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## BA in Astronomy & BSc in Astrophysics

1 message

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

Mon, May 16, 2022 at 11:15 AM

Board of Regents  
BA in Astronomy & BSc in Astrophysics

May 19, 2022

### In Support of BA in Astronomy & BSc in Astrophysics

Dear Board of Regents,

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,  
Bryan Yamashiro

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## Written Testimony re: BA in Astronomy & BSc in Astrophysics

1 message

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**Michael Andrews** <mka7@hawaii.edu>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, May 17, 2022 at 7:48 PM

Aloha,

My name is Michael Andrews. I was born and raised on O'ahu, and I am a 2021 graduate of the BSc in Astrophysics program. I would like to speak in favor of the making this program permanent.

I was a nontraditional student who started my college career several years after high school, and I began by attending Windward Community College before transferring to UH Mānoa. As was already mentioned in the materials, the program is rigorous and was originally designed for students following a traditional path. I did encounter some difficulty in my transition to the program, and I encountered a few hurdles along the way as well. The program is not an easy one.

But what I want to really highlight and place great importance on is the amount of support I received along the way, and the tremendous effort made by so many faculty. The courses and curricula were well-designed and thoughtful, and I saw how student feedback, experiences, needs, and expectations were incorporated into the courses as I made my way through the program. The program has some truly incredible individuals invested in it and in its students. The program is also one that even in my time in it showed itself to be adaptable and dedicated to improving.

And I believe that the program was already an excellent one at the time that I was apart of it. I feel that I learned a truly incredible amount while in the program. As a nontraditional student -- one who barely graduated from O'ahu's public school system -- I don't think it's unfair to say that I was not a physics wizzkid going in. I knew very little at the start. But the program, its prerequisites, and its faculty made sure that I had a rock solid foundation and enabled me to cultivate knowledge, gain a true understanding, and hone in on my interests.

I believe that other students will have a similar experience, and I hope that if I was able to succeed with the nontraditional route I took, that other students from various backgrounds will also succeed. I also want to highlight that though the program's student body was small while I attended, the student body was nearly evenly split between men and women. Though I wish this wasn't notable, it is for a STEM program. Several of my classes were majority women, which I was surprised and very happy to see considering how male-dominated physics is and has been. I was made to feel safe, appreciated, heard, and welcomed by faculty and in the program overall, and I believe that this same welcoming and inclusive culture was extended to the other students in the program.

During my education, I discovered that I was much more interested in theory and computation than I had ever expected. I was able to focus my research projects and class projects to suit my interests, and I learned a lot of coding and gained a great amount of experience using programming to solve a variety of problems.

Upon completion of my degree, I attended a summer seminar hosted by the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute focused on computational physics. While attending this seminar, and because of the skills I gained and connections I made in the astrophysics program, I was recruited by a cybersecurity tech startup based in San Francisco. I now have a good paying career in a quickly growing field, I work fully remotely, and I am already up for promotion at my workplace.

I am amazed and extremely grateful that my college education has set me on this career path and enabled me to continue to live on O'ahu. I was born and raised here and was fairly sure that I would be priced out of living here or would have to move elsewhere for work as so many others of my generation have had to.

I am still very interested in physics, and I am still strongly considering going to grad school for computational physics in a few years time. I am confident that my education has set me up for success in that future endeavor. I believe that this program will also set many future students up for success, and I believe that this program will only get better in the future.

Thank you for your time.  
Mike Andrews (he/him)  
B.S. Astrophysics, 2021



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## Testimony for BoR agenda item VII.A, item 2

1 message

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**Caroline Yee Piro** <caroline.p.yee@gmail.com>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, May 17, 2022 at 9:45 PM

Aloha,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of the Board of Regents Consent Agenda (VII.A) item 2: "Approval of Established Status for the Bachelor of Arts in Astronomy and the Bachelor of Science in Astrophysics at UHM". Please find my testimony attached.

Kind regards,

Caroline Piro  
(808) 225-4918  
[caroline.p.yee@gmail.com](mailto:caroline.p.yee@gmail.com)

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 **Testimony in support of BoR Consent Agenda item 2.pdf**  
33K

17 May 2022

Aloha and greetings,

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

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

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

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

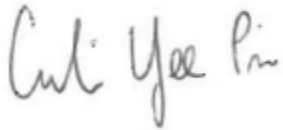
Perhaps more importantly, the research component of the undergraduate programs allowed me to make connections with IfA faculty, students, and staff, which ultimately led to me interviewing and securing my current job at IfA. I may not be a scientist, but I am happy to support those who are. I'm fairly certain that people think I'm crazy when I tell them that I love what I do, but I count myself extremely fortunate: I have a fulfilling job in astronomy, a lifelong interest; I support a field that can make a positive contribution to both the world's knowledge and the state's economy; and I can work

In support of BoR Consent Agenda item 2

*and* live in the city that has felt like home since the day I first visited in 2011, long before we ever thought about moving here. None of this would have been possible without UH Mānoa's undergraduate astronomy programs.

Mahalo for your time and attention.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Caroline Piro". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and personal.

Caroline Piro



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## ASA subcommittee: BA in Astronomy & BSc in Astrophysics

1 message

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**Colleen Hayward** <chayward@hawaii.edu>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Wed, May 18, 2022 at 6:37 AM

Hello,

I would like to advocate for keeping the astrophysics program and installing it permanently. I'm an undergraduate double major in astrophysics and biology graduating this semester, and I believe I have a unique perspective when it comes to comparing the two different programs. The astrophysics program as a whole has been nothing but supportive of my needs as a student, and the professors that I have come to know throughout my education have always helped me navigate through my academics. I feel as though the astrophysics program has truly set me up to successfully start graduate school. The biology program in contrast has always felt more distant to me, and I don't have the confidence that it has prepared me adequately for graduate school. Learning how to give proper presentations and write a senior level research paper, or even conduct an independent research project never felt like a priority of my biology track, but they were given a definite focus in the astrophysics program, and I have greatly improved in those aspects because of it. While it has always been a challenge trying to find ways to bridge the gap between the two disciplines, it was always made easier by the people who supported me in the astrophysics program.

~Colleen Hayward



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## Letter of Support - UH Hilo Heritage Management MA Program

1 message

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**Kelley Uyeoka** <kelley@huliauapaa.org>

Tue, May 17, 2022 at 1:43 PM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Cc: Mills' 'Peter R <millsp@hawaii.edu>, Kathy Kawelu <kkawelu@hawaii.edu>

Aloha,

Please find attached Huliauapa'a's Letter of Support for the UH Hilo Heritage Management MA Program.

Mahalo,  
Kelley L. Uyeoka

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*Kelley Lehuakeapuna Uyeoka*

*Executive Director*

*Huliauapa'a*

[www.huliauapaa.org](http://www.huliauapaa.org)

808.265.3284



**Huliauapa'a Letter of Support - UH Hilo Heritage Management MA Program.pdf**

96K



## HULIAUAPA'A

May 17, 2022

To: University of Hawai'i Board of Regents  
2500 Campus Road,  
Honolulu, HI 96822

From: Kelley Uyeoka  
Executive Director, Huliauapa'a  
P.O. Box 141 Hakalau, HI 96710

**Subject: Huliauapa'a Testimony in Strong Support of the Heritage Management MA Program, University of Hawai'i-Hilo**

Aloha kākou,

I write on behalf of Huliauapa'a's board of directors and senior leadership to express strong support for the continuation and permanent status of the Heritage Management MA Program in the Anthropology Department at the University of Hawai'i (UH) -Hilo. Huliauapa'a is a Native Hawaiian-founded and serving non-profit organization committed to growing Hawai'i's communities through culturally-based forms of innovative learning, leadership development, and collaborative networking in wahi kūpuna stewardship - the place-based, culturally appropriate stewardship of Native Hawaiian ancestral places.

As historic preservationists and advocates for the improvement of historic preservation and heritage management approaches throughout Hawai'i, and a primarily Native Hawaiian and kama'āina serving organization, Huliauapa'a assures the Board that the Heritage Management MA Program should become a permanent fixture of UH Hilo's Anthropology Program for numerous reasons:

- First, the Heritage Management MA meets critical needs in our communities and labor force - it allows Native Hawaiians and kama'āina with established relationships and connections to communities/places to further their education and professional development at home while solving uniquely local stewardship and heritage problems/challenges and celebrating their heritage landscapes.
- Second, Huliauapa'a has hired three Heritage Management MA graduates; we assure the Board the program is one of the few successful and functioning local heritage career pipelines in operation.





## HULIAUAPA'A

- Third, as professionals working on a daily basis to improve systems and practices of heritage stewardship so they align more closely with Native Hawaiian and kama'āina cultures, values, and needs, we want to emphasize the Heritage Management MA program provides the only culturally and community-appropriate, communities-based graduate level heritage training.
- Lastly, The Heritage Management MA's focus on communities and utilization primarily by Native Hawaiian, kama'āina, and other Pacific Islanders directly aligns and perpetuates UH as a "Native Hawaiian Place of Learning" as proclaimed in UH's 2015-2025 strategic plan, within the greater Pacific community. **It is UH's self-proclaimed kuleana (responsibility) to permanently commit to the continuation of the Heritage Management MA program.**

Mahalo for this opportunity to support the critically-needed permanent continuation of the Heritage Management MA Program at the University of Hawai'i-Hilo.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Kelley Uyeoka

Executive Director

Huliauapa'a

kelley@huliauapaa.org

## Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

*Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.*

Your Name (required) \*

Marsha Bruhn

Your Organization (optional)

UNITE HERE, Local 5

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

MBruhn@5.unitehere.org

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) \*

BOR VII.A. Consent Agenda

Your Position (required) \*

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Previously submitted testimony (5/5) in support of item 7.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[Local5\\_LaborStudies.pdf](#) (111.7 kB)



*Eric W. Gill, Financial Secretary-Treasurer*

*Gemma G. Weinstein, President*

*Godfrey Maeshiro, Senior Vice-President*

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April 15, 2022

Via email only: [bor.testimony@hawaii.edu](mailto:bor.testimony@hawaii.edu)

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

**Re: Labor Studies Program at CLEAR**

Dear Board of Regents:

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

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

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

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

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

UH has already responded to the needs of Hawaii's businesses, establishing entire colleges for business and management training. It's time that UH put similar resources into training leaders and skilled professionals to serve Hawaii's working people.

Although establishing a certification program through CLEAR is not sufficient in itself to address Hawaii's needs, it is an essential and critical first step. We urge the University to support CLEAR in establishing a Labor Certificate program.

Sincerely,



Eric Gill  
Financial Secretary-Treasurer  
UNITE HERE Local 5

cc: [clear@hawaii.edu](mailto:clear@hawaii.edu)  
[lalopez@hawaii.edu](mailto:lalopez@hawaii.edu)

## Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

*Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.*

Your Name (required) \*

Kehau Yap

Your Organization (optional)

Senator Mazie Hirono

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

Kehau\_Yap@hirono.senate.gov

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) \*

BOR VII.A. Consent Agenda

Your Position (required) \*

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Previously submitted testimony (5/5) in support of Consent Agenda Item 7.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[Sen.Hirono-LBST.pdf](#) (88.3 kB)

MAZIE K. HIRONO  
HAWAII

**United States Senate**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1104

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY &  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS &  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

May 4, 2022

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

Dear Chair Moore:

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

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

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

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

Hawaii’s large union workforce, and our state as a whole, will benefit from a more expansive and formalized labor education in our state as we continue to build a stronger, more inclusive

economy for working families. I urge you to support this program and make the Certificate in Labor Studies a reality in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mazie K. Hirono". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MAZIE K. HIRONO  
United States Senator

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

## Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

*Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.*

Your Name (required) \*

Rep. Amy Perruso

Your Organization (optional)

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

repperruso@capitol.hawaii.gov

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) \*

BOR VII.A. Consent Agenda

Your Position (required) \*

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Previously submitted testimony (5/5/2022) in support of item 7 of the consent agenda.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[Perruso- CLEAR letter of support.pdf](#) (169.1 kB)





**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 14, 2022

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

Aloha esteemed board members,

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

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

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

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

Mahalo nui,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Perruso".

Representative Amy Perruso

## Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

*Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.*

Your Name (required) \*

Dion Dizon

Your Organization (optional)

HI AFI-CIO

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

cope@hawaficio.org

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) \*

BOR VII.A. Consent Agenda

Your Position (required) \*

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Previously submitted testimony (5/5/2022) in support of Consent Agenda, Item 7.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[Perreira\\_5.5.2022\(1\).pdf](#) (66.6 kB)



# HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

888 Mililani Street, Suite 501 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Randy Perreira  
President

Telephone: (808) 597-1441  
Fax: (808) 593-2149

May 5, 2022

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

Dear Chair Wilson, Vice-Chair Acopan, and Regents of the Committee:

The Hawai'i State AFL-CIO is a state federation of 74 affiliate local unions and councils that collectively represent over 68,000 workers across both public and private sectors. Section 304A-1601(4), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, authorizes the Center for Labor Education and Research (CLEAR) to "[d]evelop and implement a labor studies degree program or programs in the University of Hawaii system." We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of the establishment of a Certificate in Labor Studies at the University of Hawai'i–West O'ahu.

Labor education is not only for the labor community, but for all working people. Labor studies tends to be an eye-opening experience for most. The most basic workers' rights and responsibilities are not common knowledge, and young workers are often ill-equipped to recognize what career pathways lead to occupations that will enable them to live well, raise a family, or buy a home here in Hawai'i. Labor education is an equalizer for the workforce. Labor education also opens pathways for Hawai'i businesses to develop and retain its workforce which reduces the cost of high turnover in the long run. Labor education goes a long way in promoting the betterment of Hawai'i.

We appreciate your favorable consideration of our testimony in support of the establishment of a Certificate in Labor Studies at the University of Hawai'i–West O'ahu and strongly encourage your approval.

Sincerely,

Randy Perreira

## Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

*Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.*

Your Name (required) \*

Tui Osa

Your Organization (optional)

HSTA

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

otui@hsta.org

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) \*

BOR VII.A. Consent Agenda

Your Position (required) \*

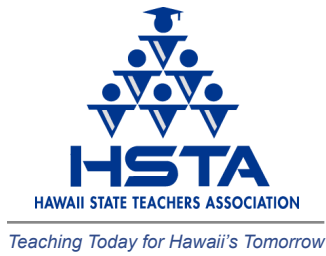
Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Previously submitted testimony (5/5/2022) in support of Consent Agenda, Item 7.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[HSTA\\_LBST.pdf](#) (94.1 kB)



1200 Ala Kapuna Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Tel: (808) 833-2711 • Fax: (808) 839-7106 • Web: www.hsta.org

**Osa Tui, Jr.**  
President

**Logan Okita**  
Vice President

**Lisa Morrison**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Wilbert Holck**  
Executive Director

May 3, 2022

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

**Testimony in support of the establishment of a certificate in labor studies at UHWO**

Members of the committee,

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

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

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." The efforts of CLEAR (the Center for Labor Education and Research) at UHWO are critical in these times to ensure that we are not condemned to repeat the mistakes of the past. We can already see how the past is beginning to repeat itself with mega-corporations and the ultra-rich controlling vast stakes of our economy and wielding undue influence, all the while working to quash labor organizing. Global corporations like Starbucks and Amazon are fighting hard against unionizing efforts currently taking place. The richest person in the world, Elon Musk, has been found to have breached

labor laws when he attempted to fire a union activist from Tesla and posted anti-union messages via Twitter (the next company that he is about to own).

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

Mahalo for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Osa Tui, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Osa Tui, Jr.  
President  
Hawaii State Teachers Association

## Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

*Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.*

Your Name (required) \*

Justin Puaoi

Your Organization (optional)

IBEW 1260

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

Justin\_Puaoi@ibew.org

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) \*

BOR VII.A. Consent Agenda

Your Position (required) \*

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Previously submitted testimony (5/5/2022) in support of Consent Agenda, Item 7.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[IBEW 1260 - CLEAR Proposal.pdf](#) (470.5 kB)



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS  
LOCAL UNION 1260  
ORGANIZING THE FUTURE

Aloha Randolph Moore,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

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



## Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

*Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.*

Your Name (required) \*

Clyde Hayashi

Your Organization (optional)

Labor Education Advisory Council (LEAC)

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

cthstab@gmail.com

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) \*

BOR VII.A. Consent Agenda

Your Position (required) \*

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Previously submitted testimony (5/5/2022) in support of Consent Agenda, Item 7.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[LEAC\\_LBST.pdf](#) (112.8 kB)

# LABOR EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Clyde Hayashi, Chair  
Hawaii Iron Workers  
Stabilization Fund

Robert D. Lillis, Vice-Chair  
Hawai'i Federal &  
Amalgamated Machinists  
Intl. Assn. of Machinists &  
Aerospace Workers

Mchael S. Anderson, Jr  
Inlandboatmen's Union

Jason Bradshaw  
ILWU, Local 142

Adam Carlson  
IBEW, Local 1260

Valentino Ceria  
Plumbers & Pipefitters UA,  
Local 675

Terry Lau  
Hawai'i State Teachers Assn.

Catherine Lederer  
Hawaii AFL-CIO, LCSP

Jolyn Garidan Prieto  
Hawaii Fire Fighters Association,  
Local 1463

Brian Lee  
IBEW, Local 1186

Paola Rodelas  
UNITE HERE, Local 5

Robert Shinoda  
Musicians' Assn. of Hawai'i  
Local 677

Cody Sula  
Hawai'i Teamsters, Local 996

Lorna Woo  
Intl. Union of Painters  
& Allied Trades,  
District Council 50

Marc Yamane  
Elevator Constructors  
Local 126

15 July 2021

Chancellor Maenette Benham  
University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu  
91-1001 Farrington Highway  
Kapolei, HI 96707

Dear Chancellor Benham,

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

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

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

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

Mahalo,

Clyde Hayashi  
Chair

Attachment: LEAC Feb. 18, 2016 letter of support

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

# LABOR EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Clyde Hayashi, Chair  
Hawai'i LECET

Jason Bradshaw  
Hawai'i AFL-CIO

Michael Brittain  
IBEW, Local 1260

Reginald Castanares  
Plumbers & Pipefitters UA,  
Local 675

Donovan Duncan  
Inlandboatmen's Union of  
the Pacific

Asimoto O. Fakaosi  
Hawai'i Teamsters, Local 996

Terry Lau  
Hawai'i State Teachers Assn.

Brian Lee  
IBEW, Local 1186

Robert D. Lillis  
Hawai'i Federal &  
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Intl. Assn. of Machinists &  
Aerospace Workers

Morris Luka  
UNITE HERE, Local 5

Eadie Omonaka  
ILWU, Local 142

Steve Pearson  
Musicians' Assn. of Hawai'i  
Local 677

Joan Takano  
HGEA, AFSCME, Local 152

Lorna Woo  
Intl. Union of Painters  
& Allied Trades,  
District Council 50

Marc Yamane  
Elevator Constructors,  
Local 126

February 18, 2016

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

Dear Dr. Ching:

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Clyde Hayashi, Chair

## Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

*Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.*

Your Name (required) \*

Dale Yashiki

Your Organization (optional)

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

Dale.Yashiki@nlrb.gov

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) \*

BOR VII.A. Consent Agenda

Your Position (required) \*

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Previously submitted testimony (5/5/2022) in support of Consent Agenda, Item 7.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

[DYashiki\\_LBST.pdf](#) (12.5 kB)

Dale K. Yashiki  
46-369 Haiku Road, Apt. D4  
Kaneohe, Hawai`i 96744

May 4, 2022

Mr. Randolph G. Moore  
Chairperson  
Board of Regents  
University of Hawai`i  
2444 Dole Street, Rm. 209  
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96822

RE: Proposed Labor Studies Certificate Program

Dear Mr. Moore and Regents,

I am writing today to urge your support of the establishment of the Labor Studies Certificate program at the University of Hawai`i West O`ahu. This program would provide essential instruction in labor relations that will be of tremendous benefit to workers, employers and union personnel alike.

I have been practicing in labor law in the State of Hawai`i for over 26 years and have developed an extensive working knowledge of collective bargaining processes, collective bargaining agreements, and the National Labor Relations Act. In the past, I have also represented unions in their disputes with various employers and have seen first-hand how education on the law encompassing labor relations can serve and empower the various participants. Workers should know their rights and responsibilities to be effective employees. Union agents should know their rights, the rights of employees and the rights of employers, and that knowledge will assist them in becoming effective representatives of their bargaining unit members. Employer agents should know their rights and obligations under the various labor statutes that govern their work, and should also know the rights of their employees, as well as the rights of union representatives in the workplace. However, this area of the law, though assumed by many to be straight forward, is anything but that.

There are very few opportunities currently available for individuals to receive the type of coordinated and practical training in an undergraduate setting designed to be offered

Mr. Randolph G. Moore  
RE: Proposed Labor Studies Certificate Program  
Page 2

May 4, 2022

through this program. This certificate program will fill that gap and provide all labor participants with much needed training on the rules governing labor relations.

Let us empower all participants involved in labor relationships by providing them with the tools required to effectively and lawfully engage with one another. I whole-heartedly support the establishment of this program, and respectfully request your support as well. Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Dale K. Yashiki

Tamara Halliwell

tkh.kona@gmail.com

1st Cohort of the Heritage Management MA Program

BOR Mtg: Thursday, May 19, 2022 UH-Hilo Heritage Management MA Program

Position: In Favor

Aloha mai Mākou-

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my testimony of the Heritage Management MA Program. It was an honor to be one of the seven members of the first cohort. My wish is that many more cohorts will have the opportunities to learn and become major players in the professional world of Hawai'i archaeology and Heritage Management.

It brings together students of various cultures, experience, and knowledge together for one goal to protect and perpetuate all the cultures which exist on Hawai'i Island. We were able to be mentored by faculty, descendant community members, as well as professional archaeologists.

During the program I was able to work and volunteer for various projects which examined stone circles, the Kona field system, shell midden and helping to restore parts of the Ala Hele trail. I met and worked with not only Native Hawaiian kupuna, but like-minded community members who love this island and want to help preserve the uniqueness of the culture.

Most importantly, I mastered how to develop, research, and write a Master's Thesis on Iwi Kupuna. I was able to learn why this particular descendant community worked so hard to protect their ancestors and their burial homes. The descendant community shared so many wonderful and inspiring stories of their love of their ancestors. It helped me to understand why I feel so connected to this 'āina and my responsibility to protect it as much as possible.

The Heritage Management MA Program made these and many more experiences possible. It was the hardest and best two years of my scholastic career.

Mahalo,

Tamara

## Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

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Your Name (required) \*

Jaret KC Leong

Your Organization (optional)

Mānoa Staff Senate (MSS)

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

msschair@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) \*

OTHER

OTHER (Please describe) \*

MSS Resolution | Honoring Allyson Tanouye

Your Position (required) \*

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Presented to the Mānoa Staff Senate by the MSS Outreach Committee for a vote of the full senate on May 11, 2022, a resolution recognizing and honoring Dr. Allyson M. Tanouye for Meritorious Service to the Mānoa Staff Senate. Approved by the Mānoa Staff Senate on May 11, 2022 with an unanimous vote.





MĀNOA  
**STAFF SENATE**

**Resolution to Recognize and Honor  
Dr. Allyson M. Tanouye  
for Meritorious Service to the  
Mānoa Staff Senate**

WHEREAS, Dr. Allyson M. Tanouye is the director of the Counseling and Student Development Center (CSDC) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, a program that is critical to the success of the university community and that has thrived and excelled under her leadership; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tanouye has served the UHM community for 30 years with humility, adaptability, creativity and compassion; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tanouye has been a fierce advocate for student mental health and development, and has focused on creating an environment at the CSDC that is welcoming and supportive of the varied needs of students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tanouye has freely given of her time and expertise to support UHM staff members by providing a valuable and heart-warming presentation on self care; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tanouye's high level of dedication to the staff community is evident by her compassion and concern for the well being of UHM staff members even when staff are not direct recipients of CSDC services; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tanouye has assisted in advancing the mission and goals of the Mānoa Staff Senate as well as its three core values—Ha'aheo, Alaka'i, and Ho'ohanohano—through her unwavering commitment to and willingness to support the Senate;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Mānoa Staff Senate Executive Board, on behalf of its senators at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and the extended Mānoa staff community, gratefully acknowledge the compassion, support, and graciousness that Dr. Tanouye has extended to the Mānoa Staff Senate.

APPROVED this 11th day of May, 2022.