

University of Hawai'i
Regents Candidate Advisory Council

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February 24, 2010

The Honorable Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i
Executive Chambers
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Governor Lingle:

On behalf of the Regents Candidate Advisory Council (RCAC) and in conformity with the provisions of Act 56, 2007 Session Laws of the State of Hawai'i, and Act 9, 2008 Session Laws of Hawai'i, the following candidates are presented to you to fill the three seats currently occupied by regents whose terms will end on June 30, 2010:

City and County of Honolulu Seat

Terri T. Fujii
Chuck Y. Gee (seeking reappointment)

County of Maui Seat

Saedene K. Ota
Ronald D. Montgomery

Student Seat

Jett J. Jasper
Hannah S. Miyamoto
Matthew R. Williams

To make these candidate presentations, the RCAC complied with the statutory requirements and assessed candidates in a fair, independent, and nonpartisan manner. All candidates, as required by Act 56, were asked to disclose any existing or anticipated contracts or financial transactions with the University of Hawai'i. Finally, with the assistance of a nationally-recognized firm, the RCAC had background checks performed on each candidate being presented. The background checks for the students during the time that they spent on the mainland are still being processed by the firm conducting the checks, but based on the background checks in Hawai'i, the RCAC concluded that there were no findings to indicate that any of the candidates being presented would not be able to discharge the responsibilities as a member of the Board of Regents.

Brief biographies drafted by the candidates are attached. Simultaneous with this presentation of candidates to you, the RCAC, as required by Act 56, is making the same information publicly available through the University of Hawai'i. The candidates have authorized the public release of their respective biographies to the media.

The Honorable Linda Lingle
February 24, 2009
Page 2

We respectfully request that you submit to the Regents Candidate Advisory Council, in writing, the terms of each nominee upon confirmation by the Senate.

Should you have any questions, please call 692-1218 or email at borapp@hawaii.edu.

Sincerely,



Roy Y. Takeyama
Chair, Regents Candidate Advisory Council

Attachments

c: Members, Regents Candidate Advisory Council
Senator Colleen Hanabusa, Senate President
Representative Calvin Say, House Speaker
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair, Senate Committee on Higher Education
Representative Jerry Chang, Chair, House Committee on Higher Education
Regent Howard Karr, Chair, Board of Regents
President M.R.C. Greenwood, University of Hawai'i

Terri T. Fujii

Terri T. Fujii is the Office Managing Partner of the Honolulu office of Ernst & Young LLP. In addition to overseeing the operations of the Honolulu office, Fujii is also an assurance partner leading the healthcare and not-for-profit practice in the Honolulu office. In her 24 years with Ernst & Young LLP, Fujii has led audit engagements in Hawaii in a range of industries including healthcare, not-for-profits, higher education, airlines, retail, hospitality, real estate, insurance and state government. In those 24 years, Fujii spent 10 years as part of Ernst & Young LLP's consulting practice leading engagements in financial analysis, financial modeling, feasibility studies, organizational planning, operational reviews, corporate compliance and internal audit. The clients that Fujii has served include a number of notable companies and organizations in Hawaii such the State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation, Harbors Division; Hawaii Pacific University; Hawaii Pacific Health; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii Dental Service; and Hawaiian Airlines.

Born and raised in Hawaii, Fujii earned a Bachelor's in Business Administration degree, with honors, majoring in accounting, from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in May 1984 and a Masters in Accounting degree, with distinction, from the University of Hawaii in December 1985. Fujii is one of the founders of the Fujii and Rodriguez Endowed Scholarship Fund which provides scholarships to students attending the University of Hawaii Shidler College of Business School of Accountancy.

Fujii is very active in the community with not-for-profit and professional organizations. Fujii is a Past President of the Hawaii Chapter of the Healthcare Financial Management Association, Past President of the Honolulu Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants, Past Treasurer of the Honolulu Zoological Society, Past Board Chair of Easter Seals Hawaii and Past Board Chair of Easter Seals Hawaii Foundation. Fujii is currently a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Vice President of the Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants, Treasurer of Hospice Hawaii, board member and Audit Committee chair of Easter Seals Hawaii, board member of Hawaii Theatre and board member of American Red Cross – Hawaii State Chapter. In June 2009, Fujii completed an eight year term on the Statewide Health Coordinating Council of the Hawaii State Health Planning and Development Agency.

Fujii is also very active with the University of Hawaii Shidler College of Business. Fujii has served as a guest lecturer for accounting courses, is a member of the Shidler College of Business Advisory Council and is a member of the Shidler College of Business School of Accountancy Advisory Board.

In 2007, Fujii was inducted into the University of Hawaii Shidler College of Business Hall of Honor. In 2007, Fujii was also a finalist in Pacific Business News' Women Who Mean Business recognition program.

Chuck Y. Gee

Dr. Chuck Yim Gee is currently serving out the unexpired term of former regent, Catherine Lagareta, on the Board of Regents of the UH System (January 2009 through June 2010). Within the BOR he sits on five committees, including budget & finance, international affairs, non-resident enrollment cap, financial aid & scholarships, among others. During his active career in higher education, he was dean of the School of Travel Industry Management from 1976 through 1999, and interim dean of the College of Business Administration from 1998-2000. Under his leadership, the TIM School gained its autonomy and expanded its curriculum to include a graduate degree program and designation as the Asia-Pacific Regional Center of the UNWTO for tourism training and research. Gee has held past appointments at the University of Denver, Oregon State University, and the former Technology and Development Institute of the East West Center. He also served three terms on the 15-member Travel and Tourism Advisory Board of the United States Department of Commerce under three different Administrations.

Since 1978, he has been an advisor to China's tourism industry and academia, holding honorary professorships at six prominent universities. He remains active as advisor and international consultant to the travel industry, and in voluntary travel and non travel-related associations, which include the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), the Academic Advisory Council of the Institute of Certified Travel Agents, the Pacific Rim Foundation, the Board of Trustees of Kuakini Health System, the Kuakini Medical Center board, and the Hong Kong-China-Hawaii Chamber of Commerce (of which he is a founding director).

Gee is a well-published textbook author in the tourism and hospitality management field. Included in his numerous publications are: *Resort Development and Management* [1st Ed. 1981, 2nd Ed. 1988, American Hotel & Lodging Assn Educational Institute], *The Travel Industry* (1st Ed. 1984, 2nd Ed. 1988, 3rd Ed. 1977, Van Nostrand Reinhold), *Professional Travel Agency Management* (1990, Prentice Hall), *International Hotel Development and Management* (1st Ed. 1994, 2nd Ed. 2008, AH&LA E.I.), and *World of Resorts: From Development to Management*, 3rd Ed, 2009.

Among his various awards and distinctions, Gee received the 1992 "Award of Excellence for Tourism Education" given by the China National Tourism Administration, the 1991 Grand Award of the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) in Education, the Life Member Award of PATA in 1990, the PATA Presidential Award in 1986, the 1987 NOAH Award of the Academy of Tourism Organizations, the Travel Industry Hall of Leaders Award of the Travel Industry Association of America in 1988, as well as city and state citations for public service, including the 1995 "Hawaii State Manager of the Year." In 1999 the Honolulu Star-Bulletin named him as one of the 100 people who made a difference in Hawaii during the 20th Century in the field of travel and tourism.

Ronald D. Montgomery

Ron Montgomery has over 20 years of work experience with Silicon Valley computer companies including 16 years of middle and executive management in business operations. In addition, Mr. Montgomery has over seven years of experience teaching at the high school, community college and university levels. Although semi-retired, Mr. Montgomery continues to teach business and environmental science classes in a computer-based, distant learning environment and commits time to organizations for the betterment of the Maui community.

Mr. Montgomery held the position of Director of Operations for several well-known computer companies managing millions of dollars in budgets and assets with great success even during economic downturns. He was innovative in his development of meaningful measurements to guide and evaluate performance at the executive and Board of Director levels.

Mr. Montgomery earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in zoology, from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1970. He then taught high school biology and algebra and coached junior varsity basketball and varsity swimming in Texas. Ron then entered graduate school and earned his Master of Science in Forestry degree, with emphasis in wildlife management, at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas. After graduation, he was offered the position of Instructor at the university where he taught cartography and wildlife management, and managed the wildlife research area of the school's Experimental Forest. He taught at the intensive summer Field Camp teaching wildlife and recreational management work practices.

Because of a growing interest in computers, Mr. Montgomery realized a new career direction was needed. To plan his future, he traveled to Hawaii where he lived and worked for a year. He then moved to the Silicon Valley to pursue his interest in computers, never losing his desire to make Maui "home". His ability to succeed in new careers, not aligned with his educational training, is indicative of Mr. Montgomery's interest in, and ability to learn, new things and apply them to practical situations. He teaches today because of this strong belief in continuing education. This drives his desire to participate in the advancement of higher education in the State of Hawaii. He is currently a registered student at Maui Community College.

Ron has a proven record of contributing to the community through his work to bring better healthcare to the island of Maui. He serves on the Board of the Kula Community Association as Vice President of the Board, and Chair of the Water and Sustainability Committee.

Mr. Montgomery is a co-founder of Upcountry Sustainability (www.upcountrysustainability.org) and is involved in providing education to residents on sustainable gardening, alternative energy and water issues. He is currently working on a business plan for grant funding for a project to help potential farmers develop management plans for their land.

Mr. Montgomery is happily married to his wife, Judy, and they share in the joys of three grown children: Justin, a network manager for a software company, and new parent; Jordan, a certified public accountant and Cory a college student. They are also recently blessed with their first grandchild, Tristan.

Saedene K. Ota

Born and raised in Hawai'i, Saedene Ota worked in Northern California and Chicago, Illinois before pursuing her lifelong dream of establishing a graphic design firm back home in the islands. Ms. Ota is the Owner & Creative Director of Sae Design a 6 employee graphics firm focusing on branding, packaging, web design and strategic marketing. In only a decade of business, Ms. Ota has garnered a bevy of creative awards including 2 Hawai'i Advertising Federation Pele Best of Show recognitions and Advertising Women of the Year, 18 Pele Awards and 44 Pele Recognitions, as well as receiving national recognition for projects completed in the hospitality and food industries. In 2005 she was honored with the U.S. Small Business Administration, Small Business Advocate of the Year "Women in Business Champion." Her clients range from hospitality to education and banking to non-profits.

She is also the owner of Maui Thing, a lifestyle apparel retail located in Wailuku. Custom designs focus on messages and concepts that are "good" for the environment, personal development and local themes. Besides supervising overall operations of the company she also oversees social marketing, community events and public relations.

Ms. Ota's community activities include board involvement with the Maui Board of Economic Development, American Institute of Graphic Arts, Hawaii State Art Museum, Maui Young Business Round Table, Maui Memorial Medical Center Foundation, and A Keiki's Dream. Her commitment to Maui is also expressed through non-profit work and pro-bono design services for organizations such as the Department of Education, Hale Makua Health Services, Kidney Foundation Hawaii Chapter, Lanakila - Meals on Wheels, Maui Youth & Family Services, Maui Chamber of Commerce, Maui Coastal Land Trust, Maui Community College, Maui County Farm Bureau, Maui Equal Opportunity, Maui Farm and the Wailuku Community Association.

Ms. Ota studied Graphic Design and Packaging at the University of Hawai'i Mānoa, California State Northridge and Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California. She resides in Wailuku, Maui with her husband and two children.

Jett J. Jasper

Jett Jasper was born and raised on Kauai. He graduated "Magna Cum Laude" from "Kauai High School" in 2006. Jett attended "Kauai Community College" for one semester. Currently a Senior at UH Mānoa where he is completing his degree in "Speech" along with a minor certificate in "Women Studies". Jett will be continuing his education at UH Mānoa, entering the Graduate program where he intends to attain a "Masters" in "Speech". Jasper's parents are Richard & Therese Jasper and are small business operators on Kauai. His sister, Jori Jasper, is a UH Mānoa Freshman. Jett's Grandfather, James Jasper, graduated from UH Mānoa's Business School in 1960.

In 2008 and 2009, Jett was elected Chair of the "Student Athletic Advisory Committee" (SAAC). Every Division I University has a SACC and this organization represents every student athlete at UH Mānoa. Jasper has represented UH Athletics at a national conference in San Diego CA and one WAC conference in Logan Utah.

In 2009 Jasper was elected to a "Senator" position on the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i (ASUH). Jett is a member of the "Student Affairs Committee"; "Vice-Chair" of the "Campus Life Committee" and during the Summer of 2009 was the "Chair" for the "Finance and Investment Committee."

Jasper has volunteered with the "Read to Me Program" and has read to over 250 students at various elementary schools, participated in the "Cancer Relay for Life" at UH Mānoa where he was chosen to speak during the program, initiated an event to raise funds for "Breast Cancer Research" by creating a program that collected money in large plastic water jugs during sporting events at the Stan Sheriff Center and participated in the on campus fundraising event "Swim with Mike" held at the UH Swimming complex.

In the Fall of 2009, Jett was appointed to serve on the UH "Athletes Advisory Board". This board advises the Athletic Department and the Chancellor on a broad range of issues, including eligibility, sportsmanship, student-athlete welfare, and relations between the Athletics Department and the Community.

Jasper is the "Student Athlete Representative" for the "Ahahui Koa Anuenue". Jett reports on relevant news, initiatives or programs associated with UH students and student athletes.

In 2008-2009, Jett was chosen to serve on the "Peer Review Board" (PRB). This board was made up of 12 students who met often, to listen to students, who had broken UH Mānoa Housing Community (dorms) conduct rules. The PRB operated in a judicial affairs mode to render disciplinary decisions in the form of sanctions/penalties.

Jett is a member of the UH football team and a "Scholar Athlete Award" winner for three consecutive years. In 2007 he attended the "Sugar Bowl" and for the last two seasons he has "lettered".

Jett is a proven leader with the ability to work within organizations in a very strategic manner. His ability to multitask as a student, athlete and organizational leader is invaluable. Jasper's impressive public speaking skills and personal communication abilities enable him to excel in all aspects of groups/committees.

Hannah S. Miyamoto

Hannah Miyamoto is seeking a Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, the latest step in her post-secondary education that began when she earned a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1986. Subsequent involvement with environmental law led to her earning a J.D. from Hamline University School of Law in 1992, and becoming an attorney. Frustrated with gender-based discrimination against her, she re-entered higher education, earning a B.A. in Social Change and Development from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay in 2003, and a M.S. in Women's Studies from Minnesota State University, Mankato in 2005.

Ms. Miyamoto originally came to the University of Hawai'i to study the socialization of intersexed people with medical school professor Dr. Milton Diamond, a world-recognized expert in the field. Ms. Miyamoto has experienced intersexed development since childhood, probably due to pre-natal exposure to diethylstilbestrol (DES), which has significantly limited her career opportunities. A synthetic estrogen, DES was prescribed to millions of mothers annually until the Food and Drug Administration banned it in 1971.

In addition to being a civil engineer and lawyer, Ms. Miyamoto has been involved in community organizations since 1982, serving four years on the Minnesota Public Interest Research Group (MPIRG) board of directors, and two years each on the Minnesota and Wisconsin Sierra Club chapter boards. She also ran her own law firm for several years. In 1993, she helped stop the expansion of navigation capacity on the Mississippi River by analyzing the cost-effectiveness of the plan, a decision that saved federal taxpayers \$2 billion.

Besides being a student, Ms. Miyamoto has taught 12 classes in three different departments at UH-Mānoa and Windward Community College. She was a Graduate Teaching Assistant in the UH-Mānoa Ethnic Studies department from 2005 to 2007, and the UH-Mānoa Sociology department from 2008 to 2009. She was a graduate research assistant studying transportation in 2007, and a tutor for UH student-athletes in 2009. Finally, Ms. Miyamoto was a teaching assistant at mainland schools in 2004, 2002, and 1981. She also has an extensive list of academic publications and conference presentations.

Ms. Miyamoto was Commentary editor for *Ka Leo O Hawai'i*, the UH-Mānoa student newspaper, in 2007. Many of her articles were subsequently re-distributed by the University Wire Service, and other news sources. The UH-Mānoa Board of Publications later recognized her work with five awards, including first and second place awards for commentaries on local and university affairs.

Since 2008, Ms. Miyamoto has been increasingly involved as a consultant by organizations and companies interested in the Honolulu rail transit project. She first became involved in this important issue by assessing the technical issues and estimating the cost of choosing magnetic levitation technology for connecting Honolulu with Kapolei. More recently, she analyzed the \$5.4 billion, 21-year financial plan for the rail transit project, and compared the state higher education and UH budgets. Using her technical and financial knowledge, she is a regular commentator on significant issues in Hawai'i, published in newspapers and appearing on local television and radio.

Matthew R. Williams

Matthew Williams is a dual degree student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa for a Master of Science in Nursing and a Master of Business Administration at the Shidler College of Business.

Matthew has been in Hawai'i since 2005. He was born in Ohio in 1976, attended Olmsted Falls High School where he achieved varsity letters in football and wrestling, and served as student council representative. After graduation from high school he attended The Ohio State University, during which he was consistently employed to finance his education. During his undergraduate studies he participated in an international academic exchange program with Edith Cowan University in Australia where he was Student Housing Representative. He was admitted to Psi Chi, the National Psychology Honorary Society, where he served as Public Relations Board Member, and to Phi Beta Delta, Honor Society for International Scholars. He founded and presided over the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Ohio State University Chapter, and worked as a university research assistant in the department of psychology. During his final semester he participated in a management internship with Lazarus Department Stores where he was recognized by participation in the Movers and Shakers Program for sales and service excellence, and was awarded the Trident Award for customer service excellence. Upon graduation he obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

After graduation he worked in a variety of fields that included banking, insurance, and emergency medicine. Matthew furthered his education by taking various classes at community colleges until he was accepted into the highly competitive Master's Entry Program in Nursing at the University of Hawai'i in 2008. At present he is studying for a dual degree – a Master of Science in Nursing and a Master of Business Administration. He has been inducted into Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nursing, and participates in the Shidler College of Business Mentorship Program.

Matthew has been active in co-curricular activities within the University of Hawai'i System. He has been the Graduate Student Organization Representative for the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene for two years. Also, Matthew has been on the Executive Council of the UH Student Caucus, as a representative from the Graduate Student Organization at UH Mānoa for two years, first as the Treasurer and at present as the Vice Chairperson. He is the Graduate Student Organization Judicial Affairs Representative for the Academic Grievance Committee. He has volunteered for the UH Buildings & Grounds Award committee and the Willard Wilson Award committee. Within the community, Matthew volunteers in the Hawai'i Medical Reserve Corps with the Department of Health, as a Disaster Volunteer with the American Red Cross Hawai'i Chapter, and as a Community Emergency Response Team Volunteer with the Hawai'i Civil Defense. Matthew works as a charge nurse at Kahi Mohala Behavioral Health Hospital where he oversees the care of children and adolescent patients. In addition to working as a Charge Nurse, he is working with hospital administration to implement programs that advance the health care services the hospital provides.