide

background information on these particular donors to the Board and will also provide this type of information for any future requests of this nature.

Regent Moore moved to approve the establishment of the Creative Eateries Singapore Endowed Faculty Fellowship and the establishment of the Esquel-Yang Family Distinguished Professorship at the TIM School, seconded by Regent Bal, and noting the excused absences of Vice-Chair Sullivan and Regent Acopan, the motion carried, with all members present voting in the affirmative.

**E. Review of Graduate Medical Education Programs at the John A. Burns School of Medicine Annual Report for Academic Year 2018-2019**

President Lassner noted that this is a requirement of the accreditation process associated with graduate medical education that occurs after the completion of medical school, also known as the medical residency program, and stated that although the Board is required to review the materials, no action is required. He introduced Dr. Lee Buenconsejo-Lum, the designated institutional official of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM), who provided the annual report on the medical residency program at JABSOM for the 2018-2019 Academic Year.

Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum affirmed that JABSOM's 18 medical residency programs are all fully accredited but that the Orthopedics Residency Program (Orthopedics) has had citation issues concerning faculty publications in peer-reviewed journals. She stated that a number of Orthopedics faculty members have had works published in peer-reviewed journals over the last few months which will hopefully alleviate the concerns raised by the accrediting body. She also noted that an area of institutional improvement at JABSOM identified by the accrediting body was in ensuring that the medical residency programs had the appropriate processes in place to comply with all work hour restrictions, which was due, in part, to an increased national emphasis on safety concerns regarding medical resident work hours.

Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum stated that JABSOM continues its work on increasing faculty development, as well as looking at methods for attracting and retaining high quality faculty members. JABSOM is also formulating strategic plans to address physician workforce needs and shortages, including exploring opportunities to attract JABSOM students who are conducting their residencies in medical facilities located in other states back to Hawai'i.

Regent Acoba asked whether the citations regarding Orthopedics were only due to a lack of faculty publications. Dr. Buencosejo-Lum responded in the affirmative.

Regent Acoba requested that Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum expound on a statement noted in the report that JABSOM medical residency programs are performing at the national mean across content areas and has been rated favorably by residents, fellows, and faculty. Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum responded that the accrediting body conducts an annual online and confidential survey of residents, fellows, and faculty to assess their experiences and perceptions of their institution's medical residency programs in seven content areas. JABSOM had a 96 percent response rate to the survey with the majority

of the respondents providing a positive or very positive review of the programs. When these figures were compared to the national averages regarding medical residency program experiences and satisfaction, JABSOM was either at or very near those averages.

Regent Acoba stated that one barrier to retaining faculty physicians in Hawai'i appears to be adequacy of compensation and that JABSOM's plans for the retention of these physicians does not seem to address this issue. Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum replied that this issue is quite complex, particularly with regard to payment transfers and insurance payments, but that JABSOM is actively working with the various healthcare insurance providers in Hawai'i to address this issue.

Regent Moore questioned who assigns medical residents their number of work hours. Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum responded that medical residents are never assigned to work more than 80 hours per week and the majority of residents are scheduled to work closer to 60 hours per week. However, certain medical services require longer hours, especially if medical incidents occur with patients. To try and address this issue, she noted that medical residency programs have begun to monitor work hours more closely, have been more diligent in adjusting resident schedules, and have been instructing residents to more accurately report their duty hours.

Regent Tagorda asked how wellness and burnout issues are being addressed for both medical students and residents. Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum answered that for medical students, JABSOM has to report to a medical school accrediting agency which has established maximum duty-hours and JABSOM closely monitors medical student hours to ensure compliance. In addition, JABSOM has established a well-being task force and student counseling services, and is in the process of recruiting an Ombudsperson to help address wellness issues that may arise. To address the wellness of medical residents, well-being groups have been created, greater flexibility has been incorporated into academic half-day scheduling, additional resident resources such as psychiatric resources have been provided, formal resiliency curriculums have been implanted in a number of programs, and residency faculty development to increase recognition awareness of overall resident well-being has been implemented.

Chair Kudo inquired as to whether JABSOM was anticipating the establishment of a Physician Assistant (PA) program given the lower pay-scale for physicians and the acute physician shortage in Hawai'i. Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum responded that JABSOM was not currently planning on establishing a PA program. Instead, JABSOM was taking a more team-based approach to addressing this issue and collaborating closely with other programs, such as advanced practice registered nursing and psychology, to establish a mix of healthcare professionals that would help to more adequately address the healthcare needs of the community.

Regent Nahale-a asked how physician shortages can be addressed, particularly with regards to the shortage of medical specialists on the neighbor islands. Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum responded that the patient base on the neighbor islands is oftentimes not large enough to allow a medical specialist to adequately maintain their skill-set. She noted that some healthcare facilities have been building the provision of medical

outreach services to the neighbor islands into contracts entered into with medical specialists, such as neurosurgeons, which helps meet the medical demands of the neighbor islands. JABSOM is also actively looking at ways to help increase the provision of medical care for the neighbor islands such as student debt relief, cost of living allowances, and spousal support, among other things, for physicians who choose to practice on a neighbor island.

President Lassner noted that the minutes of this meeting will serve as the certification for the purposes of the review of the executive summaries of the annual institutional reviews of graduate medical education programs at JABSOM for the 2018-2019 academic years.

#### **F. Legislative and Budget Update**

VP Young provided a legislative and budget update to the Board noting that the 2020 legislative session was convened the previous day. As the legislative process is just beginning, the number of priority measures and issues the Administration will be following is not yet known but will become more clear once all bills have been introduced. VP Young noted that to date, the Legislature has held six informational briefings regarding UH and provided an overview of legislative deadlines.

VP Young provided a comparison chart of the board-approved operating budget request for an additional \$28.1 million in FY 2020-2021 and the Governor's budget submittal for \$24.9 in FY 2020-2021. The bulk of the operating budget request is \$19 million for the Hawai'i Promise Program. He also provided a comparison chart of the board-approved Capital Improvement Project (CIP) budget request for \$236.8 million in FY 2020-2021 and the Governor's budget submittal for \$86.8 million for that same period.

Chair Kudo asked VP Young to brief the Board on the impacts to UH, if any, of the recently announced joint legislative-executive package of bills. VP Young replied that two bills in the package may have direct impacts to UH. The two bills included a measure to provide \$200,000,000 in general obligation funding to build infrastructure on lands adjacent to UHWO currently intended to be used for a university village with a requirement that housing be placed on those lands, as well as a measure requiring pre-kindergarten childcare to be provided at all public educational facilities, including UH. However, the details of these proposals are not yet known and until more information is received, the exact impacts to UH will not be known.

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

Upon motion by Regent Wilson, seconded by Regent Higaki, and noting the excused absences of Vice-Chair Sullivan and Regent Acopan, the Board approved convening in executive session to consider the hire, evaluation, dismissal, or discipline of an officer or employee, where consideration of matters affecting privacy will be involved, pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(2), Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS); and 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.

The meeting recessed at 12:20 p.m.

Vice-Chair Higaki left at 12:58 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:32 p.m.

Chair Kudo reported that the board met in executive session to discuss personnel matters and legal matters as indicated on the agenda.

**IX. AGENDA ITEMS (continued)**

**A. Personnel Actions (A-1 for Approval)**

President Lassner requested approval of the appointment of Erika Lacro as VP of Community Colleges.

Regent Wilson moved to approve the personnel actions on Attachment A-1, seconded by Regent Moore, and noting the excused absences of Vice-Chair Higaki, Vice-Chair Sullivan, and Regent Acopan, the motion carried, with Regent Acoba abstaining and all others present voting in the affirmative. Regent Acoba stated that that he did not disagree with the appointment but otherwise abstained.

**X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Kudo announced that the next board meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2020, at the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Regent Wilson moved to adjourn, and Regent Moore seconded, and noting the excused absences of Vice-Chair Higaki, Vice-Chair Sullivan, and Regent Acopan, the motion carried with all others present voting in the affirmative and the meeting was adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/

Kendra Oishi  
Executive Administrator and Secretary  
of the Board of Regents