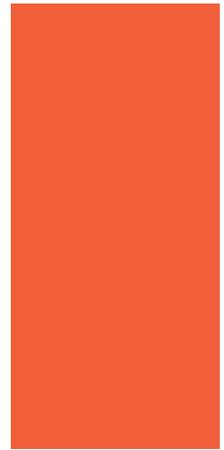
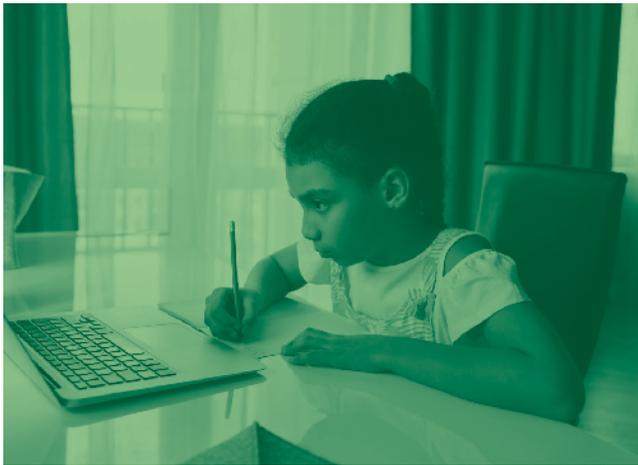




# CURRENTS

Perseverance  
& Initiative



A SENSE OF PURPOSE.  
A SENSE OF PLACE.



# CURRENTS

*Currents* is published by the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and distributed to faculty, staff, students, alumni, retirees, and friends of the college.

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## GOING GREEN

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This issue of *Currents* showcases faculty research, grants and contracts, award-winning programs, and productivity undertaken by the College of Education (COE). As the COE planned on welcoming our students back to campus, COVID-related challenges continued to delay a full return. Following strict pandemic protocols with the understanding that personalized teaching is important, the college is offering some face-to-face instruction with others in hybrid or online formats in fall 2021.

This past year, our college has witnessed tremendous growth in grants and contracts. This development is testament to the commitment of our faculty and staff who understand and value the importance and benefits of extramural funding to support research, student success, and community engagement. The college has received close to \$2.5 million in donations from an array of individuals, companies, and establishments. We are grateful and appreciative of these donations as the majority of funds are distributed for student support. The Grow Our Own (GOO) initiative has been a huge success and continues to attract more candidates to the teaching profession. Other COE programs have also garnered attention including teacher academies, the Minor in Education degree, Hawaiian Language Immersion, and tools for adapting your classroom during COVID-19.

Our continued success can be attributed to our faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Faculty and staff who are leaders in their fields and across the Mānoa campus

continue to have a positive impact, particularly in the area of technology and distance learning. Alumni have inspired many of us by their recognition as State Teacher of the Year, Territorial Teacher of the Year, Alumnus of the Year, and School Leadership. Our award-winning faculty and staff continue to excel in their profession, cutting-edge research, Native Hawaiian initiatives, and transformational programs. Such endeavors have continued to elevate the COE, despite pandemic restrictions.

The COE re-envisioning continues to develop. This effort is being done to align our programs with workforce needs, improve efficiencies, create opportunities for innovation and collaboration, enhance research endeavors, and solidify our vision as a Hawaiian place of teaching and learning. We continue to have dialogue on our re-envisioning, seeking input from units, departments, and individuals.

This past academic year has been filled with challenges; however, I believe it ended with promise, hope, and courage. I am consistently encouraged by our faculty, staff, and students as they continue to persevere during these times. Because of this, I am confident that we will continue to overcome many of our challenges, emerging stronger and more resilient than ever before.

With aloha,

Nathan M. Murata - Dean  
College of Education



DEAN NATHAN M. MURATA

# Did you know?

# 25+ DEGREES / CERTIFICATES

## IN A YEAR, THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION...

- Produces the majority of the state's teachers, educational leaders, and educational researchers
- Enrolls nearly 2,000 students
- Awards approximately 600 degrees
- Employs 350+ faculty, staff, and support personnel
- Attracts approximately \$17 million in contracts and grants
- Receives more than \$2 million from alumni and friends
- Awards approximately \$400,000 in scholarships to students with the average award at \$1,650

## THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ALSO...

- Consistently ranks among the top graduate schools in education in U.S. News & World Report
- Maintains nationally accredited teacher education, athletic training, and rehabilitation counseling programs
- Offers 3 bachelor, 10 master, and 4 doctoral degrees as well as post-baccalaureate and graduate certificate programs in a variety of fields
- Provides programs through distance (online and/or hybrid) education, especially for neighbor island students, through targeted statewide cohort programs
- Serves the needs of Hawai'i through teacher preparation, exercise science, athletic training, and research programs
- Houses 8 academic and 2 major research units, the Center on Disability Studies (CDS) and the Curriculum Research & Development Group (CRDG)





## Supporting Future Teachers Through Scholarship Stipends

The College of Education (COE) *Grow Our Own Teachers* Initiative started its fourth cohort, offering scholarship stipends to qualified applicants who are expected to graduate in May 2022. This unique partnership between the COE

and Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE), with the generous support of Senator Michele Kidani, is providing working educators with an opportunity to obtain a teaching license. "I deeply appreciate the Grow Our Own program because it is a creative way for the DOE to fill teaching vacancies while making sure our keiki have access to the teachers they deserve, especially those who are already invested in staying in

Hawai'i," said Charlotte Frambaugh-Kritzer, Director of the Institute for Teacher Education Secondary program. Designed for HIDOE employees who serve as emergency hires, substitute teachers, or educational assistants, the initiative gives priority to teacher shortage areas in Hawaiian Language, world languages, English, mathematics, and science.



## Featuring One of COE's Own

Since September 2019, Hawai'i News Now has been airing a series of education pieces, centered around the UH System's *Be a Hero. Be a Teacher.* campaign. Segments have showcased the many ways the college, university, and state are working together to recruit, train, support, and retain Hawai'i's teachers. A February 2020 segment featured COE Administrative Specialist Marilou Matsuura, sharing from the perspective of a parent who has children in Hawai'i's public schools. Other segments focus on the COE's *Grow Our Own Teachers Initiative*, Teacher Academies, the Minor in Education degree program, Peer Mentoring, Hawaiian Language Immersion, Multilingual Learners, and adapting your classroom during COVID-19.



## Offering New Certificate in Sustainability and Resilience Education

The COE Department of Curriculum Studies announced a new Graduate Certificate in Sustainability and Resilience Education for fall 2020. The graduate certificate is a 15-credit program that prepares school and community PK-20 educators to integrate real world, place-based knowledge, sustainability research, and multiple literacies into their curricula, including a COVID-19 component. "This program

adopts the UH System definition of sustainability as 'serving the needs of the present without jeopardizing the needs of the future' and Worldwatch Institute's definition of resilience as 'the ability of natural or human systems to survive in the face of great change,'" stated Professor Pauline Chinn, who is one of the lead designers of the program, along with Emeritus Professor Andrea Bartlett.



Communication and collaboration amongst different professions is essential for our students, patients, and community member's health, wellbeing, and education needs.



## Reflecting on International Partnerships

The International and Special Programs (IASP), a unit in the COE Dean's Office, oversees and coordinates international activities and initiatives for the entire college. During the 2019-20 academic year, IASP reported that the college enrolled 53 international students with the majority coming from East Asia. Many students also hail from countries in Southeast Asia, the Pacific basin, Europe, and the Americas. By December 2020, the college had formal agreements with 24 international partners in the Asia-Pacific and Europe.

The first half of Spring 2020 proceeded as usual with study tour exchanges with

partners from South Korea, Japan, and some student visitors from Lyon University in France. There were also a few international delegation visits from the Republic of Marshall Islands, the University of Tsukuba, and the International Academic Forum (IAFOR). By the third week of March, however, the Hawaiian Islands began entering lockdown in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic. Fortunately, all of the international visiting scholars were able to exit the United States and enter their home countries safely and in time.

IASP Director Nezia Azmi said, "As the college braced for impact, it also

## Engaging in Interprofessional Education

Students in the COE Institute for Teacher Education (ITE) and Department of Kinesiology and Rehabilitation Science (KRS) collaborated with students from the UH Mānoa School of Nursing in a simulated environment to support a student athlete's 'return to learn.' The collaboration was based in Interprofessional Education (IPE). "Communication and collaboration amongst different professions is essential for our students, patients, and community member's health, wellbeing, and education needs," according to the IPE planning team, which included Stephanie Furuta, Lorrie Wong, Kaori Tamura, Bret Freemyer, Troy Furutani, Yukiya Oba, Sarah Pirani, Kal Peterman, and Kimm Teruya. The goal of this Sports Concussion Injury Management IPE was to provide students with an opportunity to get together, learn each other's roles and responsibilities, and collaborate to achieve a common goal. The program focused on students from each program working together on a concussion case study in order to gain experience with the core principles of IPE.

embraced the challenges and used this time for productive reflection. Faculty across different departments conducted online exchanges with international partners using the latest technology and pedagogical approaches, such as with Doshisha University, Nagasaki University, and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. The global pandemic also spurred reflection in the form of virtual conference presentations on the role of education in global health equity and climate change responsibility, the ethical use of technology, and the social-emotional well-being of learners, educators, and families."

# Selected Grant Projects

COE Center on Disability Studies (CDS) faculty members, Hye-Jin Park, Kiriko Takahashi, Lisa Uyehara, and Eric Folk, were funded more than \$2M each by the Native Hawaiian Education Program (NHEP) for a three-year period.

**Project Hōkūlani**, under the direction of Interim CDS Associate Director Park, is a culturally responsive, strength and work-based STEM enrichment and college transition project. Aiming to serve Native Hawaiian high school students with and without disabilities on O‘ahu, Hawai‘i, and Moloka‘i, the project’s goal is to create a seamless and supportive STEM education pipeline for underserved youth to bolster their aspirations to enter into postsecondary STEM fields.

Interim CDS Director Takahashi is the project director of **Ka Pilina No‘eau II**, which is a continuation of two previous grant projects, Ka Pilina: AIM Together and Ka Pilina No‘eau. The current version, based on community request, gives additional attention to students with disabilities and students who may be disengaged or struggling in school.

**Project Ho‘oku‘i IV: ‘Ohana Lōkahi**, under the direction of CDS Assistant Specialist Uyehara, J.D., will engage families, students, and the HIDEO in cultivating a postsecondary education-bound culture within the Native Hawaiian community statewide. Based on nine years of research, this new iteration of the project seeks to expand its support for students and the HIDEO by including a more active role for families.

CDS Assistant Specialist Eric Folk along with CDS Junior Specialist Sean Nagamatsu and Native Hawaiian Cultural and Educational Specialist Rebecca ‘Ilima Ka‘anehe comprise the **Kūlia Support Project** team, currently working across the UH Community College system to support and retain Native Hawaiian students who are at risk of school failure. This initiative will expand and adapt direct student support capacity to add an emphasis on STEM education.



CDS Project Director Chin Lee received a \$50K grant by the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation (MEAF) to support **Turn the Tables**, a CDS project aimed at increasing employment outcomes for youth with disabilities and breaking down employment barriers. Using a reverse job fair model, *Turn the Tables* puts the spotlight on the job candidates with disabilities who are able to set up tables with their personal skills, abilities, accomplishments, and strengths on a poster display. Potential employers meet and spend time with the candidates who, in turn, interview their potential employers.



Hugh Dunn, program director of the Pacific Literacy Consortium (PLC) in the COE Curriculum Research & Development Group (CRDG), received a \$2.9 million grant award from NHEP. Project **‘Aha Lamakū ‘Oia‘‘o (ALO)** is a culturally-responsive leadership development, mentoring, and transition support system for at-risk Native Hawaiian youth. Building on previous PLC and HIDEO joint efforts, Project ALO is designed to ensure the timely completion of courses, promotion to next grade levels, graduation from high school, and successful transition into post-high school college or employment training.



Dr. Lori Andersen, CRDG Assistant Specialist, was awarded \$800K by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). The two-year grant will support **FEAST: Food Experiences for Agricultural Sciences Training**. In collaboration with the Center for Getting Things Started (C4GTS), FEAST will work with 12 master teachers and 15 community leaders in the Hawai‘i and Guam Farm to School Networks to create, distribute, and implement low-technology distance learning resources for agricultural science education.

### President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition Science



**Erin Centeio**, Assistant Professor in the College of Education (COE) Department of Kinesiology & Rehabilitation Science

(KRS), was appointed to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) *President's Council on Sports, Fitness & Nutrition Science Board*. The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion selected Centeio to serve on the Board based on her research and expertise. "It's an absolute honor to be selected onto the PCSFN Science Board as it will allow me to work with top scholars in the fields of sports, fitness, and nutrition," Centeio said.

### Outstanding Indigenous Research Award



Assistant Professor **Nicole Alia Salis Reyes**, in the COE Department of Educational Administration (EDEA), was selected for

the *2020 Outstanding Research Award* by NASPA's Indigenous Peoples Knowledge Community. Salis Reyes was chosen based on her critical scholarly works that continuously seek to address political questions and epistemological concerns regarding the participation of Indigenous peoples in higher education. She said, "Receiving this award was a great honor. I feel humbled to have been recognized by a community of student affairs practitioners and scholars interested in the well-being of Indigenous peoples in higher education for the work that I have contributed to our field."

### Medal for Excellence in Teaching



**Charlotte Frambaugh-Kritzer**, Director of the COE Institute for Teacher Education (ITE) Secondary Program, is a 2020 *Board of Regents Medal for Excellence in Teaching* recipient.

Nominated by students and colleagues for her outstanding contributions to teaching and learning, she was selected out of nearly 300 nominations. As an associate professor of secondary reading, her scholarly focus includes disciplinary literacies, self-study research methods in teacher education, and social justice issues in literacy education. "This award provides an affirmation that the culmination of my work has made a positive impact on the lives of my students, colleagues, and research community," Frambaugh-Kritzer said.

### Diversity Enhancement Award



**Deborah Zuercher**, a professor in the COE Department of Curriculum Studies (EDCS) and program director of PACMED, received the *Dr. Amefil "Amy" Agbayani Faculty Diversity Enhancement Award* on May 15, 2020. The award recognizes a faculty member who is committed to enhancing diversity and furthering the university's mission of excellence. PACMED is an EDCS master's program with a focus on culturally responsive, Pacific, placed-based STEAM (STEM + arts) subjects. Zuercher, pictured second from the right with graduate students, began her career in the college as a cohort coordinator and instructor in American Sāmoa. She said, "Receiving a Diversity Enhancement award means that UH Mānoa values the inclusion of different races and cultures. I will continue to advocate for more online degree and certificate programs for all Pasifika candidates."

### Family Engagement Consortium



COE Center on Disabilities Studies (CDS) Associate Professor **Caryl Hitchcock** and Department of Educational Psychology Chair **Katherine Ratliffe** are part of a National Association of Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE) Hawai'i team. The COE and HIDEOE have been chosen as one of only seven state teams nationwide to take part in the NAFSCE Family Engagement Consortium of Pre-Service Educator Preparation initiative, which will address deficiencies in teacher preparation standards regarding family engagement. Hitchcock said, "Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the essential role families play in their children's education is more critical than ever. However, the State of the States report makes it clear that educator preparation programs have to do more to train future teachers in how to effectively engage families and establish trusted relationships."

the *2020 Outstanding Research Award* by NASPA's Indigenous Peoples Knowledge Community. Salis Reyes was chosen based on her critical scholarly works that continuously seek to address political questions and epistemological concerns regarding the participation of Indigenous peoples in higher education. She said, "Receiving this award was a great honor. I feel humbled to have been recognized by a community of student affairs practitioners and scholars interested in the well-being of Indigenous peoples in higher education for the work that I have contributed to our field."

### Hubert Everly Endowed Scholar



**Jamie Simpson Steele**, Institute for Teacher Education (ITE) Associate Professor, was named the 2020-2021 Hubert V. Everly

Endowed Scholar in Education. As part of the endowment, she will receive \$10,000 to support the development of her drama, music, and dance project, *Creative Strategies for Teaching and Learning: A Digital Library*. "The arts have always struggled for curricular existence in schools throughout the United States," she explained. "Today, empty classrooms and fears of contagion have left arts education more vulnerable than ever. Through the Hubert Everly Endowment, I will have the opportunity to support arts education during this challenging time by building this digital library."

# Faculty & Staff Awards

Each spring, the COE Senate Fellowship Committee issues a call for faculty and staff award nominations. Five individuals were recognized in May 2020.



## EXCEPTIONAL STAFF AWARD

A staff member(s) whose contributions promote an efficient, professional, and positive college environment and who demonstrates excellence in his/her/their area of responsibility

**Adam Tanare, Jr.**  
*Academic Support Specialist, Institute for Teacher Education*

**Frank Jumawan**  
*IT Specialist, Technology & Distance Programs*



## EXCEPTIONAL RESEARCH

Outstanding contributions, by an individual or team, to the knowledge base in education and related fields through the production and application of educational research, including publications, presentations, or other research products

**Kavita Rao**  
*Professor, Special Education*



## INNOVATION & TRANSFORMATION

Creative contributions that lead to transformations in college infrastructure, faculty/staff/students, or programs and that promote education, diversity, justice, or democracy

**Tara O'Neill**  
*Professor, Curriculum Studies*



## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

An individual who, over the course of a career, has achieved significant outcomes in teaching, scholarship, and/or service

**Curtis Ho**  
*Professor, Learning Design and Technology*

## In Memoriam

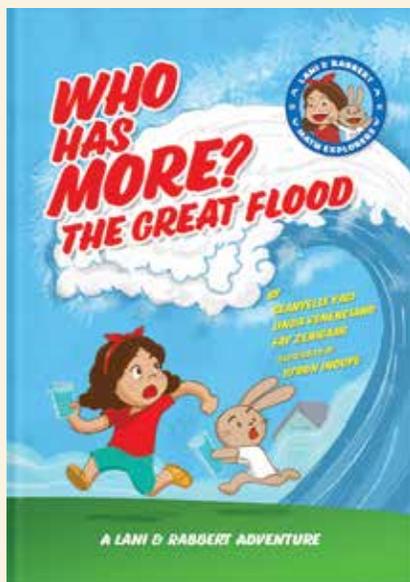


Professor **Ralph Stueber** passed away on November 18, 2020 at the age of 93. Born in Clyman, Wisconsin, Stueber served in the U.S. Navy from 1945–1946 before earning his BS, MS, and PhD from the University of Wisconsin. He and his wife Cecelia were married for 71 years and had three sons together. He began his career with the COE in 1959 and retired from the Department of Educational Foundations (EDEF) in 1993.

Stueber's teaching and research focus was primarily the history and philosophy of education. He created courses on international development and multicultural education, co-developed the Educational Policies Studies Program, helped to establish an undergraduate certificate program in Peace Studies, and was an important supporter of the COE Master of Education in Teaching (MEdT) program.

A chair and advisor for more than 20 master's and doctoral students, Stueber's service to the college, university, Department of Education, and community was vast, and he was the recipient of a multitude of awards and recognitions, including a "Community Treasure" designation by the Hawai'i Community Education Association.

## Selected Publications



### *Who Has More? The Great Flood*

shares the delight, imagination, and creativity to be found in mathematics exploration through stories.

Written by COE Curriculum Research and Development Group (CRDG) mathematics faculty members, **Seanyelle Yagi**, **Linda Venenciano**, and **Fay Zenigami** (retired), and illustrated by CRDG Senior Learning Technology Digital Arts Designer **Byron Inouye**, *Who Has More? The Great Flood* introduces children to a curious little girl, Lani, and her best friend, Rabbert.

Readers join Lani and Rabbert as they observe, explore, and experiment with the concept of volume through practical daily living activities. Along the way, they become aware of the everyday math around them.

## College of Education Alumni are the Best



**Lori Kwee** was named the 2021 *Hawai'i State Teacher of the Year*. An Ala Wai Elementary School teacher for the past 20 years, Kwee earned a professional diploma and bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the College of Education (COE). Following in her mom's footsteps, Kwee says that it has been her dream to engage children in discovering the joys of learning. "Betty, my mom, was a teacher and also a graduate of UH Mānoa. As a young girl, I

saw the pleasure she took as an educator at Ala Wai Elementary School. Her positive influence steered me to my path into elementary education, leading me to Ala Wai School as a full circle in life."

As a finalist for this award, Kwee was the Kaimukī-McKinley-Roosevelt Complex area winner.

Several other complex area winners are also COE alumni, including: **Kristen Eastvedt**, **Shannon Kealoha**, **Joanna Kobayashi**, **Keala Nunuha**, **Ashley Oyama**, **Elaine Higa**, and **Heidi Jenkins**. These teachers were selected from more than 13,000 educators within the Hawai'i State Department of Education.



**Sabrina Suluai-Mahuka** was named the *American Sāmoa Territorial Teacher of the Year*. A PhD student in the COE Learning Design and Technology (LTEC) department, Suluai-Mahuka also earned a BEd and MEd from the college. She is a teacher at Samoana High School where she went to school. "This award has always been a goal of mine," she said. "I've worked assiduously to improve with every lesson, and with every school year, I was motivated to push through all the late hours that are demanded of a teacher. As such, I am honored to be bestowed this prestigious title, which is especially special to me as my mother was awarded this same title ten years ago."



**Ray Pikelny**, principal of Wai'anae Elementary School, is the 2020 recipient of the *Masayuki Tokioka Excellence in School Leadership Award*. She holds both a bachelor's in Elementary Education and a master's in Educational Foundations from the COE. Presented annually to a visionary and community-minded principal who provides high quality learning opportunities, the award is accompanied by \$25,000.

"I am totally honored to be the recipient of this award, which is really a people's award," Pikelny said. "There is so much that goes into the work we do, and we are just one portion of a larger hub of education that affects the community. This was a big win for the Wai'anae-Nānākuli Complex, and I am glad we are getting to tell our story."

## Doctoral Student Wins Graduate Student Award



**Christine Ambrosino** received a teaching award from the UH Mānoa Graduate Student Organization (GSO) as part of their 2020

Merit Based Awards. A doctoral student in the COE Department of Curriculum Studies, she also holds a master's degree in Zoology from the university. Since 2008, Ambrosino has been with the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology where she works in the Marine Science Research Learning Center (MSRLC). "I was very honored to receive this award, and it is timely encouragement as I wrap up my dissertation work!" she said. "This award has added to the support I already receive from my students and colleagues at the MSRLC and the COE who inspire and challenge me to develop my identity as both a scientist and an educator."

## Alumna is Presidential Teaching Award Winner



**Tessie Ford** received a *Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)*. An educator at

Waipahu High School since 2013, she teaches engineering, technology, physics, and astronomy among other seminars and capstone projects. Ford earned her BED in Secondary Education as well as her MEd in the Curriculum Studies STEMS<sup>2</sup> program. She tutored and mentored students along the way to becoming a teacher, which confirmed her dream to help and impact others. About her time at the COE, she said, "During my undergraduate program, both Bebe Davis and Tara O'Neill gave me great advice and modeled instructional strategies that I still use today."

## Doctoral Student is Crowned 2020 Cherry Blossom Festival Queen



**Jewel Mahoe**, a doctoral student in the COE Department of Learning Design and Technology (LTEC), won the title of *Cherry Blossom Festival Queen*. She was also

named Miss Congeniality and was selected for the Violet Niimi Oishi Scholarship Award. She is a preschool special education teacher at Ala Wai Elementary School. "This is a great opportunity to be a role model for other young Japanese American women in Hawai'i and to represent the Cherry Blossom Festival," she said. "I am most honored to have been awarded Miss Congeniality by my peers. I truly value the friendships I have made and am grateful for all 14 of my fellow contestants."

## Doctoral Student Makes International Top 30 List



**Natalie Perez**, an LTEC doctoral student, was selected as one of the *2020 Learning Guild Thirty Under 30*. The international award recognizes emerging leaders and seeks to provide support, visibility, voice, and development for the next generation of learning leaders. She is a senior instructional designer and program manager

at Amazon and previously served as the online learning and support coordinator at UH-West O'ahu. "The university has had such an incredible impact on me, and it has really helped to build my skillset and prepare me for my work," she stated. "After finishing my MEd and coursework for my PhD in LTEC, I consider myself an advanced instructional designer. It was the right decision x100 to join the COE, one of the best choices I've made for my career!"

## Doctoral Student is an RCUH Graduate Fellowship Award Recipient



**Amy Sojot**, a PhD candidate in the COE Department of Educational Foundations (EDEF), received a *2020–2021 RCUH Graduate Fellowship Award*. The fund was created to assist graduate students enrolled full-time in a doctoral program at UH Mānoa. "I am very thankful for this

award because it will allow me to comprehensively interrogate all of the philosophical nooks and crannies to develop an innovative contribution to contemporary educational studies," she said. "I plan to use the graduate fellowship and \$4,000 to focus on writing my dissertation. Sojot also earned her master's in EDEF, serves on the Tinalak Filipino Education Advisory Council, and is a member of the COE Doctoral Student Association where she served as chair from 2017–2019."

# COE Alumni Association

## OFFICERS

- Steve Shiraki, *President*
- Karen Moriyama, *Vice-President*
- Kristen Brummel, *Secretary*
- Warren Kawano, *Treasurer*
- Helen Hasegawa, *Past President*

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| Evelyn Hao       | Sherilyn Lau   | Ellen Schroeder   |
| Michael Harano   | Gwen Maeda     | Twylla Dawn Steer |
| Jan Iwase        | Vail Matsumoto | Charlotte Unni    |

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- Nathan Murata, *COE Dean*
- Mark Fukeda, *COE Director of Development*

## STUDENT ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES

- Shelby Schwartz, *CESA Representative*
- Kristen Domingcil, *COEMSA Representative*
- Mark McCormick, *COEDSA Representative*
- Alyssa Kapaona, *OSAS Representative*

## COEAA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

- K. Blythe Kaapana, *BEd Elementary Student*
- Kimiko Torres, *BEd Elementary Student*

## Highlights

Since 2020, the pandemic has been both a challenge and an opportunity. All face-to-face activities were curtailed, and regular board meetings have been monthly via Zoom. Given the global impact of the pandemic, the COEAA revisited its vision and mission to ensure alignment with the key goals and objectives of the college. Working with Dean Nathan Murata, the COEAA was able to gain a deeper understanding of COE reorganization and reenvisioning plans in order to inform their direction for the future. As a result, board members are preparing to develop a stronger alumni base, providing focused support and improving communications to increase engagement in college-alumni events and activities, such as the COE Distinguished Alumni and scholarship program.

## 2020 Distinguished Alumnus



**Justin Mew** is the COEAA 2020 Distinguished Alumnus. Currently serving as the Kaiser High School Principal, he holds a BEd in Secondary Education, an MEd in Educational Administration, and an MEd in Curriculum and Instruction. Growing up with a mom who was an educator, Mew says his passion for teaching came naturally.

Spanning more than three decades in the field education, he has worked as a teacher, vice principal, state specialist, and principal. In 1981, he began his teaching career as a biology teacher at Kaimuki High School before becoming a vice principal at Aiea Intermediate and Moanalua Intermediate Schools. In 1992, he was the State Science Education Specialist. He has also been a principal at Aina Haina and Niu Valley Elementary Schools. And, in 2011, he was the Hawai'i State Middle School Principal of the Year.

# Perseverance & Initiative



How our College of Education (COE) community has responded and thrived amidst a global pandemic.



## Summer Enrichment Opportunities for K-12 Students

When the COVID-19 virus resulted in social distancing and quarantine regulations, the COE began working with schools across the islands to provide free online summer enrichment services. COE teacher candidates, special education students, kinesiology students, and graduates were paired with K-12 students to work on subjects, including literacy, sports skills, and personal training. This pilot program served as a model for future programs during the second summer session and the fall.



Our Technology and Distance Programs have made the transition to online teaching and learning a smooth one, and our departments are stepping up to provide enrichment to Hawai'i's public and charter school students," Dean Nathan Murata said.



## K-12 Online Learning Website

Professor Kavita Rao, of the COE Department of Special Education (SPED), co-created *SchoolVirtually*, a website that provides resources for educators and families to support all learners, including students with disabilities and language learners. The website provides information, lessons, step by step planning, and more for educators and parents as schools had to make a quick switch to distance and online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“My colleagues and I put together this website in 10 days, launching version 1.0 quickly in order to offer some immediate assistance to educators, parents, and students. We will continue developing and adding to it in the coming weeks,” Rao said.



## Online Learning Support for the UH Community

Leading the way in online teaching and learning, the COE Technology & Distance Programs (TDP) and Department of Learning Design & Technology (LTEC) jumped into action, extending their support across the university community from the beginning of the transition to online courses. Together with the UH Mānoa Center for Teaching Excellence, TDP and LTEC hosted weekly online professional development (PD) sessions on topics ranging from Zoom practice and synchronous engagement to instructional design. LTEC has been training educators in educational technology long before school and university campus closures.

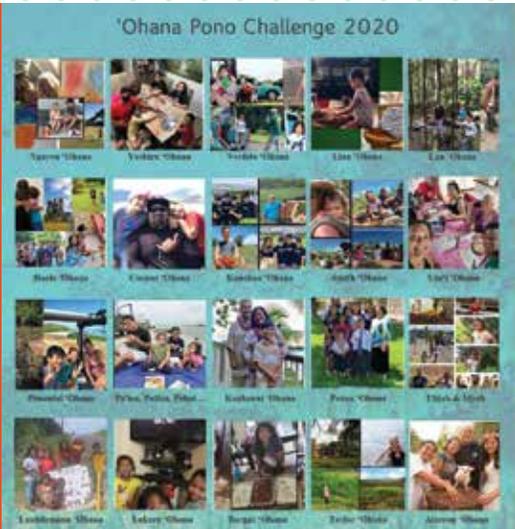
Brien Nakamoto, who works at the Hawai‘i School for the Deaf & Blind, made the switch from face-to-face to online learning in a very short time. With only one week of preparation, he helped to transform his school’s instruction to an online platform, using free tools such as Google Classroom, Zoom, and Webex.

“Having my MED in LTEC has given me a tremendous advantage during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many have asked me how I was so prepared with all of the chaos going on, and I tell them that I have my master’s in educational technology to be thankful for. From the bottom of my heart, a big mahalo to all of you!” said Nakamoto (MED, Educational Technology).



## Essentials for Our Kūpuna

Curriculum Studies Specialist Eōmailani K. Kukahiko and Educational Administration Associate Professor Kahunawai Wright collaborated with Lunalilo Home Residential Care for kupauna (elders), as well as Pūnana Leo o Mānoa preschool, to help gather much needed food and supplies for our kupauna. On behalf of ‘Āinahou, a group of Native Hawaiian faculty members in the COE, Kukahiko and Wright worked with the college and larger community to collect various items that the care home needed as their supplies diminished and families and loved were unable to visit.

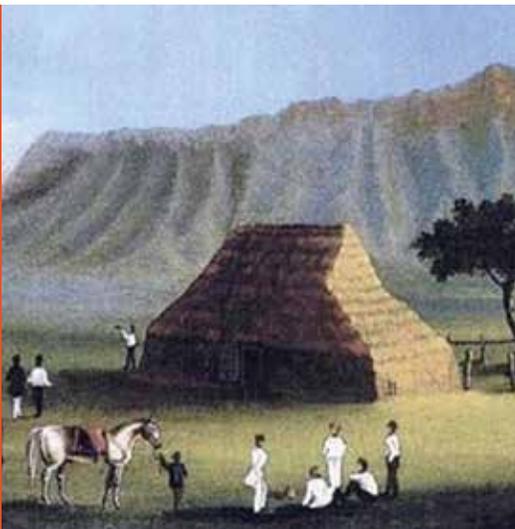


## Pono and Aloha for Families

The annual statewide Center on Disability Studies (CDS) coordinated E Ola Pono Campaign launched the ‘Ohana Pono Challenge, which encouraged students and families to work together on activities or projects that “promote Pono” – to strive to do what is right for yourself, others, and the environment. Families from O’ahu, Maui, Hawai’i Island and Moloka’i participated by sending in submissions which included photos and/or videos about their activities. There were weekly cash awards as well as other gifts, such as children’s books and games.



One of the aspects of this campaign that was particularly rewarding was the feedback we received from the families who felt encouraged to keep engaged by communicating with us and sending multiple submissions about all their activities, which ranged from gardening together, playing games, completing puzzles, learning new skills... baking for neighbors, singing together, and the list goes on!” said CDS’s Sara Ka’imipono Banks.



## Interdisciplinary COVID-19 Curriculum

Curriculum Studies Professor Pauline Chinn developed an interdisciplinary curriculum, COVID-19, the Latest Hawaiian Epidemic: Educating for Health, Responsibility, and Resilience Through a Place-Based, Cultural Lens, that compares and contrasts Hawaiian historical timelines and science phenomena associated with COVID-19. The purpose of the curriculum is to understand the current virus in historical contexts, examine leaders’ actions in a crisis, and teach students about ways to slow the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus causing COVID-19.



With the help of graduate students, Kaleolani Hanohano and Alison Yasuoka, and Hawaiian translator graduate assistants, Riley Wells and Kyle Nakatsuka, we have developed a series of lessons, which include hands-on activities, simulations, models, metrics, interactive discussions, historical resources, Hawaiian language newspaper articles, and up-to-date information on COVID-19 that can be used in schools and communities,” Chinn said.



## Robotics Project to Help Frontline Workers

Peter Han, a Master of Education in Teaching (MEdT) alumnus, has been leading the award-winning robotics program at Assets School in competition, community outreach, and public service. His robotics students created a roving robot to help frontline workers by delivering food to COVID-19 patients. Han, who previously taught math, physics, and computer science at Assets, says his students really wanted to contribute in some way during the pandemic. Through virtual meetings, they designed and built the structure over a three-month period. Queen’s Medical Center is now planning to use the robot in their Advanced Respiratory and Emerging Infectious Disease Unit.



What I love about this robotics program is that my students don’t actually get a grade from me. They see my passion in robots, and they share their passion of building robots with me. From my teaching experience and throughout the MEdT program, I realized connecting with students is more important over content teaching,” Han shared.

# Donors & Friends



## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Aloha and thank you for your support of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Education. In our last fiscal year (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020), you supported us with more than \$2.4 million. This was a terrific year for the College in which we received more than 1,050 gifts, a testament to our supporters as we all struggled with COVID-19. Who could imagine we are still working to beat it today?

This year, we feature two of our scholarship recipients. Alexis, who is making her way in Hawai'i on her own, and Victoria who is the first in her family to attend college. Their inspirational stories are made possible by donors like you who continue to support us through the good times and the hard times. They are just two great examples of the 200+ scholarship recipients that we are able to support every year thanks to the generosity of our donors.

Many of our donors use Qualified Charitable Distributions from their IRA to make their donations. If you are 72 or older, you can direct your investment company to send your required minimum distribution directly to the UH Foundation. By doing this, you avoid increasing your taxable income from your IRA Required Minimum Distributions. Donations like this are allowed up to \$100,000 per year. Another similar strategy is to donate appreciated stocks vs. cash. This allows you to avoid the tax on the capital gain on the stocks.

If you have any questions about how you can support our students, faculty and programs, please call or email me. Or if you just want to explore some ideas and discuss how you might *Leave Your Legacy*, I would be happy to talk with you!

Mahalo nui loa,  
**Mark Fukeda**  
Director of Development  
(808) 956-7988  
mfukeda@hawaii.edu

## WAYS TO GIVE...

The alumni, friends, and faculty of the College of Education have always displayed a charitable spirit. This is evidenced by the number of gifts the College receives each year – one of the most of any academic unit on the Mānoa campus. Our tax codes provide benefits that make it possible for the charitable spirit to be expressed through many forms of giving.

The most common way to make an immediate gift is by writing a **check** or **online** via the UHFoundation.org website. Depending on your tax situation, this generates a charitable income tax deduction for you in the year of the gift.

### **IRA Required Minimum Distribution**

If you are over 70 ½, donating directly to UH Foundation via your regular **IRA distribution** can also help avoid taxes. You must have your fund administrator make checks payable to the UH Foundation.

### **Real estate, Securities, or Bonds**

Held for more than a year, these also have the advantage of providing you a charitable deduction based on the current fair market value, as well as *bypassing capital gains tax* on the appreciation.

### **Charitable Bequests**

A bequest makes it possible for you to make your wishes known today without relinquishing needed assets during your lifetime. If you do not

decide where your assets go, the government will do it for you.

Sometimes called deferred gifts, the term “planned gifts” refers to specific strategies that can benefit the College at some point in the future while offering immediate benefits to you.

The **Charitable Gift Annuity** is a great example of how a gift generates fixed income for you. This is actually a contract between you and the college, via the UH Foundation, that is part gift and part annuity. In addition to the annuity payment, you receive a charitable income tax deduction and a portion of each annuity payment may be tax free.

The **Charitable Remainder Trust** is perhaps the most versatile charitable giving tool. With this, it is possible to bypass capital gains tax on the sale of highly appreciated assets, generate an increase in income, receive an attractive charitable income tax deduction, and fulfill your philanthropic objectives.

The **Charitable Lead Trust** allows you to transfer your cash or property to fund a lead trust that makes gifts to us for a number of years. You receive a charitable deduction for the gift. Your family receives the remainder at substantial tax savings.

### **Payroll Deductions**

Many UH faculty and staff members choose to make regular gifts to support the areas at UH they care about. By completing the Salary Assignment D-60 Form, you can easily set up an automatic deduction and help the UH students, programs, research, and initiatives of your choice.



*Thank you for making this dreamer's dreams come true!*

In today's day and age, we are constantly facing challenges, whether they be financial, health, or work-related. I come from a small city that is home to violence, illegal immigrants, and dreamers. As a daughter to immigrant parents from the Philippines and Mexico, I have always been told that education is the key to success.

Funding and finances have been the most difficult obstacle, and as the COVID pandemic unfolded, I became consumed by financial concerns. Once I made the difficult move to Hawai'i, realizing I was truly on my own, I broke down. I contemplated pushing off classes and delaying my graduation by a semester, but I knew that couldn't be an option. I reminded myself that I'm pushing to graduate by Spring 2022 so my 94-year old grandmother can watch me graduate college.

From the bottom of my heart, I am so grateful to be a scholarship recipient. There is no amount that is too much or too little to help a college student trying to make themselves and their family proud today and every day. You are all a part of my journey, and I thank you for making this dreamer's dreams come true!

~ Alexis Guzman-Fernandez



*Awards like this will impact my future students and the communities I will serve.*

I am a single mother of two toddlers, I go to school full time, and I work two part-time jobs.

I am the product of blue-collared, working class folk, the kind who fight for everything they have. My predecessors include carpenters, plumbers, and the occasional entertainer, but none of them had the opportunity to attend college. I will be the first to earn a college degree.

I depend on financial aid, grants, and scholarships from generous donors. I work diligently, persistently, and earnestly, not only for the opportunities that present themselves, but to also create opportunities where there previously were none. Awards like this will impact my future by supporting my endeavors, instilling confidence in my intentions, and trusting that I will utilize it to become the best version of myself. Awards like this will impact my future students and the communities I will serve.

After the Spring 2022 Semester, I will have earned my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education, which what I have been working so incredibly hard for – to become the educator I have been inspired to be and, in turn, make a substantial difference here in my home, Hawai'i.

~ Victoria Williams

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## Scholarship Funds • July 2019 – June 2020

**Alexander Poki Kali Memorial Scholarship Fund** - 2 awards for a total of \$2,529.00

**Andrew W. S. & Jennie L. In Scholarship for Graduate Study Fund** - 2 awards for a total of \$3,872.00

**Au and Hew Family Scholarship Fund** - 1 award for \$2,347.00

**Bank of Hawai'i Endowed Scholarship Fund** - 1 award for \$2,688.00

**Betty Nakamura Totoki Endowed Scholarship Fund** - 2 awards for a total of \$2,992.00

**College of Education Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship Fund** - 2 awards for a total of \$3,800.00

**College of Education General Scholarship Fund** - 40 awards for a total of \$37,715.00

**Colonel Willys E. Lord, DVM & Sandina L. Lord Scholarship Fund in the College of Education** - 30 awards for a total of \$28,411.00

**Cornelia F. and Roy Sakamoto Scholarship Endowment** - 9 awards for a total of \$12,153.00

**Daeufer Family Scholarship** - 3 awards for a total of \$9,000.00

**Dorothy M. Kahananui Scholarship in Music Education** - 1 award for \$1,360.00

**Dr. James A.Y. and Nora Nishiyama Yee Endowed Scholarship** - 1 award for \$630.00

**Edith Ling Louis & James Lun Louis Scholarship Fund** - 1 award for \$1,066.00

**Ellen Tom & Chow Loy Tom, PhD Scholarship Fund** - 2 awards for a total of \$3,992.00

**Elsie & Shiro Saito Student Assistance Fund** - 2 awards for a total of \$1,000.00

**Esther M. Sato & Jean M. Sakihara Scholarship Endowment in Memory of Loren I. Shishido** - 1 award for \$2,001.00

**Evelyn Siu Foo Scholarship in Education Endowment Fund** - 1 award for \$1,072.00

**Frances M. J. & Alexander L. Pickens Scholarship Fund in Secondary Education** - 2 awards for a total of \$4,410.00

**Frank B. Brown Memorial Scholarship** - 2 awards for a total of \$1,442.00

**Geoffrey Michaelson and Lehua Ii-Michaelson Scholarship Fund** - 2 awards for a total of \$8,674.00

**Harry C. & Nee-Chang Wong Foundation Endowed Scholarship Fund** - 1 award for \$4,569.00

**Hawaiian Telcom Math & Science Scholarship Fund** - 1 award for \$2,191.00

**Hazel Van Allen Scholarship in Teacher Preparation** - 2 awards for \$4,292.00

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**Total amount awarded - \$409,512.00**

**Average amount awarded \$1,887.00**

**Total Number of awards - 217**

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