



---

## Testimony to the Board of Regents, for Dec. 7

1 message

---

**Murray, Francine K** <Francine.k.murray@hawaii.gov>

Mon, Dec 4, 2023 at 3:17 PM

To: "bor.testimony@hawaii.edu" <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>

Cc: "Soares, Tommilyn" <tommilyn.soares@hawaii.gov>, "Tomacder, Armaine Joy T" <armainejoy.t.tomacder@hawaii.gov>

Aloha,

Please find attached testimony to the Board of Regents, for the December 7, 9 a.m. meeting, item IV.E., from the Executive Director of HCDA, Craig Nakamoto.

Mahalo,

***Francine K. Murray***

HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

[547 Queen Street](#)

[Honolulu, Hawaii 96813](#)

(808) 594-0350 | [francine.k.murray@hawaii.gov](mailto:francine.k.murray@hawaii.gov)

---

### 2 attachments



**BOR Special Mtg Agenda 20231207.pdf**

118K



**HCDA BOR Testimony 2023.12.07.docx**

65K



**HAWAII COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

547 Queen Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Telephone: (808) 594-0300 Fax: (808) 587-0299  
Web site: <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/>

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LT. GOVERNOR

CHASON ISHII  
CHAIRPERSON

CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Supporting Statement of  
**Craig K. Nakamoto, Executive Director**  
Hawai'i Community Development Authority

before the  
**University of Hawai'i**  
**BOARD OF REGENTS**

Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Information Technology Building  
1st Floor Conference Room 105A/B  
2520 Correa Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

In consideration of  
Item IV.E: Authorizing the University of Hawai'i (UH) to Participate in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) and the State of Hawai'i Housing Finance Development Corporation (HHFDC) for the Development of Infrastructure and Housing on University of Hawai'i Property in West O'ahu

Aloha Kākou, Chair Nahale-a, Vice Chairs Lee and Wilson, and members of the Board of Regents. HCDA supports the participation in the multi-agency MOA between HCDA, UH, and HHFDC that will facilitate and support the development of housing and complimentary commercial uses on the parcels described below.

In June, Act 164, relating to the state budget was signed into law appropriating \$35 million to the HCDA to develop on-site infrastructure for the UH West O'ahu campus.

The project, to be implemented by HCDA, involves construction of roadways (Road D and H) and related infrastructure to support the UH and HHFDC developments on Parcels 3 and 4, and further described by O'ahu TMK No. 9-1-016:220 and 223 (the "Property").

On the Property, UH and HHFDC envision the development of a "University Village," a mixed-use commercial and housing development that could include leasehold for sale condominium units and/or rentals that will complement campus life.

The MOA illustrates the collaborative effort between UH, HHFDC, and HCDA to develop housing on these parcels and near the transit station. Once approved by all parties, the MOA will be executed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

---

## Call for UH Presidential Search Testimony

1 message

---

**Michele Mahi** <mhamada@hawaii.edu>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Fri, Dec 1, 2023 at 3:30 PM

Board of Regents:

I thank the Presidential Selection Process Interaction Group (PIG) for all their hard work in the proposed search process outlined in PIG's final report dated November 9, 2023. I recognize that according to [Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai'i State Constitution](#), it is in the Board of Regent's power to appoint the UH President. However, I encourage the BOR to consider the amendment to the proposed search process below to abide by the principles of shared governance more closely.

In the proposed search process, the Presidential Search Permitted Interaction Group (PIG2) consists solely of BOR members and is charged with functioning as the search committee that ultimately recommends three finalists to the BOR. A separate "Advisory Group" consisting of non-members of the board representing major UH constituencies such as faculty, students, and community members advises the PIG2 on an "as requested" basis.

I recommend that the PIG2 include non-members of the board who represent major UH constituencies, such as faculty, students, and community members, not solely BOR members. Opening the process to include non-BOR members would be consistent with the following:

- The principles of shared governance.
- Past precedent (presidential searches 2008-2009 and 2013-2014). In the past two presidential searches, the presidential search committees included non-members of the board representing major UH constituencies, such as faculty, students, and community members. This change towards closed membership rather than open is concerning and [against national trends](#).
- Established best practices in presidential searches as established by the [American Association of University Professors](#).

In recognition of [Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai'i State Constitution](#), I think it is appropriate for the PIG2 to include non-members of the board that represent major UH constituencies to present to the public three finalists to the BOR for a final vote.

Sincerely,

Michele Mahi  
Leeward Community College  
Language Arts Division Chair

--



**Michele M. Mahi**  
Associate Professor  
Language Arts Division Chair  
Leeward Community College  
(808) 455-0330 | [mhamada@hawaii.edu](mailto:mhamada@hawaii.edu)

---

**Re: December 7 Special Meeting Testimony**

1 message

---

**Kelsie Aguilera** <kelsieag@hawaii.edu>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Fri, Dec 1, 2023 at 6:12 PM

Aloha,

Apologies, the subject line to my email was incorrect. The testimony attached is for the December 7 Special Meeting.

Thanks,  
Kelsie

On Fri, Dec 1, 2023 at 3:09 PM Kelsie Aguilera <kelsieag@hawaii.edu> wrote:

Aloha,

Please see my testimony below as well as attached to this email.

Kelsie

November 30, 2023

I thank the Presidential Selection Process Interaction Group (PIG) for all the hard work they put into the proposed search process outlined in PIG's final report dated November 9, 2023. I recognize that according to [Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai'i State Constitution](#), it is in the Board of Regent's power to appoint the UH President. However, I encourage the BOR to consider the below amendment to the proposed search process in order to more closely abide by the principles of shared governance.

In the proposed search process, the Presidential Search Permitted Interaction Group (PIG2) consists solely of BOR members and is charged with functioning as the search committee that ultimately recommends three finalists to the BOR. A separate "Advisory Group" consisting of non-members of the board that represent major UH constituencies such as faculty, students, and community members, advises the PIG2 on an "as requested" basis.

I recommend that the PIG2 include non-members of the board who represent major UH constituencies such as faculty, students, and community members, not solely just BOR members. Opening the process to include non-BOR members would be consistent with:

- The principles of shared governance.
- Past precedent (presidential searches 2008-2009 and 2013-2014). In the past two presidential searches, the presidential search committees included non-members of the board that represented major UH constituencies, such as faculty, students, and community members. This change towards closed membership rather than [open is against national trends](#) and is concerning.
- Established best practices in presidential searches as established by the [American Association of University Professors](#).

In recognition of [Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai'i State Constitution](#), I think it is then appropriate for the PIG2, if it includes non-members of the board that represent major UH constituencies, to present to the public three finalists and the three finalists to the BOR for a final vote.

Sincerely,

Kelsie Aguilera  
Leeward CC  
Faculty Senate Chair

November 30, 2023

I thank the Presidential Selection Process Interaction Group (PIG) for all the hard work they put into the proposed search process outlined in PIG's final report dated November 9, 2023. I recognize that according to [Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai'i State Constitution](#), it is in the Board of Regent's power to appoint the UH President. However, I encourage the BOR to consider the below amendment to the proposed search process in order to more closely abide by the principles of shared governance.

In the proposed search process, the Presidential Search Permitted Interaction Group (PIG2) consists solely of BOR members and is charged with functioning as the search committee that ultimately recommends three finalists to the BOR. A separate "Advisory Group" consisting of non-members of the board that represent major UH constituencies such as faculty, students, and community members, advises the PIG2 on an "as requested" basis.

I recommend that the PIG2 include non-members of the board who represent major UH constituencies such as faculty, students, and community members, not solely just BOR members. Opening the process to include non-BOR members would be consistent with:

- The principles of shared governance.
- Past precedent (presidential searches 2008-2009 and 2013-2014). In the past two presidential searches, the presidential search committees included non-members of the board that represented major UH constituencies, such as faculty, students, and community members. This change towards closed membership rather than [open is against national trends](#) and is concerning.
- Established best practices in presidential searches as established by the [American Association of University Professors](#).

In recognition of [Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai'i State Constitution](#), I think it is then appropriate for the PIG2, if it includes non-members of the board that represent major UH constituencies, to present to the public three finalists and the three finalists to the BOR for a final vote.

Sincerely,

Kelsie Aguilera  
Leeward CC  
Faculty Senate Chair



---

## testimony

1 message

---

**Petersen Gross** <grossp@hawaii.edu>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Mon, Dec 4, 2023 at 11:08 AM

I am attaching my testimony about the UH President Search.

Thanks  
Pete



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII\*  
**LEEWARD**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**CompTIA**  
National CTE Advisory Council Member

---

### Petersen Gross

**Associate Professor, ICS**

Phone: (808)455-0494 | [grossp@hawaii.edu](mailto:grossp@hawaii.edu)

Website: <http://www.leeward.hawaii.edu/ics>



**Presidential Search Testimony.pdf**

65K

December 4, 2023

I thank the Presidential Selection Process Interaction Group (PIG) for all their hard work in the proposed search process outlined in PIG's final report dated November 9, 2023. I recognize that according to [Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai'i State Constitution](#), it is in the Board of Regent's power to appoint the UH President. However, I encourage the BOR to consider amending the proposed search process to abide by the principles of shared governance more closely.

The Presidential Search Permitted Interaction Group (PIG2) consists solely of BOR members in the proposed search process. It is charged with functioning as the search committee that ultimately recommends three finalists to the BOR. A separate "Advisory Group" consisting of non-members of the board representing major UH constituencies such as faculty, students, and community members advises the PIG2 on an "as requested" basis.

I recommend that the PIG2 include non-members of the board who represent major UH constituencies, such as faculty, students, and community members, not solely BOR members. Opening the process to include non-BOR members would be consistent with the following:

- The principles of shared governance.
- Past precedent (presidential searches 2008-2009 and 2013-2014). In the past two presidential searches, the presidential search committees included non-members of the board representing major UH constituencies, such as faculty, students, and community members. This change towards closed membership rather than [open is concerning and against national trends](#).
- The American Association of University Professors established [best practices](#) in presidential searches.

In recognition of [Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai'i State Constitution](#), I think it is then appropriate for the PIG2, if it includes non-members of the board that represent major UH constituencies, to present to the public three finalists and the three finalists to the BOR for a final vote.

Sincerely,



Petersen Gross

Leeward CC

Faculty Senate Vice-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.

**\*\*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)

Ashley E. Maynard on behalf of MFS CAPP

### Your Organization (optional)

University of Hawaii Mānoa Faculty Senate (MFS) Committee on Academic Policy and Planning (CAPP)

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

amaynard@hawaii.edu

### Board of Regents Agenda Item (required)

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

### Your Position (required)

Oppose

### Your Testimony/Comments

Transparency is an important value in all decision making regarding governance of our university and the university system. The proposed PIG process will violate that value. The process is simply not pono.

Shared governance is a principle of higher education and a crucial part of BOR policy between UH faculty and UH administration. The BOR should not attempt to circumvent that by excluding regular and sustained faculty participation in decisions as important as the search for the UH president. Faculty are an essential part of governance at the university. We believe the leader of the university should have firsthand knowledge of, and experience in, higher education. Faculty are the best judges of a person's ability to use that knowledge to promote the goals of the institution. Faculty stakeholders should be directly involved in the search process and discussions, including members of the Kūali'i and Pūko'a Councils.

We have made note of the discussions that Mānoa should have its own chancellor with his/her/their own powers to manage the campus separately from those of the system president. We expect our faculty will be involved directly in decision making about any future reorganizations.

We request this PIG not move forward. Please return to the familiar and typical process for a presidential search.

We consider this testimony as an invitation to further conversations with you about these issues.

### Your Testimony (pdf or word)

No file attached



## 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)

Jaret KC Leong, UH Staff Council Chair

Your Organization (optional)

UH Staff Council (UHSC)

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

uhsc@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required)

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

Your Position (required)

Comments Only

Your Testimony/Comments

Please see the attached testimonial.

Thank you.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

**UH Staff Council Testimonial (December 7, 2023).pdf (615.8 kB)**



## UH Staff Council (UHSC)

UH Staff Council (UHSC)

Monday, December 4, 2023

TO: Board of Regents  
University of Hawai'i

FROM: Jaret KC Leong, Chair  
UH Staff Council (UHSC)

Referencing the Board of Regents report: **BOR - IV.F. Deliberation and Decision Making Regarding the Final Report from the Presidential Search Process Permitted Interaction Group, formed pursuant to Section 92.2.5(b), HRS, to Investigate and Make Recommendations Regarding the Presidential Search Process and Potential Action on the Presidential Search Process**

The UH Staff Council (UHSC) supports the recommendations and action paragraphs within the report - except paragraphs J and K, for which we will provide our comments below. Additionally, we would like to comment further on paragraphs F (and G).

***F (and G). We recommend the BOR separate the current position of the system President and Mānoa Chancellor and hire for system President only at this time.***

The UH Staff Council (UHSC) agrees with this recommendation. The UH President should represent all campuses and not have a vested interest in any one campus.

UH Staff Council | University of Hawai'i  
Email | [uhsc@hawaii.edu](mailto:uhsc@hawaii.edu)

*An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution*



***J. We recommend the BOR constitute a permitted interaction group as the search committee, to develop a pool of candidates, screen, and recommend to the BOR a list of three finalists for the BOR to consider (Presidential Search Permitted Interaction Group "PIG2").***

***K. Additionally, we recommend the search process include a separate advisory group to include non-board members representing groups such as faculty, staff, students, administrators, alumni, and members of the broader community or other constituencies ("Advisory Group") consisting of between 4 and 6 members who will provide advice to PIG2 as requested by PIG2.***

The UH Staff Council (UHSC) agrees with the recommendation to include shared governance representatives (students, staff, and faculty). However, we are extremely concerned that they will only be included in a diminished advisory role without voting rights and/or significant influence on the direction of the Presidential Search.

We strongly encourage the BOR to include shared governance representatives on the core search committee and include them from the beginning phase of the search process.

Additionally, we reiterate our testimony from November 16, 2023. In particular, it emphasizes the importance of continuing this university's proven and well-established shared governance partnership with its students, staff, and faculty.

Finally, we stand by the testimonials submitted by the campus staff senates/councils within the University of Hawai'i.



## UH Staff Council (UHSC)

UH Staff Council (UHSC)

Please feel free to contact us at [uhsc@hawaii.edu](mailto:uhsc@hawaii.edu) if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Aloha,

**Jaret KC Leong**  
UH Staff Council Chair

The **UH Staff Council (UHSC)** is a collection of staff representatives/delegates (including campus staff senate/council chairs) from all 11 UH campuses\*. The UH Staff Council serves in an equivalent capacity as similarly recognized UH advisory groups such as the All Campus Council of Faculty Senate Chairs (ACCFSC), Student Caucus, and Pūko'a Council.

*\*UH System is regarded as a "campus" within the UHSC.*

**Attachment** | UH Staff Council Current Member List

UH Staff Council | University of Hawai'i  
Email | [uhsc@hawaii.edu](mailto:uhsc@hawaii.edu)

*An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution*



## UH Staff Council (UHSC)

UH Staff Council (UHSC)

### UH Staff Council Members

Name	Campus	Title/Position
Kevin Andreshak	Kapi'olani Community College	Technology Operations Coordinator
Kealii Ballao	UH Maui College	Kāko'o Coordinator
Blaine Bautista <i>Co-Vice-Chair</i>	UH Hilo (Chair, Admin Affairs)	Info Tech Specialist
Kalei Carvalho	Kaua'i Community College	Educational Specialist
Theresa Deamicis	Honolulu Community College (Chair)	Sgt. University Security Officer
Carl Dionne	UH Mānoa (Past Chair)	IT Specialist
Matt Kalahiki	UH Hilo (Chair, Student Affairs)	Assistant Director, Campus Center
Tiffany Kasoga	Leeward Community College	Secretary
Kalekona Kingsbury	Leeward Community College	Circulation Manager
Kesha Kubo <i>Communications Officer</i>	Hawai'i Community College	Information Center Coordinator
Cory Kumataka	Honolulu Community College	Educational Specialist
Kathlen Lee	Kaua'i Community College	Academic Support
Adrian Lee	UH West O'ahu	Administrative Officer
Jaret KC Leong <i>Co-Chair</i>	UH Mānoa	Director of Mānoa Academy and Academic Pathways
Joseph Long	UH West O'ahu (Vice-Chair)	Director of Facilities
Brandon Marc Higa	Kapi'olani Community College	Director of Resource Development / Title III Project Director
Michelle Matsumoto	Windward Community College (Vice-Chair)	HR Specialist

UH Staff Council | University of Hawai'i  
Email | [uhsc@hawaii.edu](mailto:uhsc@hawaii.edu)

*An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution*



## UH Staff Council (UHSC)

UH Staff Council (UHSC)

Name	Campus	Title/Position
Michael McIntosh	Windward Community College	Media Design Specialist
Kilohana Miller	UH Maui College	Policy/Institutional Analyst
Cheryl Miyahara	Kapi'olani Community College (Chair)	Secretary
Therese Nakadomari	UH West O'ahu	IT Director
Christie Nitta	UH Mānoa (Chair)	HR Manager
Grant Okamura	Leeward Community College	Auxiliary & Facilities Service Manager
Jennifer Ontai	UH System	Operations Specialist
Alana Ortiz	UH Hilo (Chair, Chancellor's Unit)	HR Assistant
Bernadine Souza	Kaua'i Community College	Contracts & Grant Specialist
Makana Tani	Windward Community College (Chair)	Student & Academic Support
Sherise Tiogangco	Hawai'i Community College	Registrar
Victoria Wong	UH System	Info Tech Specialist
Raquel Zane	UH Hilo (Chair, Academic Affairs)	Tech Specialist

UH Staff Council | University of Hawai'i  
 Email | [uhsc@hawaii.edu](mailto:uhsc@hawaii.edu)

*An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution*



---

## Mānoa Faculty Senate - BOR Testimony December 2023

1 message

---

**UHM Faculty Senate** <uhmfs@hawaii.edu>

Mon, Dec 4, 2023 at 9:32 PM

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

Cc: Michael Bruno <mbruno@hawaii.edu>, SEC <uhm-mfs-sec@lists.hawaii.edu>

Aloha,

The Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee (SEC) respectfully submits their testimony to the BOR for the December 7 special meeting. Please see the attachment below.

**Erin E Centeio, Chair**  
**Senate Executive Committee**

**John Kinder** for Erin Centeio, Ph.D  
*Administrative Officer*

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

---

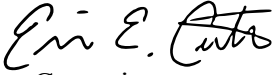
 **[Manoa Faculty Senate] SEC Testimony to the BOR December 2023.pdf**  
166K



December 5, 2023

TO: Alapaki Nahale-a, Chair  
UH Board of Regents

CC: Michael Bruno, Provost  
University of Hawaii at Mānoa

FROM: Erin E. Centeio, Chair   
2023-24 Senate Executive Committee

RE: 2023-2024 Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee Testimony

Aloha, Chair Nahale-a and regents;

First, thank you all for the work that you continue to do on behalf of the University of Hawai‘i (UH). I’d also like to thank the Presidential Selection Process Interaction Group (PIG) for their work related to the proposed search process outlined in PIG’s final report dated November 9, 2023.

I’m here today as Chair of the University of Hawai‘i Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee to share the committee's perspective on the final report of the presidential selection process Permitted Interaction Group (PIG). I recognize that according to [Article X, Section 6 of the Hawaii State Constitution](#), the Board of Regents has the authority to appoint the UH president. However, the primary point I need to convey is that we are dismayed at the absence of a search committee for the new University of Hawaii President that includes faculty, staff, students, and community members.

Upon researching past presidential searches led by the UH Board of Regents (2008-2009; 2013-2014), it was concluded that various UH stakeholders were included on the search committee. Although the PIG has recommended including an advisory board that includes some of the aforementioned stakeholders, this is unacceptable. An advisory group that advises the PIG2 “as requested” can not be a replacement for a search committee where each member has an equal vote. Additionally, this suggested search process does not align with the principles of shared faculty governance, which is essential to a functioning and thriving University system.

It is our recommendation that there should not be a PIG2. Instead, there should be a process that is transparent and widely inclusive, similar to previous presidential search committees. The search committee should consist





not only of members of the Board of Regents but also include key members of UH constituencies such as faculty, staff, students, and community members. Additional input could be provided to the search committee by a widely representative advisory committee. This is consistent with suggestions from [Inside Higher Education](#) and trends presented by [The American Association of University Professors](#), stating the importance of various stakeholders participating in the search committee and process. Additionally, creating a closed-door selection of a University president goes [against shared governance best practices](#).

As a faculty senate, we encourage thoughtful discussion on “recommending the BOR separate the current position of the system President and Chancellor and hire for system President only at this time.” This is a matter that will take time and in which the faculty senate should be an active participant.

We appreciate and welcome the Board of Regents interaction with the University of Hawai'i Mānoa Faculty Senate on the Presidential Search.

---

## Testimony regarding item IV F on the December 7, 2023, agenda.

1 message

---

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

Tue, Dec 5, 2023 at 7:30 AM

Aloha, Chair Nahale-a, and regents,

First, thank you all for the work that you continue to do on behalf of the University of Hawai'i (UH) and to the Presidential Selection Process Interaction Group (PIG) for their work on the proposed search process for the new UH President.

This testimony is regarding item IV F on the December 7, 2023, agenda.

I understand that according to Article X, Section 6 of the Hawaii State Constitution, the Board of Regents (BOR) has the authority to appoint the UH president. However, the primary point I need to convey is that it is unacceptable for the search committee to consist solely of a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG)<sup>2</sup> and an advisory committee.

Hiring the UH president is one of the most essential tasks of the BOR. The search committee must consist not only of all or most of the BOR but also of faculty, staff, students, and community members with an active voice in the hiring process. Establishing a PIG 2 and an advisory group will not only leave out the voices of many of the regents but also not be inclusive of key stakeholders from the UH community. An advisory group is very different from participation in a search committee. As stated in the report, an advisory group "advises as requested," where those on a search committee can be a part of all the conversations and voice their opinion whether it is "requested" or not. I propose that the BOR establish a search committee that includes a committee of the whole (all of the BOR) and an equal number of key stakeholders in the UH community (faculty, staff, students, and community members). Additionally, the BOR should establish an advisory group that includes many additional UH stakeholders not represented on the search committee. This advisory board could then advise based on expertise and still have an active voice in the presidential search process.

Finally, it is essential that the BOR hire a UH president who is culturally minded. I agree that a search firm with Hawai'i expertise needs to be chosen, but I would encourage the BOR to go beyond this notion and choose a firm poised to lead an equity-minded search. It is important for the search committee to select and consider diverse candidates who are qualified and culturally competent, including candidates of Native Hawaiian descent who could move us forward in becoming a Native Hawaiian place of learning and an indigenous serving institution. Numerous resources are available to help carry out [equity-minded searches](#) that I encourage you to consider.

Mahalo nui loa,

Erin E. Centeio, Ph.D  
Associate Professor  
Department of Kinesiology and Rehabilitation Science  
The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
Office: (808) 956-3882 | Cell: 808-341-7506 | [ecenteio@hawaii.edu](mailto:ecenteio@hawaii.edu)



---

## Testimony - Allow UH Stakeholders to be Part of the Search for the New President - Not Just a PIG2, comprised only of BOR members

1 message

---

**Siobhán Ní Dhonacha** <dhonacha@hawaii.edu>  
To: BOR Testimony <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>

Tue, Dec 5, 2023 at 8:49 AM

Aloha!

Hope all is well.

I would respectfully request and with great concern ask that the Search for the next UH President not just be conducted by a "PIG2, composed only of BOR members."

Please include stakeholders from all parts of UH, and not just as an advisory committee with no actual voting power.

This decision seems incredibly exclusive for reasons not clearly conveyed or easily understood.

This is especially true in Hawai'i where trust and building pilina are foundational, key, and important elements of Hawaiian culture, and especially as not all BOR members have direct education training, background, or professional experience which matters a lot in terms of making such a specialized Higher Education/University employment hiring decision.

Mahalo nui for your time.

All the best,  
Dr. Siobhán Ní Dhonacha



---

## testimony - UH Presidential Search Committee Should have all UH stakeholders represented, not just a small group BOR Pig2

1 message

---

**Kristin Bacon** <kbacon@hawaii.edu>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, Dec 5, 2023 at 8:53 AM

To Whom This May Concern,

Aloha!

The search for the new UH President should include all stakeholders from all campuses including faculty, staff, students, community members, and Board of Regents members.

- The appointment of the President is one of the BOR's most important responsibilities. A PIG2, which would include only some BOR members, could not represent the perspectives of the full BOR let alone the whole UH community. The full BOR should be involved, as well as other voting member UH stakeholders.
- The search for a new president is vital to the future of the UH System as a whole and, with shared governance, should be transparent and include the viewpoints of various stakeholders, including faculty, staff, students, and community members. An advisory group does not substitute for full participation.
- Past presidential searches provide a precedent for various stakeholders to be included (with equal votes) in the search process.
- In addition, the effort to find the next UH President should include organizational values, such as with regard to diversity, equity, inclusion, and being a Native Hawaiian Place of Learning.

Mahalo for your time and attention,

**Kristin Bacon MPH, CIP**



---

## Testimony Regarding Item IV F on Dec 7 BOR Meeting Agenda

1 message

---

**Nicole Reyes** <reyesn4@hawaii.edu>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, Dec 5, 2023 at 8:54 AM

Aloha e Chair Nahale-a and Regents,

I am writing this testimony with regard to Item IV F on the BOR meeting agenda for December 7.

The appointment of the President is one of the BOR's most important responsibilities. A new President would be vital in shaping the future of the UH System. As such, it would not be appropriate for this important decision to rest ultimately in the hands of only a few BOR members via a PIG2. Rather, the full BOR or most BOR members along with various UH stakeholders, including faculty, staff, students, and community members, must participate in the search committee. It is important that these various voices be represented (with voting rights, not just the ability to advise) for shared governance on this decision to take place.

In addition, research indicates that university leaders are most successful when they understand and work in ways that align with organizational culture and values. Thus, as the University of Hawai'i lauds its diversity and aspires to be a lead Indigenous Serving Institution, it is also important that this search be conducted in ways that align with these values. It has been suggested that a search firm with Hawai'i expertise should be chosen. However, this firm, and the process as a whole, should also be equity-minded.

Mahalo nui for your consideration.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

**Nicole Alia Salis Reyes, Ed.D.**

Associate Professor, Department of Educational Administration

College of Education

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

1776 University Ave, Wist 223

Honolulu, HI 96822

[reyesn4@hawaii.edu](mailto:reyesn4@hawaii.edu)



---

## testimony to BOR for Dec 7

1 message

---

**Rayna Fujii** <rayfujii@hawaii.edu>  
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, Dec 5, 2023 at 8:59 AM

Aloha,

Please find my attached testimony to the Board of Regents Meeting set for December 7th 2023.

Mahalo,  
Rayna Fujii


--

Dr. Rayna Fujii  
Statewide Elementary Coordinator

School of Teacher Education  
College of Education  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
[1776 University Avenue](#), Everly 223  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2463

Office: 808-956-4409  
[rayfujii@hawaii.edu](mailto:rayfujii@hawaii.edu)  
*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

---

 **December 5, Testimony, Presidential Search .pdf**  
45K

December 5, 2023

I thank the Presidential Selection Process Interaction Group (PIG) for all the hard work they put into the proposed search process outlined in PIG's final report dated November 9, 2023. I recognize that according to Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai'i State Constitution, it is in the Board of Regent's power to appoint the UH President. However, I encourage the BOR to consider the below amendment to the proposed search process in order to more closely abide by the principles of shared governance.

In the proposed search process, the Presidential Search Permitted Interaction Group (PIG2) consists solely of BOR members and is charged with functioning as the search committee that ultimately recommends three finalists to the BOR. A separate "Advisory Group " consisting of non-members of the board that represent major UH constituencies such as faculty, students, and community members, advises the PIG2 on an "as requested" basis. I recommend that the PIG2 include non-members of the board who represent major UH constituencies such as faculty, students, and community members, not solely just BOR members. The appointment of the President is one of the BOR's most important responsibilities. A PIG2, which would include only some BOR members, could not represent the perspectives of the full BOR let alone the whole UH community. The full BOR should be involved.

The search for a new president is vital to the future of the UH System as a whole and, with shared governance, should be transparent and include the viewpoints of various stakeholders, including faculty, staff, students, and community members. Seeing that the PIG2 has plans to keep the search activities confidential until the final report is produced, an advisory group does not substitute for full participation. Opening the process to include non-BOR members would be consistent with: The principles of shared governance. Past precedent (presidential searches 2008-2009 and 2013-2014). In the past two presidential searches, the presidential search committees included non-members of the board that represented major UH constituencies, such as faculty, students, and community members (holding equal votes). In addition, having these diverse viewpoints will be helpful to point out organizational values, such as with regard to diversity, equity, inclusion, and being a Native Hawaiian Place of Learning, that I believe should be kept in the forefront during this search.

This change towards closed membership rather than open is against national trends and is concerning. Established best practices in presidential searches as established by the American Association of University Professors. In recognition of Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai'i State Constitution, I think it is then appropriate for the PIG2, if it includes non-members of the board that represent major UH constituencies, to present to the public three finalists and the three finalists to the BOR for a final vote.

Sincerely,

Rayna Fujii University of Hawai'i Mānoa, College of Education Senate Secretary/Treasurer