FINALISTS

COUNTY OF HAWAI‘I SEAT

• William C. Bergin
• Douglas T. Shinsato
• Douglas A. Simons
• Harvey S. Tajiri
William Bergin

Dr. Billy Bergin has spent his lifetime caring for animals while active in community service on the Big Island and across the state. Laupahoehoe born and raised in Hilo, 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 pursued 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 Kealakekua, 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 1,000 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.

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 will be released in March, 2017. Dr. Bergin has written numerous articles on veterinary medicine for professional journals over the course of his career.
Douglas Shinsato
Biography

Doug Shinsato, a resident of the Big Island, has had successful careers in consulting and as a corporate executive. The companies he has worked with value him as a team leader, team builder, and change agent—and as an individual with a breadth of operations and planning experience across industries and business functions.

Based on his many years working and travelling across Asia, in particular, Shinsato has seen how education has transformed developing countries within one generation into strong economic growth engines.

Currently, Shinsato is busy at Anthill Ventures, which he co-founded with partners in Singapore and India. Anthill is a cross-border incubator and advisor to technology start-ups located in India, Southeast Asia, Europe and the US. The company focuses on tele-education, telehealth, sustainable food production, and cyber-security. Shinsato and his global partners concentrate on innovative digital technologies that will “improve and change people’s lives” using their smartphones.

Shinsato is also a member of the Board of Directors of Creative Intelligence Associates, one of Japan’s top branding strategy firms. CIA is a consulting firm that advises its clients on how to leverage—or transform—their branding and messaging strategies to simultaneously increase customer satisfaction, revenues, and profits. The founder of Fast Retailing/Uniqlo—now a global retailer—has written extensively about the role CIA played in building his company’s brand and corporate strategy.

Previously, Shinsato served as President for leading technology
companies such as PTC Japan and as the Vice President-Asia Pacific for Autodesk. While he was a Senior Partner with Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, he served as the only non-Japanese member of the board of directors of Deloitte Tohmatsu Japan, where he led the firm’s 500+ person consulting group. Shinsato later served as the Regional Vice President in charge of the management services and IT consulting practices at EDS/A.T. Kearney in Japan, where he also served as a Board Member for EDS’ Japan operations.

Shinsato began his career in Japan as a strategy consultant at the Boston Consulting Group and served as an Adjunct Professor at the Graduate Business School of Sophia University (Tokyo) and at Aoyama Gakuin’s joint MBA program with the University of Hawaii.

As a hobbyist historian, he translated into English the autobiography of Mitsuo Fuchida, leader of the attack on Pearl Harbor. And based on his research, he recently wrote *101 Lesser Known Facts About the Attack on Pearl Harbor.*

Shinsato is married to Jennifer Lindsay-Shinsato and has two adult children and one grandchild. He has a BA and MBA from the University of Southern California and a JD from the Stanford Law School.
Douglas Simons

The youngest of 10 children, Doug Simons was born in Sierra Madre, California and raised in Vero Beach, Florida. He received his B.S. in astronomy at the California Institute of Technology in 1985, and his Ph.D. in astronomy at the University of Hawai‘i in 1990, before working as a staff astronomer at the Canada-France-Hawai‘i Telescope (CFHT) for 4 years. Doug joined the Gemini 8 m Telescope Project in 1994 as their Systems Scientist, then as the Associate Director for Development managed Gemini’s instrumentation program for 5 years before becoming Gemini Observatory’s Director from 2006-2011. Doug returned to CFHT in 2012 where he now serves as Executive Director. Doug also serves on the Maunakea Management Board, which provides oversight of the Office of Maunakea Management (OMKM), the Hawai‘i Island Chamber of Commerce Board, and the Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training (PCATT) Board. He has supported numerous programs in workforce development, community support, education, and outreach including the Akamai Workforce Initiative, the Kama‘aina Observatory Experience, Journey Through the Universe, EnVision Maunakea, and is the originator of the Maunakea Scholars program and the Maunakea Fund at the Hawai‘i Community Foundation. He met his wife Judy, who was born and raised in Honolulu, while both were UH students. They have been married for 26 years and have 3 children, all receiving their K-12 educations in the Waiakea school system in Hilo, where they have lived since 1997. Doug regularly participates in OMKM organized Mālama Maunakea events at Halepohaku, where he and members of his family have volunteered to help remove invasive species, plant keiki silversword, and provide public presentations. Doug enjoys woodworking and over the years has built an extensive collection of home and office furniture from various hardwoods. An avid outdoorsman, Doug has taken countless hikes across the public hunting units on Maunakea, harvesting various upland game birds and enjoying the scenic beauty that is unique to this island treasure. Having literally devoted his entire professional career to Hawai‘i astronomy, he has a deep desire to see the fragile environment on Maunakea protected for future generations to enjoy. Doug is committed to the future of Maunakea at many levels and has adopted a balanced “hands on” perspective to the complex and sensitive issues that need consideration to define a sustainable future for this irreplaceable resource.
Harvey Tajiri

**Education:**  
Hilo High School - 1962  
University of Hawaii – 1967 (BED)

**Community Activities**

1962  
Advisor-Explorer Post 53 – Boy Scouts of America

1964  
Assistant Coach – Waiakea Mites Pony League

1964-72  
Water Safety Instructor – American Red Cross

1965-66  
Assistant Basketball Coach – McKinley High School

1966  
Referee – PAL Basketball – Honolulu

1967  
Baseball Coach – University High School

1970-75  
Charter President – UH-Hilo Athletic Booster Club

1970-71  
Member, Athletic Advisory Board – UHHC

1970-71  
Assistant Basketball Coach - Hawaii Tech Tikis

1970-72  
Assistant Baseball Coach – Hilo High School

1970-72  
Member – Hilo Jaycees

1970-73  
Secretary, Vice President – General Insurance Assoc. of Hawaii

1971-72  
Chairman – Big Island Fire Prevention Week

1974  
Member – Waiakea Lions Club

1975-76  
President – Kanoehau Area Industrial Association

1975-76  
Vice-Chairman – Boy Scouts-Pukahi District

1975-77  
Industry Counselor – Small Business Administration ACE Program

1975-78  
Director – American Cancer Society

1975-93  
Board of Directors – UH-Hilo Athletic Boosters Club

1976  
Hawaii State Jaycees “TOYP” Award Finalist

1988-99  
Director – Hawaii Island YMCA

1994-95  
President – M & S Exchange Club

1994-99  
Member – Board of Directors – Boys and Girls Club of Hilo

1994-96  
Member, Hilo Hospital Advisory Committee

1997-98  
President – Historic Palace Theater

2004-07  
Director – Hawaii Island Veterans Memorial, Inc.

2005-07  
President – Hui Ka’ua

**Political Experience**

1974  
Campaign Manager – State Representative Herbert Sagawa

1976-80  
Hawaii County Council – Council Chairman & Finance Committee Chair

1984-94  
Hawaii State House of Representatives – Asst. Majority Floor Leader,  
Finance Committee, Various other committees

1995  
Hawaii County Legislative Lobbyist

2008-2010  
University of Hawaii Board of Regents
Work Experience

1972-95 - Tajiri Enterprises, Inc, President/GM
  • Tropical Equipment Center (Farm Equipment Dealer)
  • Tajiri Auto Repair
  • Hilo Tuff-Kote Rustproofing (Auto)
1974-95 - United Management Services, Inc. (President)
  • Menehune Mini Mart, Inc. – President (Convenience stores)
  • Menehune Maintenance
  • United Merchandising, Inc.(Convenience store/video games)
1979-84 -Big Island Glass, Inc.(President) – Glass contractor
1980-1995 - Major stockholder in other businesses, including:
  • Naomi’s World Travel
  • Big Island Printers

NOTE: All interest in the above businesses has been sold.

1970-74
Asst. Manager – Realty Insurance Agency

1968-70
United States Army – Company B, 100th Battalion, 29th Infantry Brigade – Spec. 5 (Clerk)

1968
Physical Education Teacher – Kawanakoa Intermediate School

1976-80
Hawaii County Council
  • Initiated action to have Counties have complete control of Real Property Tax Rates.
  • Introduced the concept of two-tiered property tax (undeveloped land/improved with homeowners exemption).
  • Conceptual design and funding for realignment of Kamehameha Avenue in Downtown Hilo.
  • Initiated and funded full-service fire protection for Ka’u.
  • Initiated and funded increased rural police protection.
  • Initiated $41 million bond refinancing and worked to achieve the Lalamilo Well to accommodate development of the Mauna Lani Resort. This created much-needed resort jobs after the closure of Kohala Sugar.
  • Held County Budget to lowest level of annual increases as Finance Chair on the Council

1984-94 – Hawaii State House of Representatives
Initiated and secured funding for the following projects:
  1. Kea’au Bypass Road
  2. Kaneoelhua Ave. Improvements and Expansion
  3. Saddle Road Improvements
  4. Kawaihae Road Improvements
  5. Kawaihae Harbor Improvements
  6. Palani Road Truck Climbing lane (Kailua-Kona)
  7. Hilo Veterans Cemetary Pavilion and restrooms
  8. Agriculture water transmission line for Ka’u
  9. Wailoa River Bridge replacement
10. UH-Hilo Projects:
   • Initiated Legislative actions to secure 300+ acres of land for future campus expansion
   • Conceptualized and funded UHH Main Entrance
   • Planning & funding of paved parking lot
   • Initiated action for covered pick-up area (Campus Center)
   • Initiated and funded new dorm and cafeteria (Hale Hauane)
   • Initiated and funded sidewalks and covered walkways throughout campus.
   • Initiated and funded toilet facilities and lights for baseball fields
   • Conceptualized and funded Noelo Street
   • Created and funded 48 permanent positions for faculty and staff
   • Initiated concept of prison labor to assist with projects on campus (soccer/softball fields)
   • Shepharded the passage of “Autonomy Bill” which gave the UH System the autonomy for its governance
   • Served as Lecturer at UH-Hilo (Soc. 370) for 10 semesters