



Testimony re: UH Presidential Search Advisory Group Nomination - Brandon Marc Higa

1 message

Kelli Acopan <kacopan@hawaii.edu>

Wed, Feb 14, 2024 at 8:34 PM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Please find attached my testimony for the special BOR meeting on 16FEB.

=o) kel

Kelli Acopan

kacopan@hawaii.edu

Administrative Support Assistant, Title III
Windward Community College
Hale Akoakoa 212
(808) 235-7420



Testimony - BOR 16FEB.pdf

51K

14 February 2024

Dear Chair Nahale-a, Vice Chair Lee, Vice Chair Wilson, and Regents,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of fellow Student Regent Emeritus Brandon Marc Higa as a member of the University of Hawaii Presidential Search Advisory Group (UHPSAG). I have known Regent Emeritus Higa since 2016 when we met as the Board's liaison to the UH Student Caucus, when I was a student representative and officer from Windward Community College's Associated Students of the University of Hawaii student government.

As a fellow Student Regent, I can attest to the importance the student voice plays in key decisions at UH, and there are few more important decisions the Regents will face than selecting the UH President. With this regard, I understand the enthusiasm and interest of our student government leaders in ensuring they are represented in this process, not only through the perspective of the Student Regent, but also in the UHPSAG, which is charged with assisting the Regents in sharing the heavy responsibility of the search for President David Lassner's successor.

Regent Emeritus Higa has faithfully and consistently stood by the students before, during, and after his service on the Board. He provided sound counsel to the UH Student Caucus by giving up his weekends to attend all of the meetings and actively participate in discussions. Regent Emeritus Higa even met with campus leaders at all ten campuses on a regular basis to ensure that all students - even those not serving in systemwide groups - were able to share their perspectives, which reflected in his public comments.

The students' confidence in Regent Emeritus Higa was evident in how comfortable they were in testifying to the Board about matters that impacted their UH experience, including controversial proposals involving raising fees (athletics and parking) and the Thirty Meter Telescope project. Regent Emeritus Higa is candid and honest, while balancing his fiduciary responsibilities to the Board as a voting member, understanding that his actions ultimately impacts the future expectations of the Student Regents who serve before him. He was supportive of my leadership as a Student Regent for two terms and continues to support former UHSC student leaders in their pursuit of higher education at UH, including those who aspired to become future attorneys at the UH Law School.

I can also speak to Regent Emeritus Higa's valuable insight to UH's research enterprise, given his leadership as a grant expert within UH. Through my work at the TRiO program, I understand the value Regent Emeritus Higa's experience as a former federal program officer and federal project manager offers in recruiting talent for UH that supports our reputation as a leading research institution for indigenous language and culture, Asia-Pacific regional studies, and other disciplines we are proud of.

Thank you for considering Regent Emeritus Higa's nomination to serve on the UH Presidential Search Advisory Council. He is highly respectable and valuable to the UH community as a whole and I truly believe that he always has not only the best interest of the University in mind but has and will continue to inform his decisions via his own experiences as a student in the UH system and through the relationships he continues to build with students. You can rest assured that he will continue to stand by the Board, UH, and the students in this important and highly public process.

Kelli Acopan
Student Regent Emeritus

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)

James H. Q, Lee, Chair

Your Organization (optional)

The Association of Emeritus Regents, University of Hawaii

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

uhemeritusregents@gmail.com

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required)

(2/16) Special BOR - IV.B. Board Approval of Presidential Search Advisory Group Members

Your Position (required)

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Please see the attached testimony in support.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

240214_AER_Testimony_UHPresSearchAdvisGroup.pdf (48.4 kB)

Association of Emeritus Regents

James H.Q. Lee, Chair
Brandon Marc Higa, Vice-Chair
J. F. Blanco, Secretary-Treasurer

Testimony to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents

Hearing Date:

12:00 P.M., Friday, February 16, 2024

University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy

Submitted by:

**ASSOCIATION OF EMERITUS REGENTS
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I**

Chair Nahale-a, Vice-Chair Lee, Vice-Chair Wilson, and Members of the Board of Regents:

The Association of Emeritus Regents (AER) of the University of Hawai'i respectfully submits testimony in response to the agenda item, *Board Approval of Presidential Search Advisory Group Members*. The Association of Emeritus Regents offers the following **testimony in strong support of nominees Regent Emeritus Duane K. Kurisu and Regent Emeritus & AER Vice-Chair Brandon Marc Higa** on behalf of its members, who include emeritus regents who served on the Board during prior recruitments of the UH president.

Regent Emeriti Kurisu and Higa will ensure your next president will have the support of his/her constituents - the students, the faculty, the administrators, the alumni and the public – by ensuring these stakeholders are meaningfully involved in the selection process. Regent Emeritus Duane Kurisu offers a broad perspectives UH's contributions to public higher education and our economy through his extensive background building well-known organizations locally, nationally, and internationally. He remains loyal to the UH community and is certain to attract the interest of high-profile leaders who are suited to apply for the president position.

Regent Emeritus Higa offers a unique perspective as a recent former Regent who has remained active in university governance in his capacities as a student and staff member. His understanding of the UH president's role is further reinforced as a two-time alumnus of the UH President's Emerging Leaders Program, through which he benefitted from the mentorship of President David Lassner, Vice President for Academic Strategy Deborah Halbert, and other UH cabinet members. He has since contributed back to the development of future leaders at UH as a member of the PELP Advisory Committee and is actively recruiting the next generation of leaders who will play a critical role in leading UH forward under its new leadership.

We further emphasize the expertise and network Regent Emeriti Kurisu and Higa offer in recruiting leaders with the right qualifications to lead UH in expanding its reach into the Asia-Pacific region. Regent Emeritus Kurisu currently serves as a board member for the Nippon Golden Network, which is among the most prestigious media companies in Japan. Similarly, Regent Emeritus Higa is a recipient of the prestigious National Security Education Program David L. Boren Graduate Fellow with several publications featuring law and international relations topics in Japan. He is an associate member of the U.S.-Japan Council and is completing a doctorate degree while serving as a lecturer-in-law at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law. He recently presented his publication on Japan's fight for marriage equality, drawing upon legal arguments and policy perspectives from a landmark decision in the Hawai'i Supreme Court to offer potential litigation strategies to lawyers based in Tokyo who are leading this effort in Japan's High Courts.

We additionally support the recommendation to designate Vice Chairs Gabriel Lee and Ernest Wilson as Board liaisons to the UH Presidential Search Advisory Group. The success of this process depends on close relationships built on trust between the UHPSAG and the Board, which is the very crux of shared governance principles. We commend the wisdom of the Board in empowering the university shared governance leaders with the opportunity to present their proposed UHPSAG members for the Board's consideration.

Mahalo for your consideration of our comments. Finding the next president for the University of Hawai'i System is probably the most important task in which you will have as a sitting Regent. We wish you much success in finding the next president to lead the University of Hawai'i.

ASSOCIATION OF EMERITUS REGENTS
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I

James H.Q. Lee, Chair



letter of support for Brandon Marc T. Higa as a UH Presidential Search Advisory Group candidate

1 message

S Pope <spope@hawaii.edu>

Wed, Feb 14, 2024 at 8:34 PM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Letter of support for Brandon Marc T. Higa as a UH Presidential Search Advisory Group candidate

As a member of the Administrative Professional and Technical (APT) staff at Kapi'olani Community College I have had the opportunity to work with Brandon Marc T. Higa in recent years. We have been justly proud that one of our KapCC staff was selected as a student Regent for the University of Hawai'i.

Brandon has been particularly intentional in making sure that all staff, including the clerical employees and janitorial staff have a voice in campus governance matters, including executive managerial recruitments. Brandon has continued to serve in an advisory capacity as a past Chair of our KapCC Staff Council. He empowers his fellow staff to serve, and reassures them that he will support them in navigating the "work" that governance entails. Our staff must continue to fulfill their individual campus work responsibilities while also maintaining an active presence in staff governance. Our newest Staff Council Chairperson has benefited greatly from Brandon's knowledge of campus staff council history.

Our campus strategic plan emphasizes that "our faculty and staff are adapting to create a positive impact on the future of education and workforce development". Our campus mission includes commitment to "teaching, learning, and practicing Hawaiian values and culture."

Our campus philosophy indicates that we are aligned with the Hawai'i Papa O Ke Ao mission ". . . developing, implementing and assessing strategic actions to make the University of Hawaii a leader in indigenous education . . . "

Our five campus values (nā lawena waiwai) are kūpono, kuleana, mālama, kūloa'a, and kūlia. Brandon contributes in each of the values areas.

Kūpono: Practicing honesty and integrity with clarity in all relationships. Brandon is trusted by his peers, which is reflected in the positions he's held with the Staff Council, student government groups, the Board of Regents, and other community organizations

Kuleana: Sharing a common responsibility to support the future of our students, college, community, land, and sea. Brandon empowers leadership in these areas by securing extramural resources to expand our capacity to grow in these new areas without sacrificing existing scarce resources to pursue them.

Mālama: Protecting and perpetuating ancestral knowledge. Brandon is now the head representative of his family. He lost his father to cancer last year. He bears family responsibility as a caretaker, son, and brother. He has shared his personal journey in sharing ancestral knowledge from his family through the Japanese American Storytelling Program to various universities in Japan.

Kūloa'a: Ensuring that the needs are met with support and service. Brandon's support of students is evident in his continuous support of our Student Congress leaders. When he was the Student Regent, he met regularly with our Student Congress to listen to their concerns and empower them to take action to represent their constituents on matters, including a proposed increase in the athletic fee.

Kūlia: Creating meaningful curricula and learning experiences that serve as a foundation for all to stand and move forward. Brandon is currently a lecturer at the UH Law School. He has secured grants to support curriculum redesign. He contributes his expertise in international education to our

2/15/24, 5:03 PM

Diamond Head campus to provide access for our students to study abroad programs in order to expand their horizons beyond Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan C. Pope
Educational Specialist
Kapi'olani Community College



Special BOR Meeting 02/16/2024 Written Testimony

1 message

Ismael Salameh <salameh2@hawaii.edu>

Fri, Feb 16, 2024 at 12:35 AM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Aloha,

Please find my written testimony attached below in regards to the special BOR meeting occurring at 12noon today, February 16th 2024 at UH Hilo.

The written testimony is in regards to Agenda Item IV, Board Approval of Presidential Search Advisory Group Members.

Thank you!

‘O wau nō me ka mahalo,

Ismael "Ish" Salameh



Salameh_Ismael_Special_BOR_02_16_24_Written_Testimony.pdf

155K

Salameh, Ismael
Salameh2@hawaii.edu

February 15, 2023

University of Hawai'i Board of Regents (UH BOR)
2444 Dole Street, Bachman Hall, Room 209
Honolulu, HI 96822

Re: Special BOR Meeting 02/16/2024 Agenda Item IV
Board Approval of Presidential Search Advisory Group (PSAG) Members

Written Testimony in **support of Regent Emeritus Brandon Marc T. Higa, J.D., Esq.**
nomination for PSAG committee member

To the distinguished Chair Nahale-a, Vice Chair Lee, Vice Chair Wilson, and Board of Regents members,

Thank you for the invitation and consideration of public opinion in regard to your vital role of crafting the advisory committee tasked with selecting the next University of Hawai'i President. My testimony's intent is to persuade you in considering, and ultimately approving, Mr. Brandon Marc T. Higa as a member of the PSAG committee.

With a diverse and prolific career, Mr. Brandon Marc T. Higa has worked toward a monumental conquest of achievements and accolades that deem him worthy of your consideration. I would like to specifically speak to Mr. Brandon Marc T. Higa's unwavering support and commitment toward student success by referring to his tenure as the Board of Regents Student Regent, which spanned from 2016-2019. During Mr. Higa's time as Student Regent, I served as Kapi'olani Community College's Student Congress (ASKCC) Secretary, Vice President, and President spanning from 2015-2018. Additionally, I have also served as a Senator on the 106th and 107th Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i (ASUH) at Manoa from 2018-2020.

As the State of Hawaii Constitution provides the UH BOR the power to formulate policy and to exercise control, along with having exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management, and operation of the University system, Student Regent Higa served as the fundamental and integral bridge between student leaders and policy makers. Student Regent Higa's dedication toward students was evident as he made himself available to necessary general meetings of different UH student governing bodies to provide knowledge and share his insights on important matters that required student voices. Moreso, at the level of community college,

where many students were in critical phases of personal, professional, and academic development, Student Regent Higa assisted with providing necessary resources and tools to help further our understanding of the complex system we resided in. Student Regent Higa brought to our attention pertinent issues that we, otherwise, were not aware of and encouraged us to provide testimony and student representation in discussions that directly affected our livelihoods. Student Regent Higa always ensured to be accessible to students by instilling an open-door policy to his office, being present in general and community meetings, and traveling to each Student Caucus meeting. Student Regent Higa played a vital role in the character and leadership development of student leaders, which effectively allowed us to better represent our constituents.

An example of this is during my tenure as ASKCC-Student Congress President in 2017, where Student Regent Higa provided assistance and guidance to our executive team during our efforts of implementing a mandatory student fee to provide all KCC students with a U-Pass for TheBus in our effort to promote alternative transportation methods. Over the course of two academic school years, our initiative gained the BOR approval for Fall 2019.

It is my strongest belief that Mr. Higa will play a vital role as a member of the PSAG committee because he is well-versed in the UH policies, procedures, culture, challenges, and strengths. Moreso, he has proven his commitment to the success of students and their development through the UH system. These are notable traits that shall be sought of from the next President of UH.

I strongly recommend that the distinguished members of the Board of Regents approve the nomination of Regent Emeritus Brandon Marc T. Higa J.D. Esq. as a committee member of PSAG.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ismael Salameh', with a stylized, cursive script.

Ismael Salameh



Testimony for BOR meeting

1 message

Mariko Quinn <marikooq@hawaii.edu>

Fri, Feb 16, 2024 at 8:04 AM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Aloha,

Attached below is my written testimony for the BOR meeting on the Presidential Selection Process being held today at 12 pm. I will also be providing virtual testimony.

Thank you,
Mariko Quinn



February BOR Meeting Testimony.pdf

356K



TO: University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents

FROM: Senator of the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology

Concerns Related to Agenda Item IV. A., B, and D

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Mariko Quinn and I am the current Senator for the School of Ocean and Earth Sciences and Technology (SOEST) of the Associated Students of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (ASUH) and chair of the External Affairs committee.

I would like to begin by asking that the Board of Regents consider extending its self-set deadline to select the next President by June, and extend the search timeline beyond April 15, when the application period is set to close. The Regents upon deciding on the separation of the UH Mānoa Chancellorship and UH System President and following the open forums held in the respective counties should then create a position profile and conduct recruitment.

We've opened recruitment without really firming up what someone is really applying for, this would limit the candidate pool, and I would not be surprised if we do not have a lot in the “wide-net” that’s been talked about being cast.

Expediency continues to be a driving mechanism, which as I see it is impacting the quality of our decisions. This quality even filters to us students, who need to expeditiously review former processes, systemic changes in the last 10 years and further, while still being full time students. Which is something I hope you can all relate to in your jobs and careers. Therefore I continue to emphasize the importance for the Regents to recognize that the timeline/deadline to selecting the next President be extended minimally to Fall 2025, and that the Regents consider an interim for President.

I stand in support of the written testimony provided by the University of Hawai‘i Student Caucus, but would reinforce and request the following:

Agenda Item IV A. Update on Presidential Search – Selection of Search Firm and Presidential Search Survey

ASUH reinforces its position on the Presidential Search Survey through Senate Resolution 06-24 that we want the next UH System President to terminate and end our status as an

University Affiliated Research Center (U.A.R.C) and that the next President should not be affiliated with the DoD, nor be a Principal Investigator (PI) on DoD funded contracts.

We further reinforce that the next President demonstrates values toward shared governance and hope that the Board of Regents would take back more oversight of the University and its operations rather than delegate and relinquish decision-making to the President and his associates.

I find it concerning that the Selection of the Search Firm seems to be shrouded in secrecy, there is no regent material for us as students to review and the broader public, in what the Board is considering for this particular item. Nor was it clear in how it was agendized in the previous Special Board meeting on January 4th. It is also not clear the role the Search Firm will have in working with the Presidential Search Advisory Group in some ways their work seems duplicative.

Agenda Item IV D. Discussion and Potential Action on Assignment of Tasks to the Presidential Search Advisory Group

I would request that members of the Advisory Group be required to attend all Open Forums in the respective counties, and be tasked with assisting in the development of the position profile. The Board of Regents should provide the survey results to the Presidential Search Advisory Group, to help inform the position profile. The members of the codified groups should also be tasked with planning visits of any finalists to said groups. I further request that the Advisory Group provide adequate time for respective representatives to meet with their respective codified groups prior to making decisions.

I would request the Advisory Group should it be tasked with vetting candidates and recommending finalists, be allowed to conduct interviews and evaluations only after attending open forums, and the development of a Position Profile.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mariko Quinn', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Mariko Quinn
ASUH Senator of School of Ocean and Earth Sciences and Technology



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII
SYSTEM

LATE TESTIMONY

BOR Testimony <bortest2@hawaii.edu>

February 16, 2024 Board of Regents Meeting Testimony - Amy Warrington

1 message

Amywarrington22 <amywarrington22@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 16, 2024 at 6:52 AM

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

Aloha,

My name is Amy Malia Warrington and I am providing my written testimony for the February 16 Board of Regents meeting which is attached to this email.

Mahalo,
Amy Warrington



Board of Regents Testimony.docx

8K

Amy Warrington - Board of Regents Testimony

Aloha, my name is Amy Malia Warrington and I was born and raised here on O‘ahu. I am a fifth year senior at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and a captain of the University of Hawai‘i track and field team. When you come to the lower campus of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, you see the football stadium, with two straights of a track. The track was redone in the Summer of 2019, which was quickly built over starting in the Spring of 2021 to prepare for the new football stadium. As you continue through lower campus, you will see what used to be the grass fields, is now a construction site for a new track and field and soccer facility.

As I said before, you see all of these things, but what you do not see, is the effects that these projects have had on the student-athletes that have gone ignored, the track and field team, being one of the teams which has been affected since the Spring of 2021 when the start of the construction of the new football stadium started making our track NCAA illegal. It is now 2024, where part of the track and field team practices at St. Louis in the mornings on Tuesdays and Saturdays when we need a full 400 meter track.

On Tuesday mornings, we practice at the same time as St. Louis physical education classes are occurring. We have to practice around them, constantly being aware of where children are at play to make sure we do not get hurt and that we do not hurt them in the chance that we may run into them during our runs. As a sprinter myself, this is a huge concern for safety for myself, my teammates, and the children at St. Louis. When we are sprinting, it is difficult to stop or avoid contact with an individual who is in our path which can cause a collision that can lead to serious injuries to both parties.

This is just one of the many issues that our team has faced throughout the time span of the building of the football stadium and even some that has been going untalked about before the building of the new football stadium. Reflecting on my five years as a part of the track and field team, I have realized the discrepancies and the wrong that has been done to my team, with putting into the perspective that my freshman year, COVID had hit and there was nothing we anyone could do about the pandemic. However, for all my five years on the track and field team, we had to make accommodations for other teams whether we are in season or not, never being a priority. For four of my five years on the track and field team, we have always been pushed aside, walked over, and ignored; I have never been able to compete in a collegiate meet in front of my family and friends here at home, not by choice but by force;. I have watched myself and my team suffer the consequences of a situation that we did not have a say in; we were not accommodated for all of the suffering my team has been through; I have watched my teammates work harder and fight to get what we deserve, to get almost nothing in return. Four years, almost half a decade, a fifth of some of our lives, we have had to endure the mental and physical stress these situations have caused us. We should be focusing on our academics, our athletics, getting to where we want to be in our future. Not fighting for what we deserve as student-athletes of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa.

Why did it take four years to break ground on a new facility when it was known for four years that the football stadium was going to take over the track making it NCAA illegal when the

first football stands took two months, and the other set of stands another two months? Why did the project of the new facility plan to be done in Fall 2024, then tentatively for 2025? Why is there no urgency for track and field and soccer when there was a lot of urgency for the new football stadium? When will this new facility actually be done and able to hold soccer games and track and field meets? Two women's teams were affected for one men's team. Those same two women's teams that meet Title IX standards for that same one men's team.

With all of this, I want our next President to be aware of issues throughout the University, Title IX issues in the University, and committed to their student's needs. Thank you for your time.



Testimony of the Presidential Selection Committee

1 message

Kyla-Marie Kauhahao <turner20@hawaii.edu>

Fri, Feb 16, 2024 at 11:39 AM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Aloha,

This is testimony for today's presidential selection committee meeting. Kala mai it is so late. Mahalo.

Me ke aloha,
Kyla-Marie Kauhahao

 **02.16.24 Kauhahao BOR Testimony.pdf**
81K

Wednesday, February 16, 2024

To the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents

Concerns on Agenda Item IV. A, B, and D

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Kyla-Marie Kauhailhao and I am a graduate student at UH Hilo. You may remember me from yesterday when I stood before you all, telling just one story of a friend’s experiences in the dorms. I first want to thank all of you for listen earnestly to their story, and to my concerns. I hope we can move forward to create better housing across the UH System for all UH students. Today however, I come before you all again in for a different issue, as I have concerns about agenda item IV. A, B, and D.

Agenda Item IV. A – Selection of Search Firm and Presidential Search Survey

I call to the Board of Regents to be a bit more open and transparent about the process of selecting a search firm, how they are going about choosing this firm, and how our surveys that we did are going to be utilized by both the Search Firm and the Search Advisory Group, so that we know our surveys weren’t done for the sake of “obtaining public opinion”. My concern is that the survey will go mostly unutilized, and thus our voices unheard.

I also gave testimony about the requirements of the search firm back at the January 4th meeting (when my last name was still Turner), noting that the search firm should not only have “Hawai‘i expertise and/or [have] a Hawai‘i focus”, but should be a firm that is rooted in our community. I strongly believe that “For Hawai‘i, by Hawai‘i” should be our priority in choosing a delegated

search firm, and urge the BOR to consult a Hawai‘i-based and community-centered Search Firm, who can help us find a worthy next UH President. However, because these things are big asks, I am also urging the Board of Regents extend their self-appointed deadlines, extending the deadline past June, opening the application and screening period past April. All good things take time, and we should want our next President to be a great thing for the UH System, hence why I urge for the extension of these deadlines and for an Interim President to be put in place.

Agenda Item IV. B – Approval of Presidential Search Advisory Group Members

I feel as though the student, faculty, and staff voices from across the system are not being represented in all its forms. Each university and community college campus has their own needs and wants, and from the candidates that have been nominated thus far, those voices are not being heard. I support the decision of the Leeward O‘ahu and West O‘ahu Students, but this gives voice to only two out of the ten school systems within our system, not even including the nine learning centers. Representation matters, especially when talking about and choosing our next System President. I urge the board of regents to reconsider the candidates for Search Advisory Group in order to include more cultural advisors, community leaders, as well as faculty, staff, and students from across the systems.

Agenda Item IV. D – Potential Action on Assignment of Tasks to the Search Advisory Group

I ask for open transparency of how the Search Advisory Group and the search firm are going to interact, and how the survey is going to be utilized in order to find acceptable and exceptional candidates for the next UH System President. I also ask that the Board of Regents along with the

Search Advisory Group attend and create open forum events in-person, online, and hybrid in order to connect with all of the students, faculty, staff, and communities that the UH serves. Our voices matter, because we will be the ones affected by the person who you all ultimately choose.

With all of this said, I am also calling on the Board of Regents to come to a decision about the UH System President position and the UH Mānoa Chancellor position are separated into two different positions. My main reasoning is because UH Mānoa deserves a leader of campus who is committed solely to the well-being and needs of UH Mānoa, just as the system needs a President who can guide the system as a whole in projects and initiatives that benefit the entire system. More than just being somewhat of an imbalance of power, the UH System deserves the good that can come from all campuses having an equal seat at the table alongside a UH Mānoa Chancellor and a UH System President who are two different people.

I urge the Board of Regents to take the decision to spilt this position into two separate positions, and for this to take immediate precedence so that position descriptions can be created and the two positions can be filled around the same time. I am also emphasizing the need for the extention of the self-appointed recruitment and hiring deadline of the president position, so that all of these things can be accomplished. These are my earnest requests of the Board of Regents, the very people who hold the power to create change and to ensure the peoples' voices who you serve are heard and reflected. Mahalo for listening to my voice.

Kyla-Marie Kauhailhao

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kauhailhao', written in a cursive style.