PHILANTHROPY: BUILDING NEW RESOURCES FOR JABSOM’S NEXT 50 YEARS

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, private philanthropic support for JABSOM totaled almost $12.5 million, setting a new record for the medical school and bringing the six-year total in pledges, gifts, and bequest intentions to almost $33 million. This record year includes an anonymous $5 million.

In the spring of 2013, we set a goal of establishing 20 new endowed scholarships by the end of the calendar year. Through June 30, 2014, we have confirmed pledges and gifts for seven (7) new endowed scholarships. These include the Kheng See Ang, MD and Lawrence J. Taff Endowed Scholarship; Kookea Family Scholarship; Litchman Family Endowment in Geriatric Medicine for fourth-year medical students and/or Geriatric Fellows; Richard Sherbahn, MD Endowed Scholarship; Hazel Tominaga Tsutсудo Theodore ‘Tim’ Ho Ota Scholarship Endowment; and the Yazzawa Family Scholarship. Four additional scholarship endowments have been or are currently being finalized, taking us over halfway to our goal.

In addition, the Estate of Victor Pavel funded two (2) endowed professorships in the Department of Geriatric Medicine during the past year. Dr. Kamaal Masaki, Professor and Chair of Geriatric Medicine, and Dr. Christina Bell, Associate Professor, were selected as the inaugural Victor and Peggy Brandstrom Pavel Endowed Professors in Medicine.

Donors Invest in JABSOM

Donors continued to invest in a wide array of key priorities at JABSOM, particularly in endowed chairs and professorships, research, and scholarships.

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of JABSOM’s founding in 2015, the medical school will continue to focus on these priority funding areas as well as increasing support for rural and neighbor island training opportunities.

The Institute laid the scientific foundation for human in vitro fertilization under founder Dr. Ryuzo Yanagimachi, whose assisted reproductive methods (including ICSI—short for intracytoplasmic sperm injection) are still being used in the world to help infertile couples have children. The Institute also cloned the world’s first mouse, and has developed new methods to produce transgenic mice, rabbits, sheep, and pigs. The animals glow green under black light, demonstrating a more-efficient genetic manipulation technique developed in Hawaii. It is the centerpiece of how investigators across UH Mānoa are focusing on an essential theme: how to make the lives of people healthier.

The Institute for Biogenesis Research (IBR) at JABSOM has been awarded $10.1 million from the National Institutes of Health to continue its groundbreaking work in reproductive and developmental biomedical research.

RESEARCH

In our research mission, JABSOM has led the 15 U.S. Land Grant Universities without a University Hospital in total NIH research awards for three straight years. On an NIH awards per full-time faculty member basis, JABSOM ranks within the top 20 of all U.S. medical schools (public & private; university hospital & without a university hospital), putting us shoulder-to-shoulder with Stanford, Duke, Johns Hopkins, Yale and others. We are extremely proud of our faculty for securing competitive grants to fund research aimed at making Hawai‘i healthier.

Nearly all of the funds are spent here in the Islands. Research grants awarded to the medical school also help support operations of the University of Hawai‘i as a whole. That is because half of all research money the medical school brings in goes to UH Mānoa and the UH System for them to spend in Hawai‘i.

RMATRIX Renewed

Our multidisciplinary research into why some of Hawai‘i’s residents continue under a $15.4 million, five-year renewal of the RMATRIX grant.

That welcome news came in September 2014, on the heels of a successful foundation, IBIH, which is the centerpiece of how investigators across UH Mānoa are focusing on an essential theme: how to make the lives of people in the state’s multi-ethnic population better.

RMATRIX stands for RMI Multidisciplinary and Translational Research Infrastructure Expansion. The RMI is the Research Centers in Minority Institutions of the National Institutes of Health National Minority Health and Disparities.
JABSOM Researcher Part of Gender Bias Initiative

The JABSOM Graduate Medical Education (GME) enterprise received an unprecendented 12-year accreditation. Our alumni and faculty were overwhelmingly named Hawai’i’s “Best Doctors”.

Are there gender differences in how males and females react to nutrients?

University of Hawai’i researcher Dr. Marla Berry is working to find out, and her efforts are part of a new initiative announced in September 2014 by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to begin addressing persistent gender bias in clinical research. Women are not adequately represented in many clinical trials of new drugs and medical devices, according to the NIH.

MEDICINE

Dr. Marla Berry is Chair of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women’s Health at JABSOM. She is also a tenured Professor in the Department of Women’s Studies, and was the first female doctor of obstetrics and gynecology to be appointed to a full-time faculty position at the University of Hawai`i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Donors Hail New Mini-Medical School on Healthy Aging

Over 300 UH donors have already participated in the inaugural 2014 Mini-Medical School on Healthy Aging courses, organized by Chancellor Emeritus Virginia S. Hirshman, PhD, Professor of Tropical Medicine, Medical Microbiology and Pharmacology at JABSOM. The course was offered in partnership by UH Foundation and JABSOM as a special mahalo to select UH donors. Given its rave reviews, a Spring 2015 course is being offered on six Saturdays, January 31 – March 7. 

LEADERSHIP

We’ve strengthened our school leadership from within with newly-named Chairs in two of our clinical departments, a new Director of Research Services and a pair of promotions in the business office.

History Made with Guerrero Appointment

Dr. Anthony Paul Sison Guerrero has been named Psychiatry Chair by John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM). He becomes the first chair of psychiatry of Filipino ancestry at a U.S. medical school. Dr. Guerrero, a JABSOM alumnus, has served as interim Chair of Psychiatry since 2012, while continuing in his roles as Director of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Division and Residency Training Program. In addition to his medical degree from JABSOM, he is a graduate of Saint Louis University, JABSOM and the University of Hawaii’s Residency Program. He began his career in 1999 as a psychiatrist in our State-University Collaboration on Lāna‘i, solidifying his commitment to public psychiatry and the severely mentally ill of all ages.

Zalud Named OB-GYN Chair

Dr. Ivica Zalud was named Chair of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women’s Health in early 2014. He leads a department where OB-GYN’s fellows, faculty and residents directly participated in about one-third (2,400) of the deliveries in the state of Hawai`i last year, many of them considered “high risk” births. In addition to teaching medical students, OB-GYN has trained 303 OB-GYN specialists since its Residency Training Program was established in 1949. The majority of those physicians established their practices in Hawai`i. Dr. Zalud received his MD degree at the University of Zagreb in Croatia, completed his OB-GYN residency at the Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, New York and completed a fellowship in maternal fetal medicine at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

UCERA Grows and Wins Recognition

The University Clinical Education & Research Associates (UCERA) has actively incorporated clinical faculty members from the UH John A. Burns School of Nursing and the JABSOM Communication Sciences & Disorders Department and UCERA Hyperbaric Hyperbaric Treatment Center. In October, 2014, UCERA was named one of four of Hawaii’s “Best Places to Work” by When Work Works, a joint partnership between the Families and Work Institute (FWI) and the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM).

Psychiatry of the Year

Dr. William Haning was named 2015 Physician of the Year by the Hawaii Medical Association in October. An alumnus of the medical school’s first four-year class in 1975, Dr. Haning is President of the JABSOM Alumni Association, and has helped in the training of medical students and MD Residents at JABSOM. He holds numerous academic awards and teaching awards, including Associate Chair for Education, Director of the Core Psychiatric Residency Training Program, and Principal Investigator and Co-Director of the Pacific Addiction Research Center.

Producing Hawai`i’s “Best Doctors”

About 80% of the physicians identified as Hawai`i’s “Best Doctors” in July 2014 are alumni (either both) of the University of Hawai`i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM). The list was published locally by Honolulu Magazine, and compiled by “Best Doctors, Inc.” Almost half of all physicians currently practicing medicine in Hawai`i earned their MD or specialty certification at JABSOM or serve on its faculty.
University of Hawai‘i researcher Dr. Marla Berry is working to find out, and her efforts are part of a new initiative announced in September 2014 by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to begin addressing persistent gender bias in research. Women are not adequately represented in many clinical trials of new drugs and medical devices, according to the NIH.

**Donors Hail New Mini-Medical School on Healthy Aging**

Over 300 UH donors have already participated in the inaugural 2014 Mini-Medical School on Healthy Aging courses, organized by Chancellor Emeritus Virginia S. Hinshaw, PhD, Professor of Tropical Medicine, Medical Microbiology and Pharmacology at JABSOM. The course was offered in partnership by UH Foundation and JABSOM as a special malaha to select UH donors. Given its rave reviews, a Spring 2015 course is being offered on six Saturdays, January 31 – March 7, featuring all new topics suggested by former class members. Contact Dr. Hinshaw for more information, at hinshawv@hawaii.edu or at (808) 692-1215.

**Success continues in Diabetes Clinical Trial**

Increasing physical activity has effectively prevented (or delayed) the development of Type 2 diabetes in the 16 years since the beginning of the Hawai‘i Diabetes Prevention Program Outcomes Study. The successful interventions in the study included people who changed their lifestyles to reduce weight and increase physical activity (the intensive lifestyle, or ILS group) and the group that took the diabetes drug Metformin (the Metformin lifestyle, or MLS group). The Hawai‘i findings were presented in a news conference in July 2014 by JABSOM’s Dr. Richard Arakaki, Professor of Medicine.

**Leadership**

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**CSD Wins Praise, Accreditation**

The UH Mānoa Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) Department (formerly known as the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology) has received the longest accreditation in its history (through 2020), reflecting several years of work to steady, strengthen and improve the program. The accreditation comes at a time when student certification (Praxis) scores in the program—already above the national average—have soared, and graduates have achieved a 100% completion rate. CSD, a master’s program and a department within the John A. Burns School of Medicine, prepares students to become speech-language pathologists, allied-health professionals who evaluate and treat individuals with speech, language, cognitive-communication, and swallowing disorders. People served by UH speech language pathologists since 1945 range from infants to the elderly.

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**JABSOM Hosts WGEA Conference**

The Medical Education Building was bustling with knowledge as educators from 19 multinational medical schools united at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) 2014 Western Group on Educational Affairs (WGEA) Regional Meeting, hosted by JABSOM on March 21-23, 2014. Educators from the U.S., Canada, Japan, Taiwan and Thailand attended 98 posters, 51 oral abstracts, 20 discussion groups, 28 workshops and 14 panel presentations; all ending with great success. This year’s conference had 319 attendees and 226 submitted abstracts – a new record from the previous record-setting JABSOM-hosted conference in 2007.

**Dr. William Haning**

Psychiatry Professor Dr. William Haning was named 2015 Physician of the Year by the Hawai‘i Medical Association. Dr. Haning has helped in the training of medical students and MD Residents at JABSOM. He holds numerous academic awards and teaching awards. Haning is currently Chair of Psychiatry at the John A. Burns School of Medicine, and associate chair for Education, Director of the Core Psychiatric Residency Training Program, and Principal Investigator and Co-Director of the Pacific Addiction Research Center.

**Dr. Jeff Long**

Jeff Long is currently the position of Senior Lead Human Resources (HR) Specialist for the John A. Burns School of Medicine in September 2015. He is responsible for the operations and management of the JABSOM HR Office and is one of the key leaders on the JABSOM CFO Finance and Operations Team.
Donors Invest in JABSOM

Donors continued to invest in a wide array of key priorities at JABSOM, particularly in endowed chairs and professorships, programs, and scholarships. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of JABSOM’s founding in 2015, the medical school will continue to focus on these priority funding areas as well as increasing support for rural and neighbor island training opportunities.

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Through June 30, 2014, we have also confirmed pledges and gifts for seven (7) new endowed professorships; these include the Kamal Masaki, John McDermott, MD Endowed Chair; the John F. McDermott, MD and Noreen K. Mokuau, MD Endowed Chair in Geriatric Medicine and the Department of Psychiatry; and the Noreen K. Mokuau, MD Endowed Chair in Geriatric Medicine.

This year, donations to fund 20 new endowed chairs, professorships, and/or Geriatric Fellows; Richard Sherbahn, MD Endowed Scholarship; Hazel Tominaga Tsutsui Theodore `Imi Ho`ōla Scholarship Endowment; and the Yazawa Family Scholarship. Four additional endowed scholarships have been or are currently being finalized, taking us over halfway to our goal.

Geriatric Medicine Endowments

Of special note is a bequest intention by Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth K. Uyeda to establish the Kenneth Keizo Uyeda and Nora Saida Uyeda Endowment in Geriatric Medicine for an endowed chair in the Department of Geriatric Medicine.

In addition, the Estate of Victor Pavel fund two (2) endowed professorships in the Department of Geriatric Medicine during the past year. Dr. Kamal Masaki, Professor and Chair of Geriatric Medicine, and Dr. Christina Bell, Associate Professor, were selected as the inaugural Victor and Peggy Brandstrom Pavel Endowed Professors in Medicine. The endowed professorships will focus on interdisciplinary research and training.

JABSOM Celebrating Its 50th Anniversary in 2015

We will commemorate the 50th anniversary of JABSOM’s founding in 1965 through 2015. Formal events include the JABSOM Biomedical Sciences and Health Disparities Symposium April 15-17, 2015; the White Coat Ceremony on Saturday morning, July 18, and finally, on Saturday evening, July 18, 2015; an Educational Forum, “Transformative Symposia April 15-17, 2015.”

RESEARCH

In our research mission, JABSOM has led the 15 U.S. Land Grant Universities without a University Hospital in total NIH research awards for three straight years. On an NIH awards per full-time faculty member basis, JABSOM ranks within the top 20 of all U.S. medical schools (public & private; university hospital & without a university hospital), putting us shoulder-to-shoulder with Stanford, Duke, Johns Hopkins, Yale and others. We are extremely proud of our faculty for securing competitive grants to fund research aimed at making Hawaii’i healthier.

Hawaii’i to benefit from $11 million for the Institute for Biogenesis Research

The Institute for Biogenesis Research (IBR) at JABSOM has been awarded $11 million from the National Institutes of Health to continue its groundbreaking work in reproductive and developmental, bioresearch.

The Institute had the scientific foundation for human in vitro fertilization under founder Dr. Ryuizo Yanagimachi, whose assisted reproductive methods (including ICSI—short for intracytoplasmic sperm injection) are still being used around the world to help infertile couples have children. The Institute also cloned the world’s first mouse, and has developed new methods to produce transgenic mice, rabbits, lambs and pigs. The animals glow green under black light, demonstrating a more-efficient genetic manipulation technique developed in Hawaii’i.

That technique may lead to new and expanded, efficient ways to produce medicines. Institute scientists collaborated with researchers all over the U.S. to win this phase-two Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) award. The new grant brings the Institute’s total research dollar awards to nearly $40 million in the past 15 years.

Nearly all of the funds are spent here in the Islands. Research grants awarded to the medical school also help support operations of the University of Hawaii as a whole. That is because half of all research money the medical school brings in goes to UH Mānoa and the UH System for the state’s multi-ethnic population better.

RMATRIX Renewed

Our multidisciplinary research into why some of Hawaii’i’s residents live the longest while others struggle to get beyond their fifties will continue under a $15.4 million, five-year renewal of the RMATRIX grant.

That welcome news came in September 2014, on the heels of a successful foundation laid in the first four years of the RMATRIX grant. It’s the centerpiece of how investigators across UH Mānoa are facing health research on an essential theme: how to make the lives of people in the state’s multi-ethnic population better.

RMATRIX stands for RCM Multidisciplinary and Translational Research Infrastructure Expansion. The RCM is the Research Centers in Minority Institutions of the National Institutes of Health National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.