



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

Helen Wong Smith <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:10 AM

Reply-To: smith@hawaii.edu

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

Aloha Regents,

As a former student of Dr. Isabella Kauakea Yau Young Aiona Abbott I write to express my support for renaming the Life Sciences Building to Isabella Abbott Hall to honor of her extensive accomplishments.

While the University of Hawai'i aims to be a Native Hawaiian place of learning, fewer than 4% of buildings at UH Mānoa are named after Kānaka Maoli. When the vast majority of the spaces in which students live, learn, and socialize are named after non-Hawaiians, the absence of Kānaka Maoli within these spaces is normalized. In renaming the Life Sciences Building, UH has the opportunity to begin to change this legacy and move towards being a Hawaiian Place of Learning that has numerous learning spaces on campus that are named in honor of impactful Hawaiians.

Dr. Abbott is one such impactful Hawaiian, with an enduring legacy that has shaped both Hawaiian scientific scholarship and conservation today. Dr. Abbott was the world's leading expert on Hawaiian seaweeds, with a corpus of work that includes eight books, over 150 papers, and over 200 descriptions of new species of limu. She is fondly remembered as the "first lady of limu" for her contributions to the study and perpetuation of this important Hawaiian fauna.

Dr. Abbott also holds a special place as a groundbreaking Native Hawaiian scholar who both began and ended her career at the University of Hawai'i. She was a graduate of the University of Hawai'i (B.S. Botany, 1941) who became the first wahine Kanaka Maoli to receive a PhD in science (UC Berkeley, 1950); the first Native Hawaiian faculty member at Stanford University (1960), and the first woman and person of color to be promoted to full professor in the department of Biology at Stanford University (1972); and the University of Hawai'i G. Wilder Professor of Botany for 30 years (1980-2010), during which time she helped to establish the ethnobotany program. Having her as my kumu in this program was an unparalleled gift to my education and career.

In addition to these personal accomplishments, Dr. Abbott was recognized for her invaluable contributions to both the field of marine botany and the people of Hawai'i. Notably, she was awarded national and local highest honors, including: the Botanical Society of America Darbaker Prize (1969), the Kamehameha Schools Charles Reed Bishop Medal (1993), the National Academy of Sciences Gilbert Morgan Smith Medal (1997), and a lifetime achievement award from the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (2008); recognized via appointments as: fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1998), inductee of the Order of Ke Ali'i by Kamehameha Schools (2003), and UH Mānoa Distinguished Alumna (2011); and recognized as a "Living Treasure" by Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i (2005).

Designating the Life Sciences Building as Isabella Abbott Hall would reaffirm UH's commitment to Native Hawaiian scholarship and ensure that Dr. Abbott's legacy reaches future generations of Hawai'i students. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Mahalo piha,

Helen Wong Smith

Archivist for University Records

Honolulu, HI, 96822



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

Honour Booth <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:10 AM

Reply-To: honour@hawaii.edu

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

Given that Dr. Isabella Abbott was the first Native Hawaiian to receive a PhD from UH and that UH boasts being a "Native Hawaiian place of learning", we shouldn't have to organize and fight for this. Naming a building after a me'e that

'ōpio can look up to is low hanging fruit in the grand scheme of making UH a true Native Hawaiian place of learning -- meaning it should be relatively easy when compared to addressing under representation of Native Hawaiian tenure track professors in all of the departments across campus. This is a small, easy step towards making actions reflect the words you put on paper. If you can't do this, why should we have faith that you will take any action that will make UH a Native Hawaiian place of learning?

me ka 'oia'i'o,

Honour Booth

Candidate for MS in Chemistry

Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96816



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

Karen 'Ululani Victor <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:26 AM

Reply-To: kvictor@hawaii.edu

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i
Board of Regents,

'Auhea 'oukou e ka Papa o nā Kahu Kula o ke
Kulanui,

Eia mai au, he lālā no ku'u kumu 'o Kauka Abbott, e noi ha'aha'a ana iā 'oukou e malii mai i nā leo o nā haumāna Hawai'i, nā limahana Hawai'i, a me nā kumu a'o Hawai'i e māhilo ana, a e huluhuli ana ho'i, i wahi piko akeakamai no mākou ma ke kahua kulanui. I wahi hale no mākou nā hoa noi'i akeakamai Hawai'i -- 'o ia ho'i, nā hoa Hawai'i e noi'i ana i ke akeakamai, a me nā hoa akeakamai e noi'i ana i ka Hawai'i -- e 'imi 'ike ai, e laulima ai, e palekana ai, iā mākou e hekekehi like aku ana i ke ala i waele mua 'ia e ua me'e mauili ola lā o kākou, 'o Isabella. Ma laila nō mākou e kū ha'aheo ai i ka 'īpuka o ko mākou wahi hale pono'i, 'a'ohe hoa paio nāna e ho'oweli aku, 'oiai e paepae hou 'ia ana nā pōhaku 'ike ma luna o ke kahua pa'a i ho'omākaukau mua 'ia e nā kūpuna.

As a fledgling undergraduate, I had the privilege of working as Dr Abbott's student helper, making copies, borrowing books, tending herbarium specimens, and occasionally lifting or carrying heavy objects around the office. (If you have met Dr Abbott, then you know that she was quite a petite woman with advanced arthritis, although you'd never notice it thanks to her 1,000 watt smile and sharp wit.) While this job description sounds completely pedestrian, I can assure you that my time in her office was anything but. She was my work mom as well as my toughest critic, my aspirational guide and my realistic counselor. It isn't enough to say that she inspired me, or that she was an example for me, or that she helped me. She did more than that; she challenged me to be someone of whom our shared ancestors would be proud. She showed me, everyday, in a hundred different ways, what it meant to be a person of my word, a hard worker, an ethical human, and a passionate lover of Hawai'i and Hawaiians and all things Hawaiian.

Now that she has passed over into the 'Āina Pō, there is no way for today's young Hawaiians, especially young Hawaiian scientists, to have that necessary daily infusion of Dr Abbott, other than to name this building after her. Honestly, I need to have this building named after her, so that I too can

have that special dose of kupuna love that comes in equal parts of "Tsā, auē kā ho'i ē!" and "E noke, e ku'u mo'o, mai hā'awipio!"

It would mean so much for the university community to have an important building named in honor of Dr Abbott. She was a woman who uplifted Hawaiians and Hawaiian knowledge through her steadfast attention to the knowledge that she received from her mother while also furthering the techniques and understanding of the scientific community of her time. Indeed, in Dr Abbott's legact, we see the immeasurably beautiful combining of two disparate elements, resulting in a valuable and durable new substance. This, to me, is what Ke Kulanui o Hawai'i ma Mānoa seeks to do for each of its students, staff, and educators. It's time to demonstrate the University's commitment to its goal of being a Hawaiian Place of Learning by declaring this building as being one.

Na'u ma ke aloha mau i ka 'imi
'ike,

Karen 'Ululani Victor

[92-1244 Kikaha Street](#) 13, Kapolei, Hawai'i,
96707



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

Jordan Peterson <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 12:25 PM

Reply-To: jordanp9@hawaii.edu

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

I write to express my support for renaming the Life Sciences Building to Isabella Abbott Hall to honor the extensive accomplishments of Dr. Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott.

While the University of Hawai'i aims to be a Native Hawaiian place of learning, fewer than 4% of buildings at UH Mānoa are named after Kānaka Maoli. When the vast majority of the spaces in which students live, learn, and socialize are named after non-Hawaiians, the absence of Kānaka Maoli within these spaces is normalized. In renaming the Life Sciences Building, UH has the opportunity to begin to change this legacy and move towards being a Hawaiian Place of Learning that has numerous learning spaces on campus that are named in honor of impactful Hawaiians. This would also, likely, help other Pacific Islander students such as Samoans, Tongans, and those from West Papua. These students would in all likelihood benefit from a more inclusive environment for all Tagata Pasifika and the other university should consider their efforts for Samoans from Tutuila in particular which is an unincorporated United States territory whose residents have the highest per capita service in the United States Armed Forces and should be recognized for their contributions.

Dr. Abbott is one such impactful Hawaiian, with an enduring legacy that has shaped both Hawaiian scientific scholarship and conservation today. Dr. Abbott was the world's leading expert on Hawaiian seaweeds, with a corpus of work that includes eight books, over 150 papers, and over 200 descriptions of new species of limu. She is fondly remembered as the "first lady of limu" for her contributions to the study and perpetuation of this important Hawaiian fauna.

Dr. Abbott also holds a special place as a groundbreaking Native Hawaiian scholar who both began and ended her career at the University of Hawai'i. She was a graduate of the University of Hawai'i (B.S. Botany, 1941) who became the first wahine Kanaka Maoli to receive a PhD in science (UC Berkeley, 1950); the first Native Hawaiian faculty member at Stanford University (1960), and the first woman and person of color to be promoted to full professor in the department of Biology at Stanford University (1972); and the University of Hawai'i G. Wilder Professor of Botany for 30 years (1980-2010), during which time she helped to establish the ethnobotany program

In addition to these personal accomplishments, Dr. Abbott was recognized for her invaluable contributions to both the field of marine botany and the people of Hawai'i. Notably, she was awarded national and local highest honors, including: the Botanical Society of America Darbaker Prize (1969), the Kamehameha Schools Charles Reed Bishop Medal (1993), the National Academy of Sciences Gilbert Morgan Smith Medal (1997), and a lifetime achievement award from the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (2008); recognized via appointments as: fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1998), inductee of the Order of Ke Ali'i by Kamehameha Schools (2003), and UH Mānoa Distinguished Alumna (2011); and recognized as a "Living Treasure" by Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i (2005).

Designating the Life Sciences Building as Isabella Abbott Hall would reaffirm UH's commitment to Native Hawaiian scholarship and ensure that Dr. Abbott's legacy reaches future generations of Hawai'i students. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Me ke aloha,

Me ke aloha,

Jordan Peterson

Graduate Student Political Science

Honolulu, HI, 96848



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

noreply@jotform.com <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 12:35 PM

Reply-To: jillhf@hawaii.edu

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

I write to express my support for renaming the Life Sciences Building to **Isabella Abbott Hall** to honor the extensive accomplishments of Dr. Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott.

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future generations of Hawai'i students. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Me ke aloha,

Jill Harter-Foist
Student

Honolulu, Hawaii, 96822



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

Mr. Wayland Kwock <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 12:50 PM

Reply-To: wayland@waytechhawaii.com

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

I write to express my support for renaming the Life Sciences Building to Isabella Abbott Hall to honor the extensive accomplishments of Dr. Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott.

I had the privilege of taking Ethnobotany 105 from Dr. Abbott in the Fall of 1985. As a freshman Electrical Engineering major, I took this class to help fulfill my humanities requirement. I had no idea that who was teaching the class. All I knew was that it would be a break from math, science, and engineering. I did not expect it to be the most enjoyable class I would take at UH. The course material from that class is among the handful of things that have followed me around in the decades since then.

Dr. Abbott didn't have much of a physical presence, but when she spoke, she commanded the room with her knowledge and enthusiasm for the subject. I expected nothing from the class other than 3 credits towards my degree. I got an education into botany and a deep appreciation of Hawaiian history and Hawaiian culture and a profound respect for the ingenuity and intelligence of the Hawaiians of long ago.

I found out much later that she is THE authority on limu and was happy to find her books on sale at the Bishop Museum. Her far-reaching accomplishments were hammered home as I read about her ground breaking life and career in the Hawaiian Airlines in flight magazine a few years ago.

Fortunately for me, I was able to thank her personally one day on a visit to the UH campus some 20 years after I graduated. I saw her in a wheelchair being pushed along The Mall by who I assumed was a former student and I was able to talk with her for a few minutes and conveyed my appreciation for her and her class.

I can't remember a single thing from Linguistics 102, but I can drop *Musa Acuminata* (ma'i'a), and *Colocasia Esculenta* (taro) into everyday conversation because of her class. Every time I see a breadfruit tree, I am reminded that is her favorite tree because of its beautiful leaves.

Keeping tally of how many buildings are named for different demographics is irrelevant to me. Dr. Abbot should have a building named in her honor to recognize her contribution to science and as a reminder to emulate her passion for whatever subject they study and to communicate that to the next generation of students.

Mahalo for your time,

Mr. Wayland Kwock

IT Administrator

Aiea, HI, 96701



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

noreply@jotform.com <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 12:55 PM

Reply-To: kimeonakane@gmail.com

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

I write to express my support for renaming the Life Sciences Building to **Isabella Abbott Hall** to honor the extensive accomplishments of Dr. Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott.

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Dr. Abbott also holds a special place as a groundbreaking Native Hawaiian scholar who both began and ended her career at the University of Hawai'i. She was a graduate of the University of Hawai'i (B.S. Botany, 1941) who became the first wahine Kanaka Maoli to receive a PhD in science (UC Berkeley, 1950); the first Native Hawaiian faculty member at Stanford University (1960), and the first woman and person of color to be promoted to full professor in the department of Biology at Stanford University (1972); and the University of Hawai'i G. Wilder Professor of Botany for 30 years (1980-2010), during which time she helped to establish the ethnobotany program

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Designating the Life Sciences Building as Isabella Abbott Hall would reaffirm UH's commitment to Native Hawaiian scholarship and ensure that Dr. Abbott's legacy reaches

future generations of Hawai'i students. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Me ke aloha,

Kimeona Kane
Kumu

Waimānalo , Hawai'i, 96795



Isabella Abbott

1 message

John Huisman <john.huisman@dbca.wa.gov.au>
To: "bor.testimony@hawaii.edu" <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>
Cc: "david.lassner@hawaii.edu" <david.lassner@hawaii.edu>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 2:27 PM

To: Mr. Randolph Moore,

Chair, Board of University of Hawai'i Regents

I recently received notification regarding a proposal to name the new UHM Life Sciences Building after Isabella Abbott and would like to offer my wholehearted support for this proposal. I spent several years in Hawaii working with Dr Abbott (Izzie to me, please excuse the informality) and was of course aware of her major impact on the fields of phycology and ethnobotany. It is well known that Izzie was the first Hawaiian woman to receive a PhD in science, and she was inspirational to a generation of phycologists. Izzie certainly influenced my own career for the better and I feel that naming the new building in her honour would be an fitting accolade.

Yours sincerely,

Dr John Huisman

Herbarium Curator

Western Australian Herbarium

Keiran McNamara Conservation Science Centre

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Phone: (08) 9219 9137

Email: John.Huisman@dbca.wa.gov.au

Post: Locked Bag 104, Bentley Delivery Centre, WA 6983

Delivery: [17 Dick Perry Avenue, Kensington WA 6151](#)



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions



*We're working for
Western Australia.*

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[Mānoa Faculty Senate] Resolution Supporting the Naming of the Life Sciences Building in Honor of Isabella Aiona Abbott

1 message

UHM Faculty Senate <uhmfs@hawaii.edu>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 4:30 PM

To: BOR Testimony <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>

Cc: David Lassner <david@hawaii.edu>, Michael Bruno <mbruno@hawaii.edu>, "Alexandra (Sandy) French" <afrench@hawaii.edu>, Kimberly Binsted <binsted@hawaii.edu>, Shana Brown <shanab@hawaii.edu>, Amy Luke <aluke@hawaii.edu>, Robyn Okumura <chowhojr@hawaii.edu>, Debra Ishii <debrai@hawaii.edu>

Aloha,

The Mānoa Faculty Senate approved unanimously the **Resolution Supporting the Naming of the Life Sciences Building in Honor of Isabella Aiona Abbott** at the January 18, 2023 Senate meeting with 57 votes (100.00%) in support; 0 votes (0.00%) opposed and 0 abstentions.

The transmittal letter and resolution are attached as written BOR testimony.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Kim Binsted, Chair
Senate Executive Committee

John Kinder for Kim Binsted
Administrative Officer

Mānoa Faculty Senate Office | [2500 Campus Road](#) | [Hawai'i Hall 208](#) | Honolulu, HI 96822 | Ph: (808) 956-7725 | uhmfs@hawaii.edu | Senate Website: www.hawaii.edu/uhmfs

2 attachments



20230118 Transmittal Reso to Supporting the Naming of the Life Sciences Building in Honor of Isabella Aiona Abbott.pdf

254K



20230118 CAB Reso Supporting the Naming of the Life Sciences Building in Honor of Isabella Aiona Abbott-2.pdf

137K



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAI'I®
MĀNOA

MĀNOA FACULTY SENATE

January 18, 2023

MEMORANDUM VIA E-MAIL

TO: Randolph Moore, Chair
Board of Regents

David Lassner, President & CEO
University of Hawai'i

Michael Bruno, Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Sandy French, Chief Business Officer
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

FROM: Kim Binsted, Chair
Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee

RE: **Resolution Supporting the Naming of the Life Sciences Building in Honor of Isabella Aiona Abbott**

The Mānoa Faculty Senate unanimously approved the **Resolution Supporting the Naming of the Life Sciences Building in Honor of Isabella Aiona Abbott** at the January 18, 2023 Senate meeting with 57 votes (100.00%) in support; 0 votes (0.00%) opposed; and 0 abstentions. The resolution is attached.

Please feel free to contact me at binsted@hawaii.edu if you have any questions or need additional information.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim Binsted'.

Kim Binsted, Ph.D.
Mānoa Faculty Senate Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shana J. Brown'.

Shana J. Brown, Ph.D.
Mānoa Faculty Senate Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA FACULTY SENATE
2500 Campus Road • Hawai'i Hall 208 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822
Phone: (808) 956-7725 • Fax/Polycom: (808) 956-9813
E-Mail: uhmfs@hawaii.edu • Website: <http://www.hawaii.edu/uhmfs/>
An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution



Presented to the Mānoa Faculty Senate by the Committee on Administration and Budget (CAB) for a vote of the full senate on January 18, 2023, a resolution supporting the naming of the Life Sciences Building in honor of Isabella Aiona Abbott. Approved by the Mānoa Faculty Senate on January 18, 2023 unanimously with 57 votes (100.00%) in support; 0 votes opposed; and 0 abstentions.

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NAMING OF THE LIFE SCIENCES BUILDING
IN HONOR OF ISABELLA AIONA ABBOTT**

WHEREAS, Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott was the first Native Hawaiian woman to earn a doctoral degree in a scientific field by receiving a Ph.D. in botany; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Abbott was both the first woman and first minority full professor in Biological Sciences at Stanford University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Abbott published 8 books and over 150 scientific publications, becoming the world's leading expert on Hawaiian seaweeds; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Abbott discovered over 200 species of algae, earning her the title of "First Lady of Limu"; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Abbott was foundational to establishing, building, and nurturing the Ethnobotany program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; and

WHEREAS, being a Native Hawaiian place of learning, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa celebrates indigenous scholars who have made significant and lasting contributions to our campus; and

WHEREAS, as an alumna of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, a distinguished professor emerita, and an inspirational model especially of women's advancement in scientific careers; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mānoa Faculty Senate is proud to support the naming of the Life Sciences Building after Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbott as an appropriate, timely, and honorable action; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be transmitted to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents, the University President, and the Mānoa Provost.



KUA Testimony In Support of BOR Agenda Item IX-E

1 message

Kevin Chang <kevin@kuahawaii.org>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 5:22 PM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Cc: Rosie Alegado <ralegado@hawaii.edu>, staff@kuahawaii.org

Aloha!

Please find attached Kua'aina Ulu Auamo's written testimony in support of UH Board of Regents Agenda Item IX-E: "Approval to Rename the Life Sciences Building at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as the Isabella Aiona Abbott Life Sciences Building."

We regret that we will not be available for tomorrow's hearing as we have previously scheduled meetings.

Aloha nui!

Kevin and the KUA team

--

Kevin Chang

Executive Director

Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA)

Cell: (808) 672-2545

Email: kevin@kuahawaii.org

Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA)

grassroots growing through shared responsibility

www.kuahawaii.org

‘Ike i ke au nui me ke au iki.

Know the big current and the little current. Be well-versed.

Mary Kawena Pukui, ‘Ōlelo No’eau No. 1209

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For a short video on our work please click [HERE](#).

c/o KEY Project

47-200 Waihe'e Road

Kāne'ohe, HI 96744



KUA Testimony in Support Renaming Dr Abbott Hall 1-19-23.pdf
617K



January 19, 2023

ATTN: University of Hawai'i Board of Regents
2444 Dole Street, Bachman Hall, Room 209
Honolulu, HI 96822
bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

SUBJECT: Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo's (KUA) Written Testimony Before the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents in Support of Renaming the Life Sciences Building at UH Manoa after Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbott; Agenda Item IX E, 9:45am.;

Aloha Members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents:

Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA) enthusiastically submits this letter in support of your approval to rename the Life Sciences Building at UH Manoa after Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbott

Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo means “grassroots growing through shared responsibility,” our acronym KUA means backbone. KUA works to empower communities to improve their quality of life through caring for their environmental heritage together. We employ a community-driven approach that currently supports a network of more than 36 mālama 'āina (care for that which feeds) community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together), over 40 fishpond restoration projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko I'a (HMLI; the group that cares for fishponds), and the Limu (seaweed) Hui made up of limu loea (experts) all from across the state.

A primary function of KUA includes development of the 'auwai, a stream of resources tools, bridges and networks that help to cultivate and take our communities' work to greater levels. One of these bridges and networks includes our connection and the pathways for our young people to the educational homegrown ecosystem of the University of Hawai'i. We help to connect our communities and, in some cases, our young leaders to the University through partnerships with schools and departments such as Urban and Regional Planning, Hawai'i inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge, UH SeaGrant, Ethnic Studies, Political Science, American Studies, the William S. Richardson School of Law, the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and its departments like department Natural Resources and Environmental Management. Our University is a touchstone on the path toward leadership in our community.

As mentioned, KUA supports the gathering and care of three mālama 'āina networks. Each network can connect some of their genealogy and inspiration to Dr. Abbott whether it be that she had studied with them, taught them, mentored them or even learned from them or their ancestors. The legacy of her homegrown scholarship touches every discussion, especially when it comes to limu. Her eight books and over 150 papers are collectible items and well worn references on the bookshelves of many youth and kupuna.

One simple way we can collectively encourage better care and understanding for Hawai'i is in the use and recognition of traditional and contemporary names on the landscape, natural and manmade, that reflect the best of our community, its identity, history, people, culture and



resources. We are excited that you are considering renaming the University's Life Science's Building after Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbott. This step better reflects back on our community as the resource and mana that are the foundation of our University and a homegrown island spirit of life long learning. This further opens the door, the imagination and dreams of young people who want to return home like Dr. Abbott did to teach, to learn, and to expand our knowledge and capacity to better care for Hawai'i.

In renaming the Life Sciences Building Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall you uphold the promise, power and potential of the children who will grow up in and on the shorelines and soils of our beloved home.

Pūpūkahi i holomua e ho'okanaka
(Let us unite to better the human condition)

Kevin K.J. Chang
Executive Director



Rosie Alegado Testimony in support of BOR Agenda Item IX-E

1 message

Rosie Alegado <r alegado@hawaii.edu>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 7:12 PM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Cc: Robert Perkinson <perk@hawaii.edu>, Celia Smith <celia@hawaii.edu>, David Lassner <david@hawaii.edu>, Michael Bruno <mbruno@hawaii.edu>

Aloha,

Please find attached my written testimony in support of UH Board of Regents Agenda Item IX-E: "Approval to Rename the Life Sciences Building at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as the Isabella Aiona Abbott Life Sciences Building."

I look forward to presenting my testimony over zoom as well.

Mahalo,
Rosie Alegado

Rosie Alegado, PhD

Associate Professor of Oceanography and the Sea Grant College Program

Director, Ulana 'Ike Sea Grant Center of Excellence

Director, SOEST Maile Mentoring Bridge Program

Center for Microbial Oceanography: Research and Education

1950 East-West Road

University of Hawai'i, Mānoa

Honolulu, HI 96822

rosie.alegado@hawaii.edu

www.alegadolab.org

Twitter: @algoriphagus

Pronouns: she/her(s)/'o ia



BORtestimony20230119_IzzieAbbott_Alegado.pdf

88K



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
MĀNOA

ATTN: University of Hawai'i Board of Regents
2444 Dole Street, Bachman Hall, Room 209
Honolulu, HI 96822
bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

SUBJECT: Written Testimony Before the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents in Support of
Renaming the Life Sciences Building at UH Mānoa in honor of Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbot;
Agenda Item IX E, 9:45am

Aloha Members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

My name is Rosie 'Anolani Alegado and I am an Associate Professor of Oceanography and Sea Grant at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am testifying today to convey my strongest support for the renaming of the Life Sciences Building in honor of Isabella Kauakea Aiona Abbott.

About 6 years ago, I walked from my office at one end of East-West Rd., past Edmondson, past Moore Hall, past Kennedy Theater to see that Henke Hall was being demolished and in its place was a new Life Sciences Building. Every day, as we walk around campus we are constantly exposed to white male-dominated spaces. We have been so normalized to this that we never give a thought about where are the spaces named for prominent people of Hawai'i. On this morning, I thought to myself, why NOT have a building named for one of our greatest Hawaiian scientists? What would it mean to other local and kanaka students to know that their educational institution holds Native Hawaiians in high regard? How would it feel to walk in a space that was named after someone I knew, someone I aspired to be?

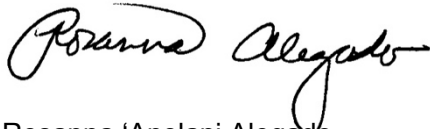
I first met Dr. Abbott when I was in the 7th grade at Kamehameha Schools while designing my first science project. I could not successfully re-concoct a traditional lā'au lapa'au recipe and my mother (Dr. Davianna McGregor) suggested the person who might know was Izzie. It was like meeting a rock star. Izzie affirmed my desire to pursue science as my life work and she remained my role model for decades, especially since returning home 10 years ago as the first Native Hawaiian tenure-track faculty in SOEST, I have often invoked Izzie to ask her how she was able to endure.

Izzie symbolizes who and what our university aspires to become – she is an individual who was totally grounded in the teachings of her kupuna and applied that knowledge to advance a Western scientific field. She faced numerous barriers to her career advancement but she not only smashed them, she also worked to open pathways for other Native Hawaiian scientists. Most importantly, Izzie's unparalleled achievements were not made in spite of her upbringing and cultural heritage but BECAUSE of them. When she saw wrongdoings being perpetuated in the institutions where she was educated, spoke out and took a stand to call for reforms. With her scholarly path, her persistence in creating new educational opportunities to support Indigenous knowledge, and her values and

community service; Izzie is the epitome of how faculty can actualize a Native Hawaiian Place of Learning within the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

She is our legacy and we are hers. What is the most appropriate way to honor her legacy? Naming is an explicit and ideologically powerful way to center the culture and language of Hawai'i, establishing a clear connection and relationship between people and places. In re-naming the Life Sciences Building in honor of Dr. Abbott, this board will affirm that the University of Hawai'i is evolving and shifting in alignment with the people of Hawai'i. I urge the Regents to fulfill Dr. Abbott's legacy.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rosanna Alegado". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rosanna" and last name "Alegado" clearly distinguishable.

Rosanna 'Anolani Alegado

Associate Professor, Department of Oceanography and Sea Grant
Director, Sea Grant Ulana 'Ike Center of Excellence
Director, SOEST Maile Mentoring Bridge Program



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

Professor Davianna Pōmaika'i McGregor, PhD. <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 4:15 PM

Reply-To: davianna@hawaii.edu

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

Aloha Kākou. Dr. Isabella Abbott is a role model and inspiration to Native Hawaiian students, faculty and communities, as well as women in science. Myself and my life partner, the late Dr. Noa Emmett Aluli had the good fortune to work with Dr. Abbott in the identification and protection of the limu and marine species around the island of Kaho'olawe when she served on the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. I also served with her on the faculty committee that wrote the Ka'ū Report that led to the establishment of the Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies at UHM. We valued her honesty, integrity and undaunting support for equal access to higher education in the sciences for Native Hawaiians at UHM. Her identification and documentation of Hawai'i's limu (seaweeds) is a unique, comprehensive and remarkable treasure for generations in Hawai'i, the Pacific and the world. Naming the Life Sciences building for Dr. Abbott will foreground her work, her knowledge and her legacy for generations of UHM students and faculty, instilling pride and a sense of purpose and potential capacity to succeed at the university as did Dr. Abbott. Her own personal standards of dedicated, focussed and quality scientific research and her commitment to protection and propagation of Hawai'i's precious and unique endemic limu species is a model for students and faculty to emulate. I urge each of you, as members of the UH Board of Regents to support the naming of the new Life Sciences Building for Dr. Isabella Abbott.

Mahalo and Aloha,

Professor Davianna Pōmaika'i McGregor, PhD.

Professor of Ethnic Studies, Director Center for Oral History

Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96817



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

Hooleia Kaeo <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 4:35 PM

Reply-To: hooleoa@hawaii.edu

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

I am a current graduate student at UH Manoa and a former undergraduate student of Biology at UH Manoa and I

am writing in full support of designating the Life Sciences Building as Isabella Abbott Hall.

The University of Hawaii should be honored to name this building after this trailblazing scientist who exemplifies the best of science grounded in love for Hawaii. The building would mean so much more and serve as an inspiration for all students, but especially for women and indigenous students who are both disproportionately underrepresented in life sciences. She continues to inspire students and her legacy should be celebrated!

Mahalo

Hooleia Kaeo

Former Biology undergraduate, Graduate Student of Public Health



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

Donavan Kamakani Albano <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 5:37 PM

Reply-To: albanodc@hawaii.edu

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i
Board of Regents,

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i
Board of Regents,

My name is Donovan Kamakani Albano. I am an alumnus of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, in the Department of Ethnic Studies. I also previously served as the ASUH President at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and a delegate to the University of Hawai'i Student Caucus.

As a Kanaka 'Ōiwi, I write to express my strong support for renaming the Life Sciences Building to Isabella Abbott Hall to honor the extensive accomplishments of Dr. Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott.

While the University of Hawai'i aims to be a "Native Hawaiian place of learning," fewer than 4% of buildings at UH Mānoa are named after Kānaka Maoli. When the vast majority of the spaces in which students live, learn, and socialize are named after non-Hawaiians, the absence of Kānaka Maoli within these spaces is normalized. In renaming the Life Sciences Building, UH has the opportunity to begin to change this legacy and move towards being a "Hawaiian Place of Learning" that has numerous learning spaces on campus that are named in honor of impactful Hawaiians.

Dr. Abbott is one such impactful Hawaiian, with an enduring legacy that has shaped both Hawaiian scientific scholarship and conservation today. Dr. Abbott was the world's leading expert on Hawaiian seaweeds, with a corpus of work that includes eight books, over 150 papers, and over 200 descriptions of new species of limu. She is fondly remembered as the "first lady of limu" for her contributions to the study and perpetuation of this important Hawaiian fauna.

Dr. Abbott also holds a special place as a groundbreaking Native Hawaiian

scholar who both began and ended her career at the University of Hawai'i. She was:

A graduate of the University of Hawai'i (B.S. Botany, 1941) who became the first wahine Kanaka Maoli to receive a Ph.D. in science (UC Berkeley, 1950);

The first Native Hawaiian faculty member at Stanford University (1960), and the first woman and person of color to be promoted to full professor in the department of Biology at Stanford University (1972); The University of Hawai'i G. Wilder Professor of Botany for 30 years (1980-2010), during which time she helped to establish the ethnobotany program. In addition to these personal accomplishments, Dr. Abbott was recognized for her invaluable contributions to both the field of marine botany and the people of Hawai'i. Notably, she was:

Awarded national and local highest honors, including: the Botanical Society of America Darbaker Prize (1969), the Kamehameha Schools Charles Reed Bishop Medal (1993), the National Academy of Sciences Gilbert Morgan Smith Medal (1997), and a lifetime achievement award from the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (2008);

Recognized via appointments as: fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1998), inductee of the Order of Ke Ali'i by Kamehameha Schools (2003), and UH Mānoa Distinguished Alumna (2011); and

Recognized as a "Living Treasure" by Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i (2005).

Designating the Life Sciences Building as Isabella Abbott Hall would reaffirm UH's commitment to Native Hawaiian scholarship and ensure that Dr. Abbott's legacy reaches future generations of Hawai'i students.

To reject this rename is to further entrench the settler colonial aspects that this higher education institution, and to fail to acknowledge the existing suppression of Kānaka Maoli voices. Every time this building is spoken, the name of an important Hawaiian woman, brings mana back to her, her genealogy, her legacy, and mana back to the lāhui. I hope that you seriously consider the voices who are in support of this today. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Ke aloha 'āina,

Donavan Kamakani Albano



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

Dr. ku'ualoa ho'omanawanui <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 5:50 PM

Reply-To: kuualoha@hawaii.edu

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

Aloha Regents,

I appreciate the opportunity to support the renaming of the Life Sciences Building on the Manoa campus to the Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott building. You have undoubtedly heard and read the many excellent reasons the Life Sciences building should be renamed in honor of Dr. Abbott. I'd like to share some personal thoughts and experiences to support the longer history and facts presented to you on this matter.

I am a DOE high school dropout, Kapa'a High class of 1984. I enrolled at Kaua'i Community college in the fall 1984 semester after obtaining a GED, and eventually transferred to UH Manoa to complete a BA in Hawaiian Studies. While I have a lifelong affinity with plants, learning Hawaiian cultural uses, including lei making, and medicinal uses for people and animals from a number of kupuna (elders) in and outside of my family, it wasn't until college that I had the opportunity to take botany classes, which I excelled in. At UH Manoa, I took Ethnobotany from Dr. Abbott, who was an exemplary professor and role model. I had few Hawaiian teachers in the DOE and in the UH system--none I am aware of in my two years at KCC; Dr. Abbott was one of only 4 UHM faculty members who was Native Hawaiian when I was an undergraduate, two of whom I didn't encounter until 1989 when the Center for Hawaiian Studies was formed, and Dr. Trask and Dr. Kame'eleihiwa were the only faculty members.

Dr. Abbott's ethnobotany class was a highlight of my undergraduate education, and she was a major influence for me to pursue graduate school, where I completed an MA and PhD, and am now, many years later, a full professor of Hawaiian Literature in the English department. As a GA in Hawaiian Studies, and later in English, it was thrilling to teach other Hawaiian students who were also students of Dr. Abbott, and assisting from time to time with their projects on Native Hawaiian forest restoration and plant propagation. It was exciting to see I wasn't the only student who was inspired by Dr. Abbott, and to see the many directions we have taken, all contributing to the betterment of the Hawaiian environment, the Hawaiian people, and the larger world.

The university continues to claim we are a Native Hawaiian Place of Learning, so what

better way to support that vision than by honoring one of our first and most accomplished Hawaiian faculty members? While Dr. Abbott's legacy lives on in her students and her work, providing a physical space on campus--once supported and championed by you--to really seal a place of honor, respect, and recognition of Dr. Abbott and her immense contributions to our university, ethnobotany, Hawai'i, and the world.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and attention.

me ke aloha,

Dr. ku'ualoha ho'omanawanui

Professor of Hawaiian Literature and UH alumni

Honolulu, HI, 96822



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

Manu Kaiama <noreply@jotform.com>
Reply-To: ckaiaama@hawaii.edu
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 7:10 PM

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

Aloha University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

What a wonderful opportunity you have to highlight one of your finest and most distinguished researchers of all time. Please support changing the boring name of

"Life Sciences Building" to honor the first Native Hawaiian woman to earn a PhD in science, Dr. Isabella Abbott. We agree that The Isabella Abbott Hall is most fitting on our campus.

Mahalo for your support in this long, overdue action.

Me ha`a ha`a

Manu Kaiama

Instructor Accounting, CPA

Honolulu, Hi, 96822



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

Dr. Marian Chau <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 7:15 PM

Reply-To: mmchau@hawaii.edu

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

Mahalo for this opportunity to share my thoughts, as both a UH alum and community member in Hawai'i. I was a PhD student in the UHM Botany Department when Dr. Abbott was still a professor emeritus, and she influenced me from my earliest days at UH. She was a true inspiration and role model, and a deep source of knowledge. It was a privilege to know her while she was still with us.

I write to express my support for renaming the Life Sciences Building to Isabella Abbott Hall to honor the extensive accomplishments of Dr. Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott.

While the University of Hawai'i aims to be a Native Hawaiian place of learning, fewer than 4% of buildings at UH Mānoa are named after Kānaka Maoli. When the vast majority of the spaces in which students live, learn, and socialize are named after non-Hawaiians, the absence of Kānaka Maoli within these spaces is normalized. In renaming the Life Sciences Building, UH has the opportunity to begin to change this legacy and move towards being a Hawaiian Place of Learning that has numerous learning spaces on campus that are named in honor of impactful Hawaiians.

Dr. Abbott is one such impactful Hawaiian, with an enduring legacy that has shaped both Hawaiian scientific scholarship and conservation today. Dr. Abbott was the world's leading expert on Hawaiian seaweeds, with a corpus of work that includes eight books, over 150 papers, and over 200 descriptions of new species of limu. She is fondly remembered as the "first lady of limu" for her contributions to the study and perpetuation of this important Hawaiian fauna.

Dr. Abbott also holds a special place as a groundbreaking Native Hawaiian scholar who both began and ended her career at the University of Hawai'i. She was:

- A graduate of the University of Hawai'i (B.S. Botany, 1941) who became the first wahine Kanaka Maoli to receive a PhD in science (UC Berkeley, 1950);

- The first Native Hawaiian faculty member at Stanford University (1960), and the first woman and person of color to be promoted to full professor in the department of Biology at Stanford University (1972);

- The University of Hawai'i G. Wilder Professor of Botany for 30 years (1980-2010), during which time she helped to establish the ethnobotany program

In addition to these personal accomplishments, Dr. Abbott was recognized for her invaluable contributions to both the field of marine botany and the people of Hawai'i. Notably, she was:

- Awarded national and local highest honors, including: the Botanical Society of America Darbaker Prize (1969), the Kamehameha Schools Charles Reed Bishop Medal (1993), the National Academy of Sciences Gilbert Morgan Smith Medal (1997), and a lifetime achievement award from the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (2008);

- Recognized via appointments as: fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1998), inductee of the Order of Ke Ali'i by Kamehameha Schools (2003), and UH Mānoa Distinguished Alumna (2011); and Recognized as a "Living Treasure" by Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i (2005).

Designating the Life Sciences Building as Isabella Abbott Hall would reaffirm UH's commitment to Native Hawaiian scholarship and ensure that Dr. Abbott's legacy reaches future generations of Hawai'i students. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Dr. Marian Chau

Head of Seed Science & Ecology, Terraformation

Aiea, HI, 96701

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.

*****All written testimony submitted are public documents. Therefore, any testimony submitted is public information and will be posted on the board's website.***

Your Name (required) *

kimberly jenkins

Your Organization (optional)

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

kjjenkin@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

BOR IX.E. Approval to Rename the Life Sciences Building at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as the Isabella Aiona Abbott Life Sciences Building

Your Position (required) *

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

hi my name is kimberly jenkins and i am a junior at UH. I just transferred here at the beginning of the fall 2022 semester. i was hesitant about transferring to UH because i didn't want to step on anyone's toes. i didn't want to disrespect native hawaiiians or their land. eventually i reasoned with myself that i would only be here for 2 years get my B.A. and then would be on my way. but I told myself that within those 2 years i would educate myself abc

hawaiian culture and learn from others in order to avoid my own ignorance about hawaii and it's history that i grew up with.

i learned more about hawaiian culture and history in my first month here than i did going to school on the mainland for the last 14 years. much of what i have learned has been through peers and through the readings assigned in my American Studies class with Robert Perkinson. The main thing i have learned is that hawaiian culture is still very much alive and it is important to keep it alive. Naming the current life sciences building after isabella aiona abbott would help do that.

The University of Hawaii at Manoa claims that it is a Hawaiian place of learning. On their website they define a Hawaiian place of learning as being, "responsive to the needs and assets of Native Hawaiian communities and is reflective of Indigenous Hawaii." This claim is contradicted when looking at the campus though.

Only 5 of the 125 buildings on campus are named after Native Hawaiians. The more buildings named after rich white people, almost all of them men, the more we, as a campus and as a community, are contributing to the silencing of native hawaiians and their culture. We can promote positive change in our community by honoring

[Your Testimony \(pdf or word\)](#)

No file attached

Actions

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*****All written testimony submitted are public documents. Therefore, any testimony submitted is public information and will be posted on the board's website.***

Your Name (required) *

Catherine Rhoton

Your Organization (optional)

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

Crhoton1@gmail.com

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

BOR IX.E. Approval to Rename the Life Sciences Building at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as the Isabella Aiona Abbott Life Sciences Building

Your Position (required) *

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

My grandmother, my Tutu, was Isabella Aiona Abbott. The impact my grandmother continues to have, not just on her former students, but the Hawaiian community is lasting and unforgettable. Her passion for limu, Hawaiian flora and preservation of Hawaiian culture has inspired thousands. Naming this building after her would be tremendously special to our family. But more importantly, it would carry on her legacy of imparting the knowledge

of the Hawaiian people for generations to come. Thank you so much for your consideration. Sincerely, Catherine
K. K. K.

[Your Testimony \(pdf or word\)](#)

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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.

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Your Name (required) *

Lehuanani Elicker

Your Organization (optional)

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

elickerj@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

BOR IX.E. Approval to Rename the Life Sciences Building at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as the Isabella Aiona Abbott Life Sciences Building

Your Position (required) *

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Renaming the life sciences building to honor Isabella Aiona Abbott is a choice to both honor research education and honor native hawaiians. Both of which this institution prides itself upon. This is your opportunity to leave a meaningful mark upon a generation of students that will be able to remember not only who Isabella is and what

her research has given us. but that this Board was the one who had the courage to do what was right. instead of

[Your Testimony \(pdf or word\)](#)

No file attached

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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.

*****All written testimony submitted are public documents. Therefore, any testimony submitted is public information and will be posted on the board's website.***

Your Name (required) *

Johnathan Herbert

Your Organization (optional)

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

Herbert6@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

BOR IX.E. Approval to Rename the Life Sciences Building at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as the Isabella Aiona Abbott Life Sciences Building

Your Position (required) *

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

The right thing for do 🤝



Testimony in Support of Isabella Aiona Abbott Hall

noreply@jotform.com <noreply@jotform.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:01 AM

Reply-To:

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Dear members of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents,

I write to express my support for renaming the Life Sciences Building to **Isabella Abbott Hall** to honor the extensive accomplishments of Dr. Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott.

While the University of Hawai'i aims to be a Native Hawaiian place of learning, fewer than 4% of buildings at UH Mānoa are named after Kānaka Maoli. When the vast majority of the spaces in which students live, learn, and socialize are named after non-Hawaiians, the absence of Kānaka Maoli within these spaces is normalized. In renaming the Life Sciences Building, UH has the opportunity to begin to change this legacy and move towards being a Hawaiian Place of Learning that has numerous learning spaces on campus that are named in honor of impactful Hawaiians.

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Dr. Abbott also holds a special place as a groundbreaking Native Hawaiian scholar who both began and ended her career at the University of Hawai'i. She was a graduate of the University of Hawai'i (B.S. Botany, 1941) who became the first wahine Kanaka Maoli to receive a PhD in science (UC Berkeley, 1950); the first Native Hawaiian faculty member at Stanford University (1960), and the first woman and person of color to be promoted to full professor in the department of Biology at Stanford University (1972); and the University of Hawai'i G. Wilder Professor of Botany for 30 years (1980-2010), during which time she helped to establish the ethnobotany program

In addition to these personal accomplishments, Dr. Abbott was recognized for her invaluable contributions to both the field of marine botany and the people of Hawai'i. Notably, she was awarded national and local highest honors, including: the Botanical Society of America Darbaker Prize (1969), the Kamehameha Schools Charles Reed Bishop Medal (1993), the National Academy of Sciences Gilbert Morgan Smith Medal (1997), and a lifetime achievement award from the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (2008); recognized via appointments as: fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1998), inductee of the Order of Ke Ali'i by Kamehameha Schools (2003), and UH Mānoa Distinguished Alumna (2011); and recognized as a "Living Treasure" by Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i (2005).

Designating the Life Sciences Building as Isabella Abbott Hall would reaffirm UH's commitment to Native Hawaiian scholarship and ensure that Dr. Abbott's legacy reaches

future generations of Hawai'i students. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Me ke aloha,

Board of Regents Meeting

January 19, 2023

Late Testimony Submitted via jotform.com

“I write to express my support for renaming the Life Sciences Building to Isabella Abbott Hall to honor the extensive accomplishments of Dr. Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott.”

The preceding Comment Form was completed by the following individuals.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Skye Inn | 42. Dr. Karen Jolly |
| 2. Nadine Ortega | 43. Dr. Palama Lee |
| 3. Dr. Katrina-Ann Oliveira | 44. Alessandra Shea |
| 4. Lucie Knor | 45. Carole Ota |
| 5. Asia Yeary | 46. Dr. Kuulei Kanahele |
| 6. Joanne Qinaau | 47. Lauren Esaki-Kua |
| 7. Dr. Noenoe Silva | 48. Desiree Kiaha |
| 8. Kira Lee | 49. Dr. Joni Sasaki |
| 9. Dr. Marie Revilla | 50. Hannah Simpson |
| 10. Starlani Kahumoku | 51. Darcy Yogi |
| 11. Paula Morelli | 52. Micah Mizukami |
| 12. Dr. Ryan Okano | 53. Mai Hall |
| 13. Heewon Kwon | 54. Keala Fung |
| 14. Kinohi Fukumitsu | 55. Ryan Chang |
| 15. Salena Diaz | 56. Shauna Sibonga |
| 16. Lee Stein | 57. Kaulana Dameg |
| 17. Vince Okada | 58. Dr. Lillian Raz |
| 18. Erin Wright | 59. Lorraine Waianuhe |
| 19. Nicole Nakata | 60. Max Bielawski |
| 20. Dr. Kirsten Oleson | 61. Tahirih Perez |
| 21. Makana Reilly | 62. Talia Rios |
| 22. Dr. Kathryn Kane | 63. Alana Kanahele |
| 23. Tim Cooke | 64. Dr. Keiki Kawai'ae'a |
| 24. Rae DeCoito | 65. Bailie Smith |
| 25. Christina Young | 66. Shirley Lam |
| 26. Raymond Kong Jr. | 67. Kellee Hearther |
| 27. Lauren Taijeron | 68. Katie Hearther |
| 28. Katy Hintzen | 69. Brissa Christophersen |
| 29. Areerat Worawongwasu | 70. Michaela Nuesser |
| 30. Kalanimanua Wong | 71. L. Kanae |
| 31. Maximillian Miehlstein | 72. Anelaonalani Smith |
| 32. Joylynn Paman | 73. Mary Richardson |
| 33. Amy Marvin | 74. Dr. Jo-Ann Leong |
| 34. Dr. Amber Wright | 75. Josephine Dianne Deauna |
| 35. Kekuawela Tauala | 76. Dr. Jane Chung-Do |
| 36. Anela Evans | 77. Kehaulani Lum |
| 37. Kalikoaloha Martin Jr. | 78. Monica Esquivel |
| 38. Reise Kochi | 79. Tehani Malterre |
| 39. Lurana O'Malley | 80. Noel Shaw |
| 40. John Melchor | 81. Skayu Louis |
| 41. Dr. Kelsea Hosoda | 82. Logan Bessara |

Board of Regents Meeting

January 19, 2023

Late Testimony Submitted via jotform.com

**“I write to express my support for renaming the Life Sciences Building
to Isabella Abbott Hall to honor the extensive accomplishments of Dr.**

Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott.”

The preceding Comment Form was completed by the following individuals.

83. Laurie Loa
84. Brittany Hedlund
85. Laurie Baron
86. Pua Souza
87. Kaulu Luuwai
88. Lance Namihira
89. Curen Ohama
90. Dr. Emily Hutcheson
91. Kelli Utrecht
92. Paul Chand
93. Colleen Moriarty
94. Dr. Ruben Campos III
95. Jonathan Castro
96. Eres Sylva
97. Gabriela Wond
98. Kamaui Aiona
99. Larue Furlani
100. Jennifer Smith
101. Clarisa Wegesend
102. Haley Cremer
103. Kristy Lam
104. Mrs. Geraldine Cannkn
105. Christine Badis
106. Allen Callejo