

University of Hawai'i
Candidate Advisory Council

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Leonard Oka, Member
Brigitte Yoshino, Member

November 24, 2015

The Honorable David Ige
Governor, State of Hawai'i
Executive Chambers
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Governor Ige:

On behalf of the Candidate Advisory Council (CAC) of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents and in conformity with the provisions of Act 72, 2013 Session Laws of Hawai'i, I am pleased to present the following candidates to you to fill the following seats for terms to begin July 1, 2016.

As part of the CAC recruitment process, members actively solicited input from current and former university regents, University students, faculty, and administrators, government, business and community leaders, and the general public. These outreach efforts enhanced our recruitment process and helped focus our search for candidates who possessed skills that further complement and increase board synergy and enhance the board's governing abilities.

All applications were thoroughly and comprehensively reviewed and screened by all CAC members. Forty-six (46) applications (39% from women) were received. The Council interviewed twenty-one (21) applicants for 45-60 minutes each. Of those, fourteen (14) finalists (43% women) were selected based on each candidate's experiences, qualifications, skills, their understanding and personal pledge to invest significant time to serve as a university regent, and the perspectives they shared during their interview. We believe each finalist offers exceptional and complementing skills that will further strengthen board governance and synergy, serve as a tremendous resource for the University and its President, and help guide and focus the institution's strategic directions in teaching, research, and community service.

In 2013, Act 72 modified the composition of the CAC. As a result, this is the final list prepared by four of the council's seven constituent-based members. Since the CAC's inception in 2007, it has submitted 12 lists to the governor to fill 45 vacancies on the Board of Regents. It did so by screening 413 applications (30% of the applications received were from women), conducting one-on-one interviews with 208 applicants, and submitting 120 finalists to the appointing governors (29% of the finalists were women) for their consideration. Attached is an expanded summary of the CAC's work products to date.

City & County of Honolulu seat for a five-year appointment (currently filled by Regent Jan Sullivan)

1. Brandon Marc Higa
2. Kim Coco Iwamoto
3. William W. Milks
4. Jan N. Sullivan

City & County of Honolulu seat for a five-year appointment (currently filled by Regent Coralei Matayoshi)

1. Russell R. Grunch
2. Luanna H. Meyer
3. Russel S. Nagata
4. Michelle A. Tagorda

Hawai'i County seat for a five-year appointment (currently filled by Regent Wayne Higaki)

1. William C. Bergin
2. Wayne S. Higaki
3. Sean A. Kirkpatrick
4. Melvyn K. Sakaguchi

Student seat for a two-year appointment (current filled by Regent Michelle Tagorda)

1. Brandon Marc Higa
2. Jori-Anne J. Jasper
3. Priya M. Rashid
4. Michelle A. Tagorda

The CAC complied with the statutory requirements and assessed candidates in a confidential, fair, independent, and nonpartisan manner. All candidates, as required by law, 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 CAC had background checks done on each candidate. Based on the applications and CVs submitted, interviews with candidates, contacts with references and the background checks, the CAC believes that these candidates are able and willing to discharge the responsibilities of a member of the Board of Regents.

Brief biographies drafted by the candidates are attached. Simultaneous with this presentation of candidates to you, the CAC, as required by law, is making the same information publicly available. The candidates have authorized the public release of their respective biographies to the media.

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

Sincerely,



L. Thomas Ramsey, Ph.D., Chairman
Candidate Advisory Council

Attachments

- c: Senator Ronald Kouchi, President, Hawai'i State Senate
Representative Joseph Souki, Speaker, Hawai'i House of Representatives
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair, Senate Committee on Higher Education
Representative Isaac Choy, Chair, House Committee on Higher Education
Regent Randolph Moore, Chair, Board of Regents
President David Lassner, University of Hawai'i
Members, Candidate Advisory Council

**PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII BOARD OF REGENTS
TO GOVERNOR IGE
November 24, 2015**

**Candidate Advisory Council
Medical Education Bldg., John A. Burns School of Medicine
651 Ilalo Street, Room 224S
Honolulu, HI 96813**

FINALISTS

**CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU SEAT
(currently filled by Regent Jan N. Sullivan)**

- **Brandon Marc Higa**
- **Kim Coco Iwamoto**
- **William W. Milks**
- **Jan N. Sullivan**

Brandon Marc Higa

Brandon Marc Higa is a grant writer, professional actor/model in SAG-AFTRA, and clarinetist with the Royal Hawaiian Band. Higa graduated as a Renaissance Scholar with honors from the University of Southern California (USC) with B.A. and M.A. degrees in International Relations with a minor in East Asian Languages and Cultures. Higa completed post-graduate work at Stanford University's Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies in Yokohama, Japan through the National Security Education Program Graduate Fellowship (2004). Higa is currently pursuing a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from the University of Hawai'i William S. Richardson School of Law.

Career & Research Experience in the Asia Pacific: Prior to working in higher education, Higa pursued a career in public diplomacy while based in Tokyo at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo and the National Diet of Japan, then in Washington, DC at the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. His field research in Asia includes a Freeman Foundation Award (2002) at Waseda University in Tokyo, Critical Language Scholarship (2007) at Kyung Hee University in Seoul, and two research assistantships at the East-West Center. Higa attained fluency in Japanese, and studied Korean and French.

Leadership & Governance Experience: Higa was selected by University of Hawai'i President David Lassner for the 2015-16 President's Emerging Leaders Program, and was selected for Senator Daniel Inouye's U.S.-Japan Council's Tomodachi Emerging Leaders Program in 2014. Higa was elected as the Chairperson for Kapi'olani Community College's Staff Council representing over 150 staff members, and as a Senator for the Law School Government. Higa's public service record includes working as a Legislative Assistant for then-Senator David Ige in 2007.

Professional Service to the University of Hawai'i: As the first Grants Development Specialist within the UH System, Higa helped raise over \$60 million for Kapi'olani Community College and UH consortium partners to support UH's goal to build a \$2 billion research enterprise in the State of Hawai'i. In 2013, Higa was selected by the Office of the Vice President for Community Colleges to coordinate a state-wide consortium focused on workforce development for career pathways in culinary, hospitality, health, and cybersecurity.

Recently, Higa authored a successful Title III grant proposal which will provide \$4 million in funding to improve Native Hawaiian student success, and promote the Hawaiian language. He was recently granted honorary membership in the Kalaulani Native Hawaiian Council serving as an advocate for Native Hawaiian rights.

Ties to Hawaii's Communities: An advocate for the performing arts, Higa supports UH's efforts to build a vibrant entertainment industry in Hawai'i. Higa is a member of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) and American Federation of Radio and Television Artists (AFTRA) as professional actor and commercial model. Higa is a strong supporter of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association and studied the sanshin, an Okinawan classical guitar. Higa was a clarinetist in the Hawaii Youth Symphony and is currently a member of the Royal Hawaiian Band. Higa swims with the Iolani Swim Club and UH Masters Swimming.

Kim Coco Iwamoto

Kim Coco Iwamoto is currently serving Hawaii as a Commissioner on the state Civil Rights Commission; she was appointed and confirmed to a four-year term —July 2012 through June 2016.

Prior to this, Iwamoto served on the Board of Education, initially elected in 2006, then re-elected in 2010; she remained until the Board transitioned to an appointed body in 2011. During her tenure, Iwamoto put in 30-40 hours a week to satisfy her due diligence and fiduciary duties as a Board member. She served on most standing committees, including Administrative Services; Budget & Fiscal Accountability; Curriculum, Instruction & Student Support; and, Legislation, Public Charter Schools & Public Libraries.

Iwamoto served the University of Hawaii system from 2007 through 2011 as a Member, then Chair, of the Career and Technical Education Coordinating Advisory Council. The Council advises the Board of Regents on innovation, compliance and reporting related to Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006. The Perkins Act provides the state \$5.5 million in federal funding annually and impacts approximately 37,000 high school and UH System students.

Iwamoto's other education policy and accountability experience include serving as a Member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board from 2009-2011, as a Member of the Hawaii 3-5 Transition Task Force related to early childhood education, and as a member of the Department of Education's Safe Schools Community Advisory Committee.

Iwamoto started focusing on improving education in Hawaii while serving as a certified therapeutic foster parent to teenagers attending public high schools; she continued her support and advocacy as they, and other young beneficiaries, began enrolling into UH system schools.

Iwamoto has also benefited from publicly subsidized higher education — she earned degrees from state university systems in New York, California and finally New Mexico, where she obtained her juris doctorate degree. After law school she moved back home to Hawaii and became a public interest lawyer.

She started as a volunteer at Legal Aid Society of Hawaii. After that, she worked her way up to Managing Attorney at Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii, where she was responsible for recruiting pro bono attorneys and coordinating legal clinics serving low-income, homeless, and elderly clients across the state.

In 2007, The American Friends Service Committee honored Iwamoto with the Spirit In Action Award. In 2010, The Hawaii Friends of Civil Rights honored Iwamoto with the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Friends Award. and in 2013, the White House honored Iwamoto as one of the Harvey Milk "Champions of Change" for her advocacy to reduce bullying and harassment in the public schools.

Kim Coco Iwamoto was born on the island of Kauai and now lives in Honolulu. She has a three year-old daughter. She is President of the Iwamoto Family Foundation and serves as a Donor Advisor to the Florence Iwamoto Kauai Fund and as a Scholarship Ambassador for the Hawaii Community Foundation.

William W. Milks

Bill Milks was born and raised in a small town in rural northwestern Pennsylvania, by loving, supportive parents. Formal education by dedicated nuns (twelve years), was followed by four years at Boston College, and four years at Georgetown University Law Center. Virtually all of Milks' professional life has been in Hawaii, focusing on matters of public interest.

He is married to the Honorable Judge Marie N. Milks (retired). They have two children, each of whom has been teaching for more than twenty years.

Public service has been a part of Milks' life: Boy Scout projects sixty years ago; a Peace Corps volunteer in Iran; 40-plus years as a Koko Head Lion; president of the PTA; a century donor at the Hawaii Blood Bank; chair/director for the Hawaii State Federal Credit Union (with assets of \$1.45 billion); a director of the National Senior Games Association; President of a local tennis club; et al. Nothing prominent; just answering the call.

Milks' professional life has been public spirited, as well. In the 1970's, it was representing Hawaii at the CAB, FCC, and the FMC, as a deputy AG. In the 1980's it was dealing with ever-escalating electric utility rates and formulating telecommunications and energy policies as Hawaii's first Consumer Advocate. Since 1989, he has been in private law practice, helping resolve people's problems. He spent substantial time representing developers of renewable energy projects, and lectured at U of H's TIM School.

In 2010, Milks was recruited to be a candidate for election as a director of the Hawaii State Federal Credit Union (HSFCU). At that time, some of the abuses of HSFCU directors were being reported on the front page of Honolulu's daily newspaper. Beyond ethical transgressions, the core business of the credit union was rapidly deteriorating. Top management had neither the capabilities nor the proper inclinations to turn matters around. HSFCU is back on track: new top management excels at executing a strategic plan; there are new directors, a thriving credit department, an array of new services, and \$50-plus million of troubled loans has been cut by two-thirds, and now under control. Serving as chair during the majority of this time, was a fantastically rewarding experience.

Other "governance experiences" occurred much earlier in Milks' professional career. As a staff member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, he worked with Subcommittee Chair Daniel Inouye and observed how to adroitly handle a multitude of competing interests and yet arrive at a sound budget for Washington, D.C. He returned to Hawaii and served 15 years in the Ariyoshi Administration as a deputy AG, as Consumer Advocate and assisted in formulating statewide "functional plans." These were all exercises in consensus building.

Milks would be honored to have the opportunity to be a part of constructively governing one of the state's greatest assets, in addressing the needs of Hawaii's youth, advancing knowledge in UHS's specialties, and engendering greater pride among UHS' supporters—the students, the faculty, the alumni, the fans, and the taxpayers.

If appointed and confirmed, Milks will treat the task as serious business. He has the time and abilities to perform; his past experiences give promise of success.

Jan Naoe Sullivan

Jan Naoe Sullivan is the Chief Operating Officer of *Oceanit*, a diversified engineering and tech company that is involved in aerospace, engineering, life sciences and information systems. *Oceanit* is dedicated to building a healthy, sustainable tech sector in the State of Hawai'i.

Jan manages *Oceanit*, which has grown to include a broad array of engineers, scientists and highly technical staff in facilities that span from Hawai'i to Houston. At *Oceanit*, she established an internal Innovation Fund for high risk, early stage R&D, helped to spin-out new start-up companies, and has managed the growth of the company's intellectual property portfolio.

Prior to *Oceanit*, *Jan* was the director of the *Department of Land Utilization* for the *City & County of Honolulu*, and oversaw the reorganization that created the current *Department of Planning and Permitting*. Prior to her time at the *City*, *Jan* represented a broad array of clients in the planning, environmental and land use processes, and managed large project development teams.

Jan received her *Juris Doctor* from the William S. Richardson School of Law. She currently serves on the Board of Regents for the *University of Hawai'i*, the *Hawaii Nature Center* and *Enterprise Honolulu*. She was formerly the Chair of the *Hawai'i Community Development Authority*, served on the *Honolulu Charter Commission*, and has served on numerous non-profit boards and commissions.

FINALISTS

**CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU SEAT
(currently filled by Regent Coralei Matayoshi)**

- **Russell R. Grunch**
- **Luanna H. Meyer**
- **Russel S. Nagata**
- **Michelle A. Tagorda**

Russell R. Grunch

Russell R. Grunch has spent 45 years mentoring, training and educating young men and women as an Air Force enlisted person, officer and civil servant. Russ and his wife, Jeanie, first moved to Hawaii in 1983 and has lived in Pearl City and Aiea. He spent 33 of his 45 Air Force years in the Pacific/Indian Ocean region in Hawaii, South Korea, Japan, Philippines, Thailand, and Diego Garcia. He was awarded a Bachelors Degree in Management in 1977 from Park College and a Masters Degree in Public Administration in 1981 from Northern Michigan University. He graduated from the Air Command and Staff College and completed a National Defense University Operational Research fellowship at RAND. RAND published his research paper on doctrine issues and has relied on Russ for inputs, editing and reviews of their research over the last 15 years.

Russ has been elected twice to the Aiea Neighborhood Board. He is a strong supporter of making the Pearl Ridge Transient Oriented Development a success by connecting new and existing retail and residential areas to increase rail use by improving pedestrian access and movement in the Pearl Ridge area. He also fully supports the City initiatives to revive the Pearl Harbor Historic Bike Trail.

Russ currently works at Headquarters Pacific Air Forces as a civilian logistics supervisor. He is responsible for theater strategic planning, programming, budgeting, and change management. One of his accomplishments was regionally leading the Air Force world-wide initiative to centralize financial management of aircraft maintenance, spare parts and fuel to reduce manpower and obtain financial efficiencies. Russ planned and executed the Pacific's \$1.4B transfer of financial responsibility to the centralized organization resulting in a smooth transition and is used as a model for other organizational change initiatives. Another accomplishment is he led a right-sizing team that identified and realized real savings of over \$80M by adjusting equipment requirements to meet new operational requirements. This action led to his team winning the Air Force Efficiency Award.

His assignments as a senior officer include being the Director of Logistics multiple times for a Joint Task Force, Coalition/Joint Air Component Command, Special Operations Command Pacific and multiple Joint Special Operations Task Forces. He held three commands including a 1200 person Air Force Group responsible for managing and maintaining infrastructure support for five Air Force operating locations in South Korea. Earlier in his career, Russ gained experience in logistics and contract management, contingency planning and execution, finance, foreign military sales, and medical logistics.

Russ's achievements include two Legion of Merits, eight Joint and Air Force Meritorious Service Medals, Korea Air Force Commander-In-Chief's Meritorious Service Award, Pacific Air Forces Award and Air Force finalist for Executive Logistics Management, American Petroleum Institute's World-Wide Fuels Management Award, and was awarded both the Kingdom of Thailand Airborne Wings and U.S. Army Airborne Wings.

Luanna H. Meyer

Dr. Luanna H. Meyer has a longstanding commitment to education generally, higher education internationally, and to public and community service evident throughout her academic and professional career. She completed her BA at the University of Wisconsin and both the M.S. and PhD at Indiana University, then accepted her first faculty appointment as assistant professor at the University of Hawai'i in 1976. For the next several years, she was one of only four teaching faculty in special education working with schools throughout Hawai'i to establish programs for students with severe disabilities in regular schools for the first time. Subsequently, she was appointed associate professor and then professor at the University of Minnesota and Syracuse University, respectively.

She was recruited to Massey University in New Zealand in 1997, joining that multi-campus university's senior executive team as inaugural pro vice-chancellor of education then university-wide assistant vice-chancellor-academic. In 2005, she became professor and director of a major research center at Victoria University of Wellington, with responsibility for faculty research development and coordination of the PhD program in education. Her service on numerous university-based and national organizations and committees includes national election to the board of New Zealand's independent educational research body and appointments as chair/member of national committees on university entrance, review and approval of academic qualifications, and academic audit panels in Australia and New Zealand. Her research, evaluation, and advocacy activities address social inclusion, teacher professional development, culturally responsive pedagogies, the impact of standards-based assessment on student achievement, restorative discipline, and higher education. Her higher education publications encompass academic governance, research development, faculty workloads, quality institutional audit, tertiary assessment, international student exchanges, and strategies for promoting world-mindedness in today's universities.

She has authored 17 books, 85 journal articles, and nearly 100 book chapters and other publications, and she has been an invited presenter in 30 US states and 9 countries. She is editor-in-chief of Oxford University Press' *Oxford Bibliographies Online (OBO)* in Education and editorial board member for *Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education*, *Higher Education Quarterly*, and *PsycCRITIQUES*. She has just been appointed by New Zealand's Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) to chair the Quality Evaluation Peer Review Panel in Education for that country's 2018 Performance-Based Research Fund (PBRF) evaluation of research productivity. The 30 PhD students and several postdocs she has supervised hold positions in the USA, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Kenya, Tanzania, South Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam, Qatar, Indonesia, and Gaza.

After retiring with the honorary title of Professor Emerita at Victoria University, she and her husband Ian M. Evans returned permanently to Hawai'i in 2013 to be close to family and friends. They live in Hawaii Kai and feel privileged to be able to call Hawai'i home once again. In addition to occasional publication, editorial, and review work from her base in Honolulu, for the past two years she has volunteered as a Malama Na Honu guardian of Hawaiian Green Sea Turtles at Laniakea Beach enabling her to interact educatively with a wide range of visitors and residents.

Russel S. Nagata

Russel Nagata graduated from Iolani School in 1969. He spent his freshman year at Occidental College in beautiful Eagle Rock, California; then transferred to Tokyo to study in a year-abroad program at Waseda University. He returned home and graduated from the University of Hawaii in 1972.

From 1971-1974, he was a member of the Third Arm Community Center, which was an activist multi-services organization serving the needs of the residents in downtown Chinatown. Perhaps the most significant action he participated in was the organizing of immigrant and indigent residents to fight for their rights during the various urban redevelopment projects. This eventually resulted in the construction of low income and elderly housing for them.

In May, 1976, Mr. Nagata graduated as a member of the inaugural class of the William S. Richardson School of Law despite the dust and traffic surrounding the portable classrooms of Lower Campus Road. He then went on to work as a deputy attorney general until 1979.

From 1979 until 1986, he worked for the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. He started off as the youngest state civil service chief heading the Business Registration Division. From there, he headed various divisions within the department until Governor George Ariyoshi appointed him to become Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs in 1982.

In 1986, Governor John Waihee appointed him as the State Comptroller (Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services). His most rewarding experiences there were overseeing all state capital improvement projects and the repair and maintenance of state facilities including the Department of Education and the University of Hawaii.

From late 1970-1990, he served as a member of the Family Services Center in Kalihi. This preschool specialized in early childhood education for children of needy families. During the 1990's, he served as a board member and past president of Palama Settlement. His early childhood education experiences expanded to those of teenagers and sub-teens.

In 1992, he was sworn in as a District Judge of the District Court of the First Circuit. During his nineteen years in District Court, he also served in a dual administrative capacity as chief Deputy Administrative Judge. During those years, he also served as District Court legislative liaison because of his executive department legislative experience.

Mr. Nagata retired at the end of December 2011. During 2012, he served two days a week as a pro bono judge and presently serves as a regular per diem judge.

Michelle Asprer Tagorda

Michelle Tagorda was born in Hilo, Hawai'i and is a graduate of Kea'au High School where she ran track, played soccer, competed in science fair and was an active member of student body government, civic club, math league and national honor society. Michelle earned her Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Bachelor of Arts in Biology from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, while remaining active as a New Student Orientation Leader, Access to College Excellence Peer Mentor and a Peer Advisor at the Pre-Health/Pre-Law Advising Center. She was also a member of the Pre-Medical Association, Psi Chi Honor Society, Mortar Board Honor Society and Office of Multicultural Student Services: Bin-I Program.

Throughout her undergraduate and graduate years, Michelle served on the Campus Center Board as Secretary, President-Elect, and President while working on phases of the Campus Center Renovation and Expansion project including the opening of the Warrior Recreation Center. Through policy governance, Michelle gained experience to ensure that all service areas, facilities, and activities of the Campus Center Complex were providing students with the out of class room experience to gather, collaborate, and enjoy student life.

As a Master of Public Health (MPH) student, Michelle worked to help develop, execute, and support the new Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Public Health degree in her capacity as the Office of Public Health Studies (OPHS) Undergraduate Academic Advisor. She dedicated herself to the service of both undergraduate and graduate students through academic advising. She has also inspired many students at all levels to pursue rewarding careers in public health and beyond.

Michelle graduated in May of 2015 with her MPH in Social and Behavioral Health Sciences and was inducted into the Delta Omega Honorary Public Health Society, Gamma Chapter. She was the former media coordinator for the public health student organization, Hui Ola Pono, and remains active in the Hawai'i Public Health Association. Her MPH practicum involved collaboration with the Center for Rural Health Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and OPHS faculty, and focused on measuring and understanding cultural characteristics related to health. During her time as an MPH student, she also assisted the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education, Mānoa Peer Advisor program as the program assistant, and volunteered with the Hawai'i Primary Care Association and Hawai'i Department of Health to develop an educational toolkit for the film Ola which focused on bringing to light issues surrounding the social determinants of health. Michelle was also part of the Health Behavior Change Research Workgroup's Waipahu Health Action Research Training project, where she supported high school seniors in facilitating classroom activities on physical activity and healthy nutrition as preventative measures for obesity.

Michelle currently serves on University of Hawai'i Board of Regents, continues to support the OPHS undergraduate students as Undergraduate Academic Advisor, and works with the Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services Tobacco Control Program.

In her spare time, Michelle enjoys playing basketball, running at Ala Moana Beach Park, reading and journal writing.

FINALISTS

**HAWAII COUNTY SEAT
(currently filled by Regent Wayne S. Higaki)**

- **William C. Bergin**
- **Wayne S. Higaki**
- **Sean A. Kirkpatrick**
- **Melvyn K. Sakaguchi**

William C. Bergin

Dr. Billy Bergin has spent his lifetime caring for animals while active in community service on the Big Island and across the state. He worked for most major ranches on the island before leaving for Kansas State University receiving a bachelor's degree in Animal Science in 1963, a bachelor's degree in Biological Science in 1965, and a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine in 1967. While in veterinary school, he simultaneously worked toward a Master's Degree in Reproductive Physiology completing it in 1968 while teaching in the Department of Surgery and Medicine at Kansas State.

After college, Dr. Bergin established a mixed veterinary practice in Kealahou, Hawaii that grew to include North and South Kohala and Hamakua Districts. In 1971 he was appointed Deputy State Veterinarian. In 1981, he built Case Memorial Veterinary Hospital in Waimea, where four practitioners cared for small and large animals. As lead veterinarian for Parker Ranch from 1970 to 1995, he was responsible for the health and welfare of 50,000-head of cattle and 2,000 horses. Over the next three decades, Dr. Bergin became the architect of modern animal health programs that launched Hawaii's ranching industry into the new millennium. Attributing much of the program's success to the cowboys he worked with inspired him to establish in 1999, the Paniolo Preservation Society, a non-profit organization with its mission to preserve Hawaii's ranching heritage. An avid horseman, Dr. Bergin's greatest pleasure is derived from long rides across the range astride a horse.

Over the years, Dr. Bergin held leadership roles in multiple organizations. Among these are: Hawaii State Board of Veterinary Examiners serving as chair, Board of Directors of the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association, and charter president of the Kohala Chapter of the West Hawaii Humane Society. He also served as president of a variety of organizations that include: National High School Rodeo Association also serving as Hawaii Director for 15 years, Hawaii Preparatory Parents Association, Rotary Club of North Hawaii and Hawaii County Police Commission, serving twice as chairperson. He previously served as University of Hawaii Regent from 1998-2002. In 2000, he joined the Board of Directors of the Rodeo Historical Society of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City and presently serves on the Associate Board of Directors of the Museum. He also currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Farm Credit Bureau of Hawaii.

Dr. Bergin has established himself as an exceptional historian with his books providing a valuable resource to veterinarians and history buffs. An established author since 2003, he has written the first three of four volumes of *Loyal to the Land* chronicling the story of the legendary Parker Ranch. The last volume is slated for completion in 2018. Dr. Bergin is also senior author of *Richard Smart of the Legendary Parker Ranch*, a biography released in 2010. *The Hawaiian Horse*, chronicling the evolution and development of the horse industry in Hawaii is scheduled for release in 2016. Dr. Bergin has written numerous articles on veterinary medicine for professional journals over the course of his career.

Wayne S. Higaki

Wayne S. Higaki is the Chief Development Officer at North Hawaii Community Hospital, an affiliate of The Queen's Health Systems located in Kamuela on Hawaii Island. He has served in several capacities at North Hawaii Community Hospital since it opened in 1996 including Vice President of Public Affairs and Vice President of Clinical and Support Services.

Higaki began his professional career in California as a Radiation Therapy Technologist at Sutter Memorial Hospital in Sacramento followed by management roles in Radiation Oncology Departments at Fresno Community Hospital and Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian in Newport Beach.

Higaki currently serves on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents and is a member of the Budget and Finance, Academic and Student Affairs and Independent Audit Committees. He has served as Chairperson of Hawaii County's Workforce Investment Board and as a member of the Workforce Development Council for the State of Hawaii. He was appointed to three State Health Planning and Development Agency councils including the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, Hawaii County Subarea Council and Certificate of Need Review Panel. He also served as Board President of the Hamakua Health Center and as a member of the Waimea Community Association's Board of Directors. He is a member of the Mayor's Healthcare Sustainability Taskforce and the Hawaii Island Healthcare Alliance Steering Committee.

Higaki was born and raised on Hawaii Island, graduated from Honokaa High School and received an associate of science degree at Kapiolani Community College. He resides in Waikoloa Village and spends time with his fiancée Ann and their dog Toshi.

Sean Allan Kirkpatrick

Sean Kirkpatrick was born and raised in a rural farming community in the San Joaquin valley of California. He attended Clements, Lockeford, and Henderson elementary schools. Sean received his high school education at Lodi High School where he participated in extra-curricular activities such as team sports and student clubs. Upon graduation from Lodi High School in 1991 Sean enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. The trip to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, California would be his first time riding in an airplane. This opportunity to travel was very important to him. When Sean completed occupational training at the School of Infantry, Camp Pendleton California he received his orders for the next duty station Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. Sean served with the Second Battalion Third Marine Regiment from 1992 until July of 1995 when he received an Honorable Discharge from service.

Sean had grown to love the unique place that is Hawaii. The exposure to different cultures that he had received during his enlistment made the decision to remain in Hawaii a simple one. Sean continued his path of service by joining the Public Safety Department of Hawaii. From October of 1996 until April of 2011 Sean served as an Adult Correctional Officer at Halawa Correctional Facility attaining the rank of ACO V Lieutenant. In 2011 Sean moved to the Big Island of Hawaii to help care for family. The Big Island's natural environment moved Sean to change his life's path. He became much more interested in natural resource management specifically in native species conservation. Sean began attending Hawaii Community College in Spring 2013. While at Hawaii Community College Sean was highly active in the campus community. Sean served for two years on the Executive Board of the Honor Society, Phi Theta Kappa and served as the President of the Hawaii Community College Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. The engagement with his campus community was noted by the College Administrators and led to his inclusion on the Student Government Constitution Taskforce whose responsibility was to draft a constitution and bylaws for Hawaii Community College. Sean was the East Hawaii Student Representative on the Hawaii Community College Chancellor Search Advisory Committee. Sean supported his education by working on campus with the Native Hawaiian Student Success Center. He worked as a Peer Mentor with the First Year Experience program assisting his fellow students navigate the challenges that can be presented by the academic landscape. In May 2015 Sean was awarded an Associates of Science degree in Tropical Forest Ecosystems and Agroforestry Management. Sean continues to pursue studies in Biology at Hawaii Community College and has applied to University of Hawaii at Hilo to attend in the Fall 2016 semester. His declared field of study is BS Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology. Sean plans to use his education to work in Natural Resource Management for the State of Hawaii. Sean believes that he can help to build cooperation where it doesn't exist and reduce conflict where it does.

Melvyn K. Sakaguchi

Melvyn Sakaguchi is an alumnus of the University of Hawaii and the University of Florida, Gainesville. He has a doctorate in educational administration (higher education) and a minor in public administration. He has retired from his position as a University of Hawaii administrator for 25 years, mostly in the community colleges. He was one of the first group of staffers hired in the mid-1960s to help start up the community colleges in Hawaii. He had the privilege of working with Dr. Richard Kosaki and Mildred Kosaki, who were the people who started the movement in Hawaii.

Sakaguchi is married, has no children and lives with two dogs, in Hilo. He has been living in Hilo for about twenty years, having moved to Hilo when his wife, Sandra, took a position as head of Hawaii Community College.

Sakaguchi is a kamaaina; both his mom and dad were born in Hawaii. She was from Holualoa; he was from Kaimuki. She was a homemaker and later a shirt maker; he was a house painter and a glazier with the City and County of Honolulu. She lived until age 92; he passed on at age 53. Sakaguchi and his brother had great childhood living in Kakaako and Kalihi.

Sakaguchi is a lifelong educator. He thinks it is a great profession---helping people discover their own capabilities and potential, and helping them achieve their career and life goals.

Since retirement, he has worked as an educational consultant and mentor to students in Vietnam. He has been trying to help make life better for the Vietnamese because of what they suffered through in the American/Vietnam War. He and his wife have helped to establish two English schools in Vietnam, and mentored and helped support about thirty Vietnamese students get a college education. All of these students have returned to Vietnam to work and create opportunities for other students.

Sakaguchi says that he has benefited from his education at the University of Hawaii---having been student body president, chairperson of the athletic board, an East West Center grantee, and the first of his family to go to the University. He also had a satisfying career in the community colleges and hopes to give back to the University, if appointed, by serving as a Regent.

FINALISTS

STUDENT SEAT

(currently filled by Regent Michelle A. Tagorda)

- **Brandon Marc Higa**
- **Jori-Anne J. Jasper**
- **Priya M. Rashid**
- **Michelle A. Tagorda**

Brandon Marc Higa

Brandon Marc Higa is currently pursuing a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from the University of Hawai'i William S. Richardson School of Law where he currently serves as a Senator for the Law School Government. Higa began his career with the University of Hawai'i as a Grants Development Specialist at Kapi'olani Community College in 2009. Prior to working in higher education, Higa pursued a career in public diplomacy at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, the National Diet of Japan, and the U.S. Department of State based in Washington, DC. Higa's public service record includes working as a Legislative Assistant for then-Senator David Ige.

After graduating from Pearl City High School, Higa moved to Los Angeles where he graduated with honors from the University of Southern California (USC) with B.A. and M.A. degrees in International Relations with a minor in East Asian Languages and Cultures. Higa completed post-graduate work at Stanford University's Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies in Yokohama, Japan as a National Security Education Program David L. Boren Graduate Fellow. Higa received scholarships from the Freeman Foundation and Critical Language Scholarship to study abroad in at Waseda University in Tokyo and Kyung Hee University in Seoul, respectively.

Professional Service to the University of Hawai'i: Over the past six years, Higa helped raise over \$60 million for Kapi'olani Community College and UH consortium partners to support UH's goal to build a \$2 billion research enterprise in the State of Hawaii. Higa's professional service at UH is focused on securing federal grants to provide scholarships for students pursuing undergraduate degrees, and to support workforce development efforts to increase UH graduates' earning potential. Higa is a strong supporter of Native Hawaiian students, and recently authored a successful Title III grant proposal which will provide \$4 million in funding to improve academic and student services for Native Hawaiian students, and promote the Hawaiian language.

Leadership & Governance: Higa was selected by University of Hawai'i President David Lassner for the 2015-16 President's Emerging Leaders Program, and for Senator Daniel Inouye's U.S.-Japan Council's Tomodachi Emerging Leaders Program in 2014. In 2015, Higa was elected as the Chairperson for Kapi'olani Community College's Staff Council representing over 150 staff members, and as a Senator for the Law School Government. For his role in supporting Hawaii Papa o Ke Ao, Higa was granted honorary membership as an advocate for the Kalaulani Native Hawaiian Council.

Higa's experience in student affairs include serving as a resident advisor to undergraduate, graduate, and international students, orientation advisor, and student assistant to the USC President.

Ties to Hawaii's Communities: An advocate for the performing arts, Higa supports UH's efforts to build a vibrant entertainment industry in Hawai'i. Higa is a member of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) and American Federation of Radio and Television Artists (AFTRA) as professional actor and commercial model. Higa is a strong supporter of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association and studied the sanshin, an Okinawan classical guitar. Higa is a clarinetist in the Royal Hawaiian Band. Higa swims with the Iolani Swim Club and UH Masters Swimming.

Jori-Anne J. Jasper

Jori-Anne Jasper graduated with three Bachelor of Business Administration degrees in Marketing, International Business, and Entrepreneurship in 3 ½ years (GPA 3.70) from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Shidler College of Business in the fall of 2012. She was selected as the 2012 Outstanding Student in Entrepreneurship and 2013 Outstanding Senior in Marketing while at the Shidler College of Business. She completed her Master of Arts degree in Sociology in the spring of 2014 (GPA 3.97). Jori is currently a second year law Student at the William S. Richardson School of Law and a MBA Student at the Shidler College of Business.

Jori was born and raised on Kaua'i and graduated from Kaua'i High School in 2009. During her time at Kaua'i High School she was a three-sport athlete (Softball, Volleyball, Basketball), Student Body President, the Senior Class Scholar Athlete and graduated Summa Cum Laude (GPA 3.98).

Since arriving at the University of Hawai'i, Jori has volunteered in multiple community service projects such as the Ali'iolani Elementary Read to Me Program, Hawaii Pacific Health's Kids Fest, Special Olympics, The Salvation Army, The Samaritan's Feet Project, Weekly Play Days at Hokenani Elementary School, UH Mānoa's Relay for Life, Jump Rope for Heart at Holy Family Catholic Academy, and the Big West Coin Drive.

Jori worked as a 2013 Summer Intern at First Hawaiian Bank's Legal Department. Jori is a licensed Hawaii Real Estate Agent, and a State of Hawaii – DOE certified substitute teacher. Jori is currently the Treasurer for the Student Bar Association at the William S. Richardson School of Law as well as a Law School Ambassador.

Jori has been extremely active in co-curricular activities within the University of Hawai'i System. She was a member of the Hale Aloha Ilima Dormitory Community Council, a two-year Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i (ASUH) Senator, a member of the Accounting and Entrepreneurship Clubs, a Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Member, a five year member and Chairperson of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), a Big West Conference Female SAAC Council Representative, and the Big West Conference's National SAAC Representative to the NCAA. In July 2013, Jori was elected as the only Student Athlete to serve on the NCAA Amateurism Cabinet.

Jori was a five time University of Hawai'i Scholar Athlete Award Recipient and National Fastpitch Coaches Association Softball (NFCA) Scholar Athlete, a three time Chancellor Centennial Scholarship Recipient and National Society of Collegiate Scholars Recipient, a Beta Gamma Sigma Scholar, a Golden Key International Honor Society Scholar, a Eiro and Alice Yamada Endowed Scholarship Award Recipient, a member of the Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society, the 2013 'Ahahui Koa Anuenue UH Pride Award Recipient, and UH Sociology Department Merit Scholarship Award Recipient.

Jori's profound passion for the University of Hawai'i educational system has empowered her to become a staunch advocate for its transformational opportunities. Her absolute loyal optimism constantly facilitates a dynamic vision for the powerful force that is the University of Hawai'i!

Priya M. Rashid

Priya Rashid is a first year law student at William S. Richardson School of Law. Priya was born at Fort Polk, Louisiana and raised in an Army family. At five feet two inches and one hundred pounds she became the first female to play on her high school's football team. Along with sports, she completed four years of Junior Reserve Officer Training and Search and Rescue Courses. Because of her physical skill and leadership abilities she became the first female Raider Team Captain. Raider Team competitions simulate Special Forces training and test physical and mental agility in formal testing, obstacle courses, and medical response training.

As an undergraduate at University of Hawai'i, Priya spend eight months in India working as a teacher at Navajeevan Orphanage. She was assigned to a classroom of forty children, handicapped and with diseases such as HIV/AIDS, TB, or Malaria. Most had been rescued from sweat shops or brothels. Through these experiences, a different Priya emerged. In the rural village of Vijayawada, India, she learned so much more than what she had heard of in her college courses. She learned how to balance a thinning budget for over eight hundred children, how to stitch underwear and how to clean water filters. She learned how to lead community seminars on issues such as the importance of a girl's educational programs and domestic violence. Priya found out what ohana and laulima mean: love, compassion, cooperation and service to others. She learned how important the family unit and education are to a community. Priya also gained practical skills: how to design and implement large scale educational programs, to work with people of different backgrounds, and to cross language and cultural barriers for the common good of all.

She returned to continue her studies at University of Hawai'i at Hilo. When students had difficulty accessing university services, she ran for Student Senate. She won and passed several substantive measures increasing student services and sustainability programs. Priya competed in the International Model United Nations Competition, representing UHH against over four hundred universities from over fifty countries, taking third place in the world. She specialized in global access to education. Priya also volunteered as an intern for the Hilo Downtown Improvement Association, a non-profit organization that encourages local and sustainable growth. Priya transferred to the Manoa Campus and graduated with a degree in Political Science. Priya has had fellowships as a legislative intern with Representative Hanabusa and as assistant Committee Clerk for the Hawai'i State Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee during the most recent legislative session. As a law student, she enjoys volunteering and engaging in community improvement efforts with her classmates. Priya volunteers every week at the Juvenile Detention Housing and Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility as a volunteer legal counselor. Priya continues to return to her home country of Bangladesh to work as an election volunteer.

Priya couldn't kick the "football bug" and plays with the prestigious female law school football team. Her long term plans are to work with the United Nations implementing economic, social and medical reform around the world. Priya Rashid is determined to make a difference in the lives of those facing social and economic disparities.

Michelle Asprer Tagorda

Michelle Tagorda was born in Hilo, Hawai'i and is a graduate of Kea'au High School where she ran track, played soccer, competed in science fair and was an active member of student body government, civic club, math league and national honor society. Michelle earned her Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Bachelor of Arts in Biology from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, while remaining active as a New Student Orientation Leader, Access to College Excellence Peer Mentor and a Peer Advisor at the Pre-Health/Pre-Law Advising Center. She was also a member of the Pre-Medical Association, Psi Chi Honor Society, Mortar Board Honor Society and Office of Multicultural Student Services: Bin-I Program.

Throughout her undergraduate and graduate years, Michelle served on the Campus Center Board as Secretary, President-Elect, and President while working on phases of the Campus Center Renovation and Expansion project including the opening of the Warrior Recreation Center. Through policy governance, Michelle gained experience to ensure that all service areas, facilities, and activities of the Campus Center Complex were providing students with the out of class room experience to gather, collaborate, and enjoy student life.

As a Master of Public Health (MPH) student, Michelle worked to help develop, execute, and support the new Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Public Health degree in her capacity as the Office of Public Health Studies (OPHS) Undergraduate Academic Advisor. She dedicated herself to the service of both undergraduate and graduate students through academic advising. She has also inspired many students at all levels to pursue rewarding careers in public health and beyond.

Michelle graduated in May of 2015 with her MPH in Social and Behavioral Health Sciences and was inducted into the Delta Omega Honorary Public Health Society, Gamma Chapter. She was the former media coordinator for the public health student organization, Hui Ola Pono, and remains active in the Hawai'i Public Health Association. Her MPH practicum involved collaboration with the Center for Rural Health Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and OPHS faculty, and focused on measuring and understanding cultural characteristics related to health. During her time as an MPH student, she also assisted the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education, Mānoa Peer Advisor program as the program assistant, and volunteered with the Hawai'i Primary Care Association and Hawai'i Department of Health to develop an educational toolkit for the film Ola which focused on bringing to light issues surrounding the social determinants of health. Michelle was also part of the Health Behavior Change Research Workgroup's Waipahu Health Action Research Training project, where she supported high school seniors in facilitating classroom activities on physical activity and healthy nutrition as preventative measures for obesity.

Michelle currently serves on University of Hawai'i Board of Regents, continues to support the OPHS undergraduate students as Undergraduate Academic Advisor, and works with the Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services Tobacco Control Program.

In her spare time, Michelle enjoys playing basketball, running at Ala Moana Beach Park, reading and journal writing.

**University of Hawai'i
Candidate Advisory Council**

**Summary of Work Product
2007 through 2015**

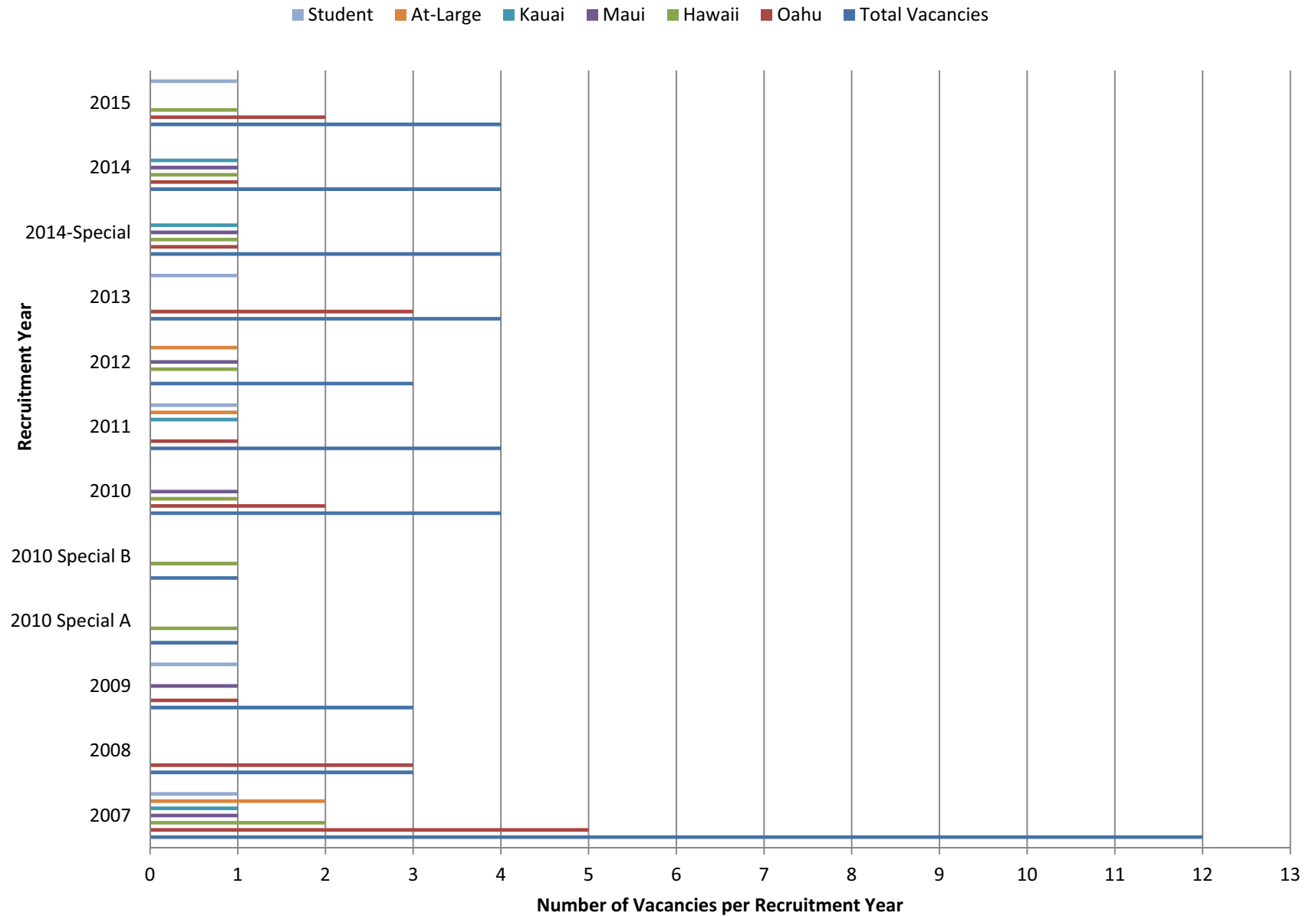
November 2015

**BOARD OF REGENTS
CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC)
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII**

**Recruitment Summary by Year
2007 (CAC Inception) through 2015**

RECRUITMENT YEAR & APPOINTING GOVERNOR	# OF VACANT SEATS	# OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	# OF APPLICANTS INTERVIEWED	# OF FINALISTS	APPOINTED & CONFIRMED
2007-08 Lingle	(12) Oahu-5, Hawaii-2, Maui-1, Kauai-1, At-Large-2, Student-1	86 (22 women)	37 (11 women)	22 (5 women)	♦Baxa♦Carlson♦Dahilig ♦de la Pena♦Fukunaga♦Gee ♦Horota♦Karr♦Martinson ♦Rasmussen♦Tajiri♦Teichman
2008-09 Lingle	(3) Oahu-3	17 (3 women)	7 (1 woman)	5 (1 woman)	♦Holzman♦Lee♦Martinson
2009-10 Lingle	(3) Oahu-1, Maui-1, Student-1	38 (14 women)	19 (10 women)	7 (3 women)	♦Gee♦Ota♦Williams
SPECIAL RECRUITMENT DUE TO RESIGNATION					
2010-11 Lingle	<i>Tajiri vacancy</i> (1) Hawaii-1	10 (3 women)	5 (2 women)	2 (0 women)	♦Dias interim appointment only 4/10-5/11
2010-11 Abercrombie	Abercrombie requests new candidate list	3 (0 women)	3 (0 women)	2 (0 women)	♦Mizuno
2010-11 Abercrombie	(4) Oahu-2, Maui-1, Hawaii-1	30 (20 women)	15 (8 women)	11 (7 women)	♦Carlson♦Matayoshi ♦Ota♦Sullivan
2011-12 Abercrombie	(4) At-Large-1, Oahu-1, Kauai-1, Student-1	61 (22 women)	27 (9 women)	12 (2 women)	♦Acido♦Dean ♦Kudo♦Shigemoto
2012-13 Abercrombie	(3) At-Large-1, Maui-1, Hawaii-1	21 (4 women)	14 (3 women)	8 (1 woman)	♦Mizuno♦Ball III♦Moore
2013-14 Abercrombie	(4) Oahu-3, Student-1	38 (10 women)	27 (6 women)	13 (4 women)	♦Yuen♦Putnam ♦Portnoy♦Tagorda
SPECIAL RECRUITMENT DUE TO RESIGNATIONS					
2014 Abercrombie	<i>Carlson; Dean; Ota; Shigemoto vacancies</i> (4) Hawaii-1, Oahu-1, Maui-1, Kauai-1	44 (5 women)	22 (5 women)	15 (3 women)	♦Acoba♦Hoffmann ♦Bal III, ♦Nielsen 10/14 - 05/15 (interim appointments only)
2014 Ige	Ige selects different candidates on list				♦Acoba♦Higaki ♦Iha♦Nielsen
2014-15 Ige	(2) Oahu-1, Maui-1	19 (4 women)	11 (4 women)	9 (3 women)	♦McEnerney♦Wilson
2015-16 Ige	(4) Oahu-2, Hawaii-1, Student-1	46 (18 women)	21 (9 women)	14 (6 women)	To be determined

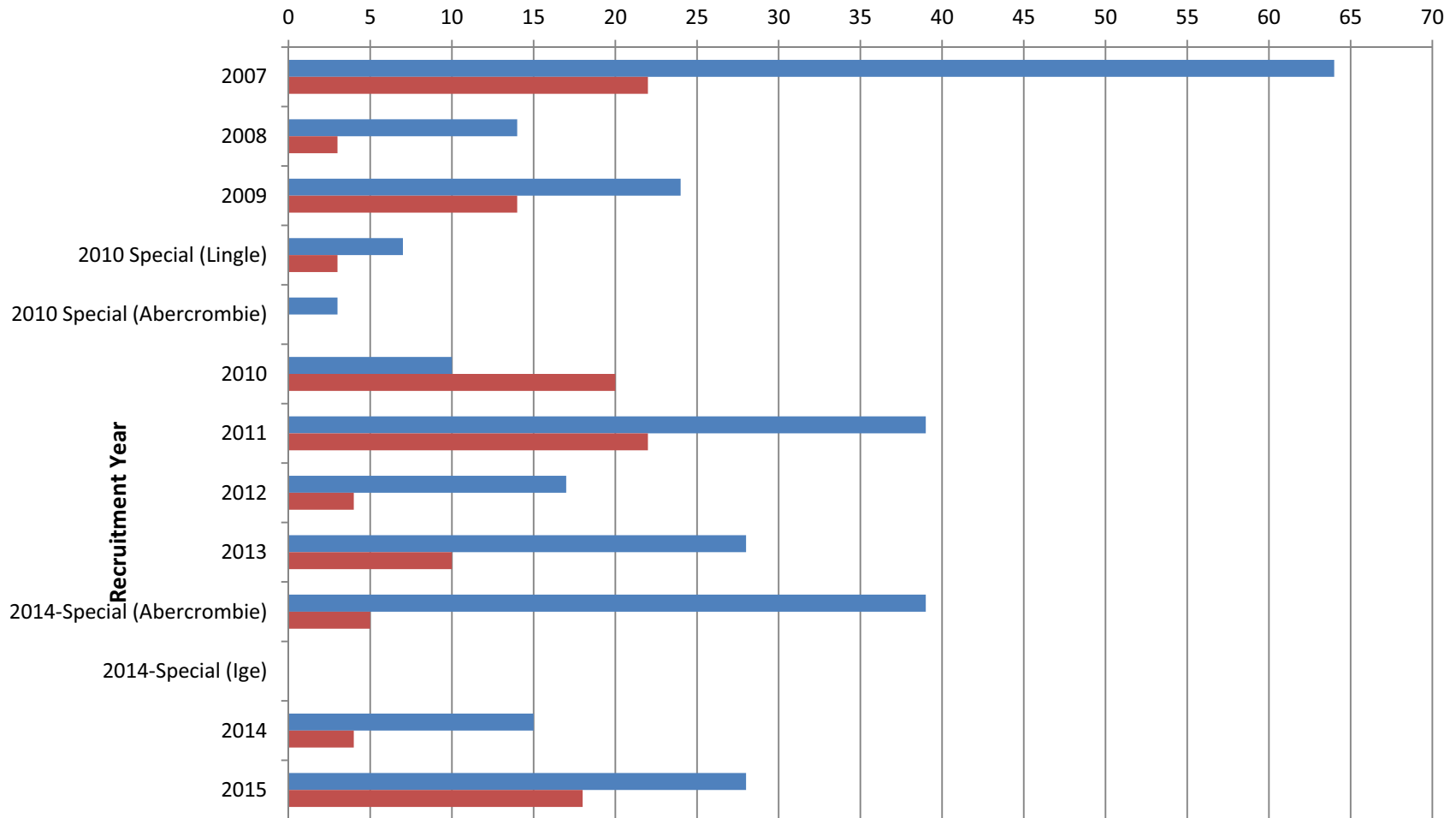
BOR Vacancies per Recruitment Year



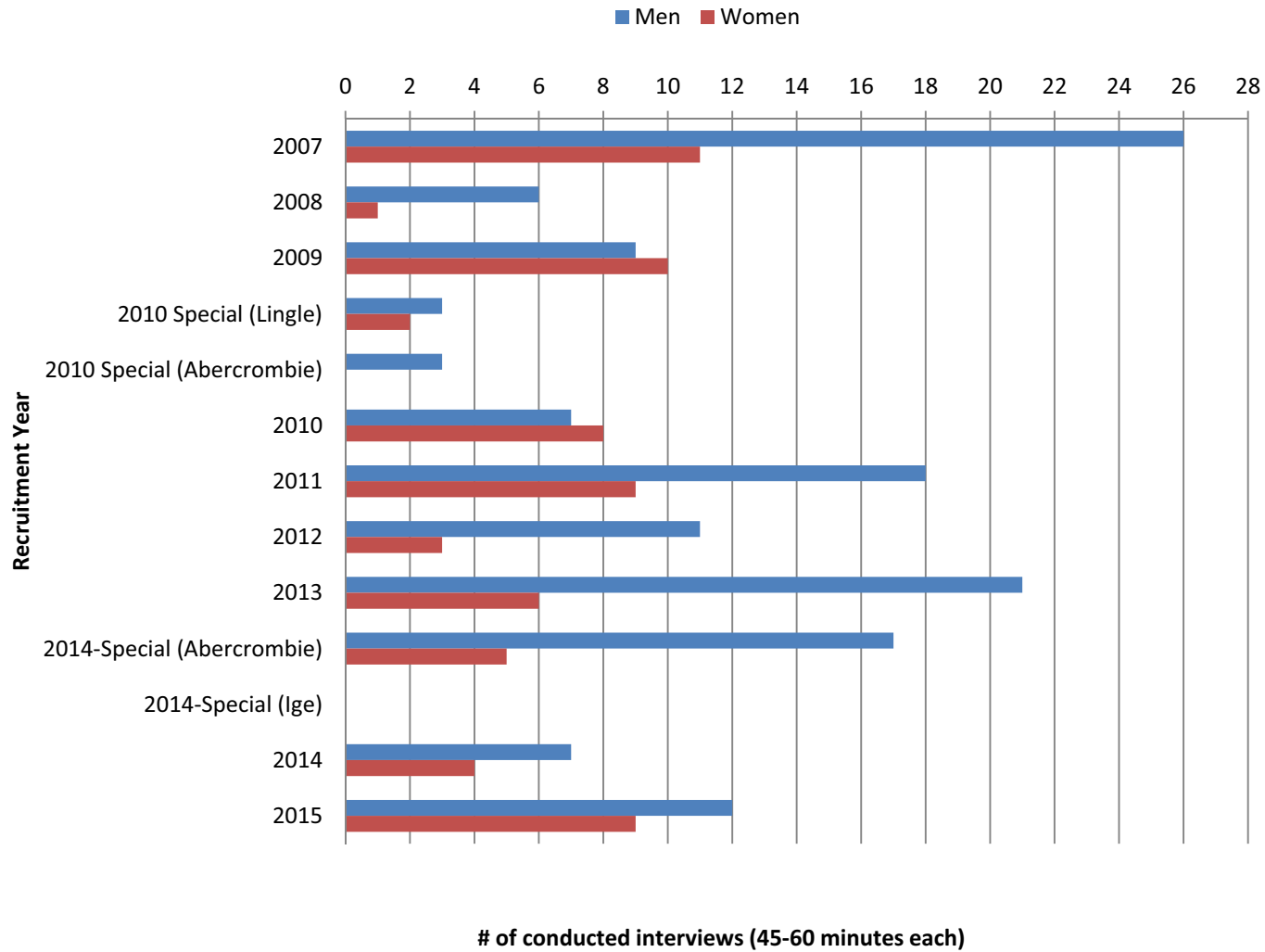
Candidate Applications Received

Men Women

Number of Applications per Recruitment Year

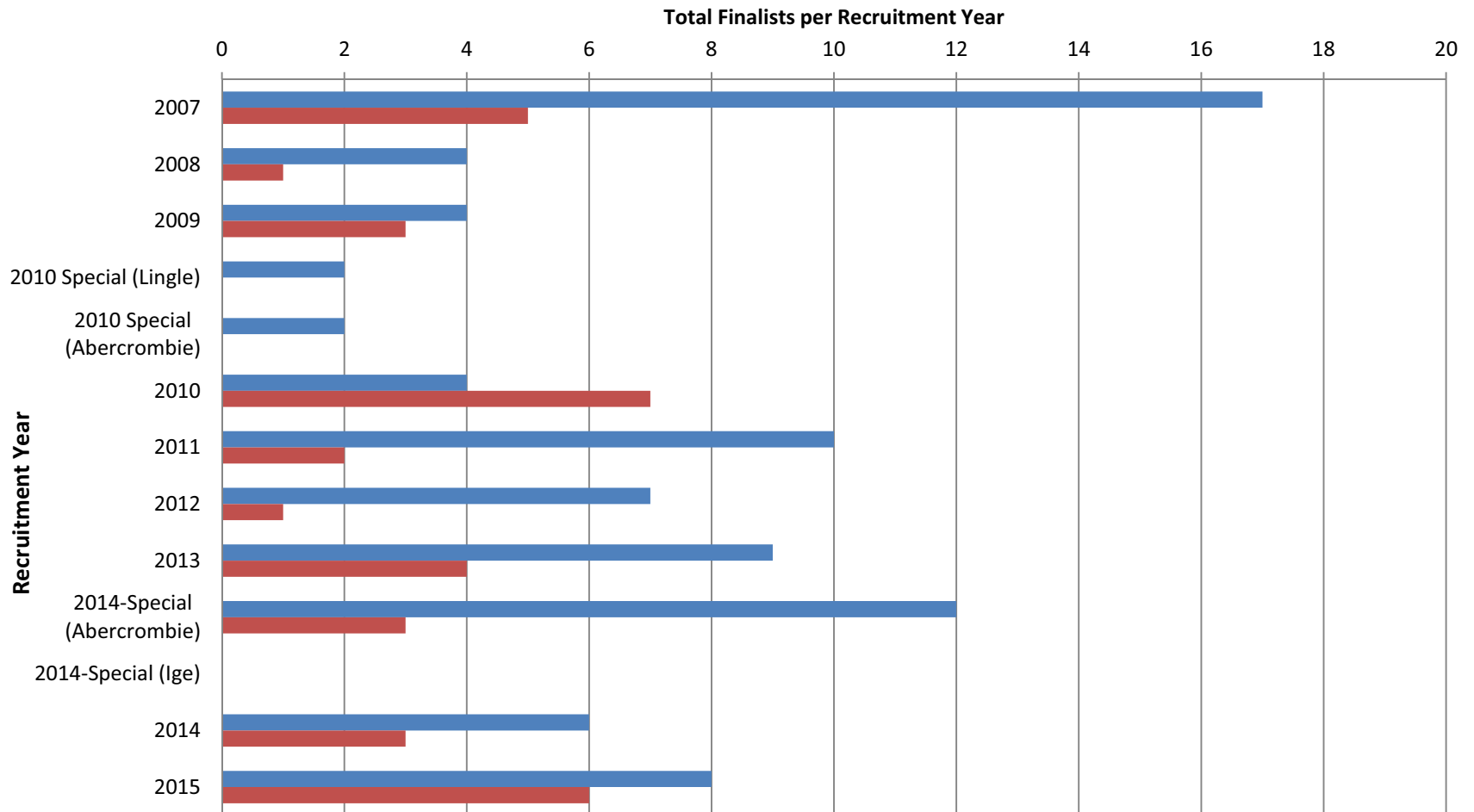


Candidates Selected for Interview



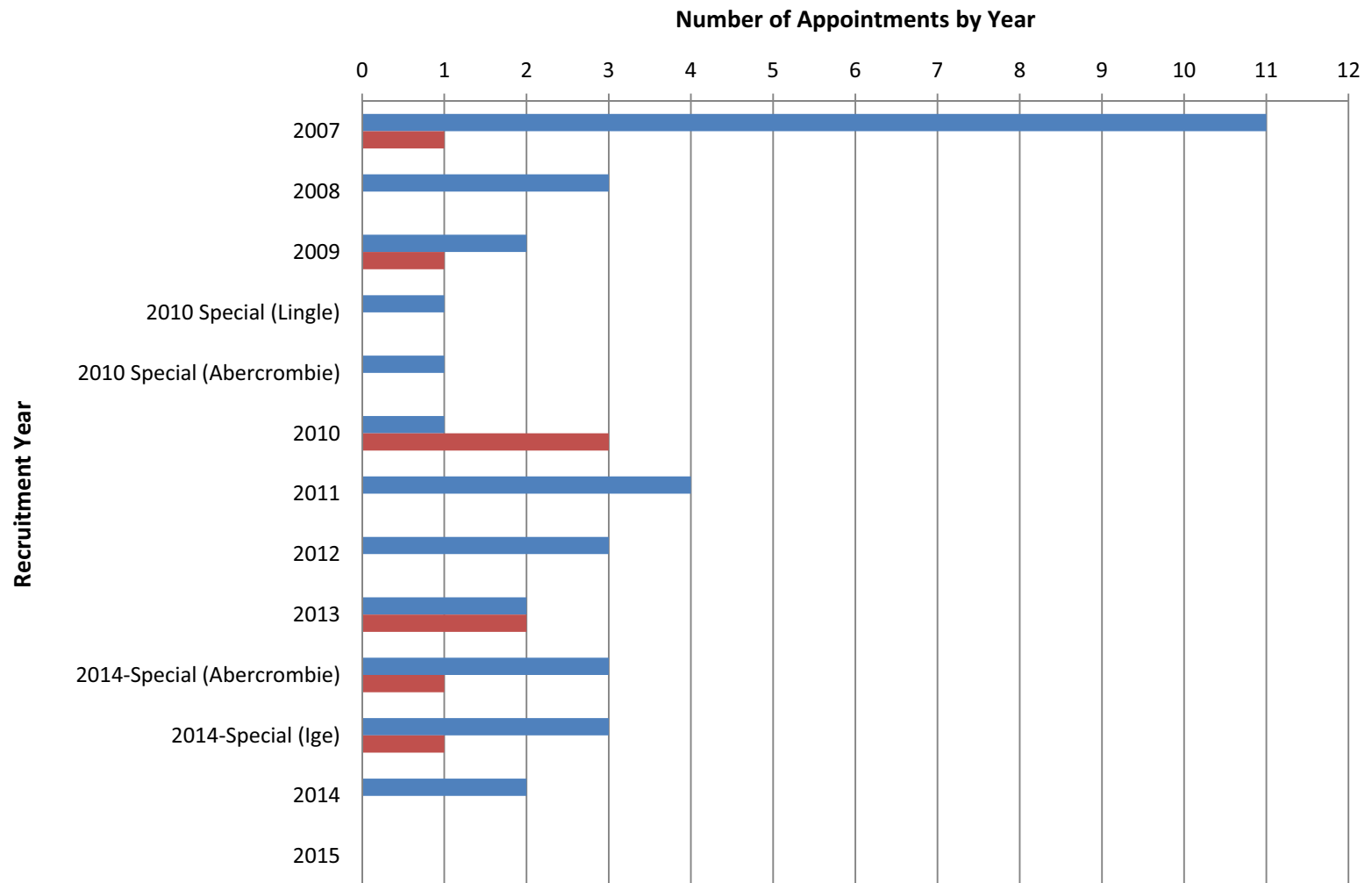
of Finalists Presented to the Governor

■ Men ■ Women



Governor Appointments to the BOR

■ Men ■ Women



Gender Appointments by Governor

Women Men

