Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Higher Education

March 23, 2006 by Linda Johnsrud, Interim Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy

HB 2040, HD2 – RELATING TO THE SENATOR HIRAM L. FONG SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

The purpose of the bill is to establish the Senator Hiram L. Fong Scholarship Program at the University of Hawai'i. The program is to provide financial support for one female and one male at any campus of the University of Hawai'i, who are graduates of a public high school in the state, are upperclassmen at the University, and who submit an essay on the senator contributions to Hawai'i. The amount to be awarded to a student shall be determined by the Board of Regents. The Bill provides that \$200,000 for fiscal year 2006-2007 is to be appropriated from the general revenues of the State and deposited into the student scholarship and assistance special fund.

The University supports the intent of this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Board of Regents approved Executive Supplemental Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.