

One who mixes ingredients, drugs or medications: a pharmacist

# Kāwili Lā'au

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Summer 2021 • Volume 13, Issue 2



## Brighter days ahead

Back on campus

Refining virtual outreach

Unique send-off  
for Class of 2021

PG. 8-9



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII  
HILO

# Dean's Message



## Celebrating milestones

This past year has provided both challenges and opportunities for our college. I'm proud of the work our faculty, staff and student contributed to the state's COVID-19 response, at testing clinics, vaccination PODs and through several innovative approaches to informational outreach, which are highlighted in this issue.

Our Student Affairs and IT staffs put in countless hours to make it as normal a school year as possible, culminating in an in-person graduation ceremony for the Class of 2021. Given that our students were fully vaccinated, we were able to bring a majority of the class together one more time for a commencement that was streamed online for their family and friends. My congratulations to this class that endured many a challenge in their years with us and epitomize my adjective for each graduating class – ho'omau.

This past spring also marks a decade since our college graduated the inaugural class. Over those 10 years, we've conferred degrees for 896 well-trained pharmacists and nine Ph.D. graduates, all of whom are well-equipped to serve the healthcare industry around the country and world. Although the pandemic pre-empts an in-person alumni reunion, many in our inaugural class contacted us with their sentiments on this notable anniversary. In this issue, you can read about the incredible work and leadership from members of this class.

To honor our alumni, we recently installed the first set of engraved bricks in our Legacy Path. I invite you to view a video documenting this milestone at <https://youtu.be/O9dPwYs2gol>. The Legacy Path fund supports continued engagement of our alumni, who serve as preceptors and mentors to our students, support our facility and staff, and always represent our college with pride and professionalism. Seeing any alumni around the state always elicits a heartfelt feeling that reminds me of our true purpose, mission and vision. I hope you will consider contributing to our Legacy Path.

This summer we've been busy preparing for a full in-person return to Hale Kihō'ihō'i. We are excited to begin a new academic year with our Class of 2025 and our returning students. As we say in Hawai'i, imua – move forward!

Aloha mai,

Carolyn Ma,

Pharm.D., FNAP  
Dean



## Kāwili Lā'au

Summer 2021  
Volume 13, Issue 2

### ADMINISTRATION

**Carolyn Ma**  
Dean

**Lara Gomez**  
Associate Dean for  
Academic Affairs

**Dianqing Sun**  
Chair, Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Roy Goo**  
Chair, Pharmacy Practice

**Sheri Tokumaru**  
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Education

**Ghee Tan**  
Director of Ph.D. in  
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Kāwili Lā'au is the magazine for the  
only College of Pharmacy in the  
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Hawai'i at Hilo



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII  
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Members of the Class of 2021 wave to well-wishers during a drive-by celebration after their graduation ceremony.

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**ON THE COVER:** DKICP graduate Jody Yamada-Ueda and P3 Andrew Schuler converse in the second-story stairway of Hale Kihō'ihō'i.  
(Photo by Tracey Niimi)

# Refining virtual approaches to community outreach

Despite pandemic limitations, student pharmacists find ways to connect with the community.

“Engaging and giving back to our community” is part of the vision statement of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. Since its founding in 2007, the college has played an active role in the island community, as well as throughout the state. Each of the 12 professional and educational student organizations at DKICP hold at least one community-based event annually, ranging from health screenings to fitness fairs.

Those traditional events came to a screeching halt in Spring of 2020, with the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic. While it took students and faculty time to regroup, by Fall 2020, several DKICP student organizations had started to develop alternative ways to continue the community outreach role.

Here’s a look at some of the most successful strategies:

## New approach to Annual Health Fair

By far the largest community event organized by DKICP students is the Annual Health Fair, which traditionally takes place on a Saturday in October at the mall in Hilo and is



open to the public. Local businesses help to sponsor the event, and many health organizations host booths to provide educational materials. DKICP students perform free health screening and organize displays.

When the event was cancelled in 2020, the student Health Fair committee decided to focus its efforts on providing educational information through social media posts and local radio spots, as well as continue to sponsor its keiki poster contest.

“We started by coming up with some basic topics and allowed

◀ One winning entry in this past year’s keiki poster contest addressed the pandemic theme.

students to develop the content,” explains Paige Cajudoy, 2020 committee chair. “We began posting information on the college Instagram account in October and tried to add new posts regularly throughout the winter months. We ended up with 21 students submitting healthcare posts on eight different topics.” Those topics ranged from healthy eating choices to hyperlipidemia to how to dispose of medications safely.

Students were also given the opportunity to put together four public service announcements to be aired on local radio stations during the month of March. The college partnered with New West Broadcasting Corp., which aired weekly

30-second health tips on:

- Controlling hypertension
- Avoiding hyperlipidemia (high cholesterol)
- Importance of exercise and healthy diet
- Proper medication disposal

“We also decided to continue our keiki poster contest, which is usually a part of our annual Health Fair,” says Cajudoy. “This year the topic was ‘How to stay safe during the pandemic.’ The contest was open to elementary students at schools around the island, and offered prizes for each grade, K through 6. Participation was good, considering the challenges most teachers and students faced last school year.”

## Going in-depth with webinars

In response to the many questions people had about COVID-19 vaccines last winter, several DKICP students got the idea to put together a webinar that helped to present the basic science behind the vaccine’s development and answer questions the public might have. The webinar was developed with the guidance of Dr. Roy Goo, associate professor and Pharmacy Practice Department chair, and was open to the public. “It was so popular that we decided to do more of them but broaden the subjects covered,” says Goo.

Students organized a series of webinars on four different health-care topics that were offered to the

public in April and May. Topics included:

- How to select appropriate over-the-counter pain relievers
- Protecting yourself from STI and pregnancy by knowing your rights and options
- The truth about vaccines
- Relieving cold symptoms

Student pharmacist Samantha Okubo, who conducted the webinar about sexually transmitted infections (STI) and pregnancy prevention, says her goal was to provide viewers with basic information about STIs, where to go for help and what to ask. “I also wanted them to be aware of their confidentiality rights and their options for testing and treatment.”

Because the 2021 Health Fair student committee decided not to attempt to host the traditional event again this Fall, they are planning to use the webinar format to offer more informational opportunities for the public in the coming school year.

“The ability of our students and faculty to interact with the community has been limited by the COVID-19 pandemic, and that’s likely to continue for the foreseeable future,” notes Goo. “So just as healthcare, in general, is shifting its model of care to a more remote contact, we are doing the same thing in education. We have to continue to fulfill the mission of our college to increase health literacy.”

▼ Students created ads for their webinars and an informative video about the COVID-19 vaccine and posted them on social media.



## Volunteering with vaccinations

The American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) chapter worked together with KTA Puainako Pharmacy and the Hawai‘i State Department of Health at drive-thru COVID-19 vaccine clinics held all around the Big Island. Student members assisted with preparing vaccine syringes, registering participants, managing paperwork and patient traffic flow, and monitoring patients post-vaccination.

“Our chapter participated in over 15 vaccinations clinics and accumulated more than 100 volunteer hours from January to April, 2021,” says chapter president Alice Wu.

“People were able to be vaccinated in their vehicles, which made it much more convenient and more easily accessible for the elderly,” she explains. “They parked in a designated area afterwards, where APhA-ASP members assisted with monitoring for symptoms during the 15- to 30-minute wait time. It was a privileged to assist with these clinics to fulfill our kuleana to protect our community.”



Students volunteered at vaccination clinics held all around the Big Island.



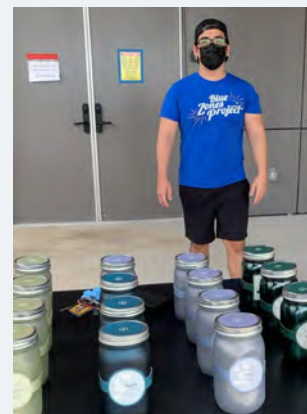
different procedures needed to help people dispose of their outdated medications in a safe manner,” explains Brayton Sakai, chapter president. “Our members met with staff from the Drug Enforcement Administration and learned the logistics of the process, as well as what can happen if patients don’t dispose of their medications correctly. We also worked with the American Pharmacists Association Hawai‘i Chapter and made new friendships.”

NCPA members also helped at Hilo pharmacy Shiigi Drug with COVID vaccine clinics.

## Celebrating Earth Day

To encourage fellow students to recognize Earth Day in April, student members of the Blue Zones Project organized a drive-through recycling station for HI-5 recyclables. Those who participated could take home a hydroponic mason jar to start their own herb garden.

The group also virtually hosted their end-of-year Health Month as a health day celebration. The theme was “Right Tribe, Right Vibe” to promote social connections when it was impossible to gather in large groups during the semester. Participants enjoyed games like Kahoot, a virtual scavenger hunt, and online Pictionary. Prizes were made possible by co-sponsor UH Hilo Student Association, which included items like reef-safe sunscreen, stainless steel straw with a cleaning brush, journal, and Blue Zones Project goodies.

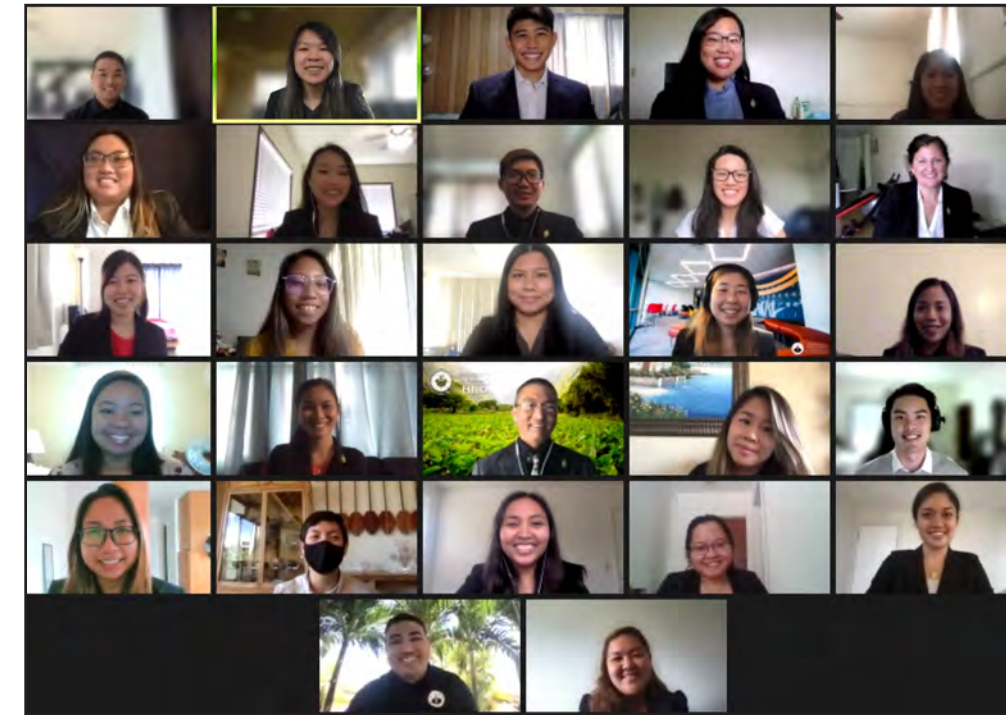


## Helping with drug take-back

DKICP’s chapter of the National Community Pharmacist Association (NCPA) was involved in the National Drug Take Back program. “Participation allowed students to see the

## Phi Lambda Sigma

### TWO SPEAKERS FEATURED AT LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM



◀ This year's leadership symposium was held via Zoom.

by *Kateleen Caye Bio & Jessica Song*

Phi Lambda Sigma held the annual Spring Leadership Symposium on April 3, 2021, virtually through the Zoom video conference platform. This semester we centered our symposium around the theme “Finding Your Career Pathways and Planning for Success.”

Our mission is “to support pharmacy leadership commitment by recognizing leaders and fostering leadership development.” It is our belief that if we are able to reach out to students who are interested in pharmacy or want to build upon their professionalism, then we can succeed in our mission. We believe in teaching young minds that it is never too early to start practicing

professionalism and leadership development.

Our first guest speaker was Dr. Karen Pellegrin, DKICP faculty member and Director of Continuing Education, Strategic Planning, and the Center for Rural Health Science, who talked about how to plan for success through the use of S.M.A.R.T. goals.

Our second speaker, Dr. Jaiurus Māhoe, is a 2016 DKICP alumnus who shared his experiences on his career path, from DKICP to his current positions as a medical affairs pharmacist at MedImpact Healthcare Systems and president of the San Diego Society of Health-System Pharmacists. With his extensive range of pharmacy

experience such as corporate, community, ambulatory care, academia and health-systems, he was able to provide attendees with insights into the many opportunities available to them in pharmacy.

In addition, our members held a Robert’s Rules of Order presentation to allow new board members to understand how meetings are run. We also held five officer roundtables (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian) for current officers and interested students.



# Congratulations to the Class of 2021

Forty-five of 80 students in the DKICP Class of 2021 and one graduate student receiving his Ph.D were able to be in Hilo for the degree granting and hooding ceremonies, held Saturday, May 8, 2021.

The event took place in Hale Kihō'ihio'i on the UH-Hilo campus in accordance with CDC guidelines. Only students and a small number of administrators were there in person to confer the degrees, but the event was livestreamed so family and friends could watch.

Chancellor Bonnie Irwin and Dean Carolyn Ma each addressed the students, followed by brief comments made by the five valedictorians: Brandon Chagami, Jake Hoctor, DaHai Lee, Sandy Li and Donald Waddell.



## A class that's shown ho'omau

Graduation address by Dean Carolyn Ma

Welcome to family and friends, Chancellor Irwin, Vice Chancellor Roney, faculty and staff and most especially, to the class of 2021. On behalf of the faculty and staff of the UH Hilo Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, my congratulations on this day. Before I proceed, I also want to extend my gratitude and acknowledgement to your families for the support of you and of our college and I ask that everyone here, please, let's give a round of applause for your families.

In October 2017, your White Coat ceremony marked the successful end of the worldwide voyage of the Hokule'a and sister ship Hikianalea, Malama Honua. The purpose was to connect countries, to weave a lei of hope, that would help us understand our differences and our needs, with a message that if we attend to the wellbeing of our environment and to each other, that we then attend to our own health. I don't think at that ceremony we anticipated what the world would face today.

Related to Hokule'a's Malama Honua, I introduced the Hawaiian word *koula*, that means cord, and normally refers to the foundational structure of the makings of a lei. In 2017, I suggested that you had begun to weave the making of your *koula*, to this college and to this pharmacy profession. This class of 80 Pharm.D. and 1 Ph.D. students have achieved success and have fulfilled the three things I asked of you.

To dedicate yourself to your studies, literally sweating through numerous exams, workshops, OSCEs in the last days in our modular classrooms, experiential rotations, long hours in the research laboratory and today, now find yourself – ready. You have taken care of yourselves and most importantly you have taken care of each other, and I am reminded of your heartfelt solidarity in honoring the passing of your classmate Justin Fujiwara in your P1 year.

Then with the long awaited move to this iconic building, Hale Kihō'ihio'i, your time here in these lecture halls was too short-lived, with the arrival of the pandemic only three months later. And in this, your last year, you experienced an experiential year like no other. But you ended it with as much force and grace as you did back in 2017, joining again, to be part of the volunteer workforce for over 2,400 hours in COVID-related activities, helping in testing sites, mass vaccination PODs, being part of the solution.

And so as you cut your physical *koula* to this college, I give the descriptive word to this class, Ho'omau, a word that represents the Hawaiian value of perseverance and persistence. In practicing this value, we become more tenacious and resilient, and thus, more courageous.

Dr. Vivek Murthy, our current surgeon general, writes in his book, *The Healing Power of Human Connection in a Sometimes Lonely World*, that service is a form of human connection that reminds us of our value and purpose in life. You, as health professionals and scientists, as you courageously set sail on your own story of malama, will connect to the world you promise to serve, to help and to care about, and I hope always with compassion, kindness, and grace. I want to take one last moment to mahalo all the staff, most especially student affairs and IT, and the faculty for all of their work to make this event happen. I speak on behalf of the faculty and students. Your dedication and commitment to this college are noticed on a daily basis.



▲ Following the ceremony, DKICP Class of 2021 graduates lined up outside the building to wave at family and friends who participated in a drive-by celebration.

# Catching up with the CLASS OF 2011

IT'S BEEN A DECADE SINCE what was then simply known as the UH Hilo College of Pharmacy graduated its first class. Here's a look at where some members of that inaugural class are working and living today.

CLASS OF  
2011



## Pua Akana

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Director of Pharmacy, COVID-19 Vaccine Community Outreach and Health Center Lead, Wahiawa Center for Community Health

**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Clinical Pharmacist, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center

**CURRENT LOCATION:** Oahu

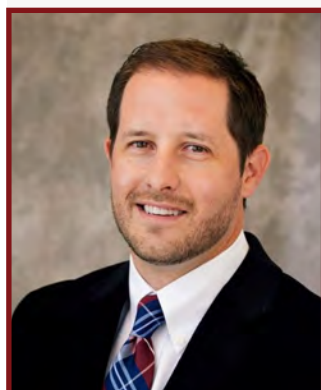


## Han Duong

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Pharmacist, Student Health Center Pharmacy, San Jose State University

**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Pharmacist, Linda Pharmacy, San Jose, Calif.

**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Santa Clara, Calif.



## Jason Braithwaite

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Assistant Vice President, HealthTrust Performace Group.

**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
PGY-1 and PGY-2 residency Intermountain Healthcare, clinical pharmacist in the CCU.

**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Nashville, Tenn.

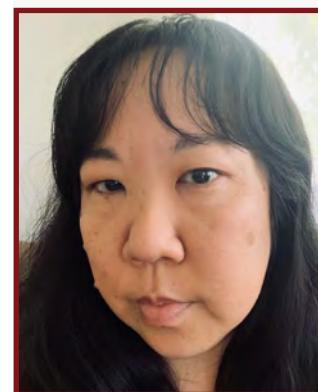


## Steven Evans

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Pharmacy Manager, Foodland Pharmacy, Waimea

**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Pharmacist, Longs Drugs (CVS), Keauhou

**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i



## Lisa Hagiwara

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Clinical Pharmacist at FirstVitals.

**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Staff pharmacist at Corner Pharmacy

**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Mililani, Hawai'i



## Pualei (Santore) Heu

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Pharmacy Manager, Safeway, Kailua-Kona

**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Pharmacy Manager, Sack N Save, Hilo

**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i



## Mike Maradik

**FIRST & CURRENT JOB:**  
CVS, Mount Prospect, Ill., working with specialty drugs, primarily for Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension and Chemotherapy.

**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Palatine, Ill.



## Mandy Medina

**CURRENT JOB:**  
Started my own consulting company, Medication Time Consulting, at the beginning of this year, focused on medication therapy management and chronic disease state counseling

**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Pharmacist, Costco

**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Visalia, Calif., with my husband Bernie and sons Gabe and Sam



**Holly Miracle**

**FIRST & CURRENT JOB:**  
Staff Pharmacist  
at Food City Pharmacy  
**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Harrogate, Tenn.



**Amber Schwarz**

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Overnight staff RPh  
at CVS Pharmacy  
**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Staff RPh at CVS Pharmacy  
**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Phoenix, Ariz.



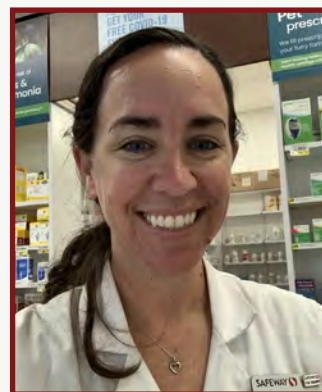
**Nelson Nakatsu**

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Pharmacist, Hilo Medical Center  
**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Pharmacist, Ululani Pharmacy, Hilo  
**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Hilo, Hawai'i



**Ambrish Patel**

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Owner/Pharmacist,  
Frederick Community Pharmacy  
**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Staff Pharmacist at Kmart Pharmacy  
**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Washington DC Metro area



**Annie (Ellen Loney)  
Perreira**

**CURRENT JOB:**  
Pharmacy Manager, Safeway  
Pharmacy, Kahului, Maui  
**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Staff Pharmacist, Safeway Pharmacy  
**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Kahului, Maui



**EUIKYUNG (ALICE)  
SHIN**

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Medical Writer  
**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Mental Health Pharmacist  
in Singapore  
**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Seoul, Korea



**Eugene Talatala**

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Aggregate Reports Analyst  
Manager, Pfizer  
**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Safety Surveillance Associate, Pfizer  
**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Wycoff, NJ



**Veneta Tsonev**

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Clinical telepharmacist, PipelineRX,  
licensed and practicing in several  
states including Hawai'i  
**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
PGY-1, Community hospital,  
Palos Heights, Ill.  
**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Des Plaines, Ill.



**Jen Zbylski**

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Walgreens Staff Pharmacist  
**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Walgreens Floating Pharmacist  
**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Phoenix, Ariz.



**Hannah Villoria**

**CURRENT TITLE:**  
Pharmacy Manager, Foodland  
**FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATION:**  
Staff pharmacist, Mina Pharmacy  
**CURRENT LOCATION:**  
Honolulu, Hawai'i



## Two Class of 2014 alums honored with state awards

Pharmacy associations have recently recognized two DKICP alumni with prestigious state-wide awards. Dr. Katie Bass, Class of 2014, was selected to receive the Bowl of Hygeia award from the California Pharmacists Association at their state conference in May. Fellow 2014 graduate Dr. Jimmy Stevens was honored by the Arizona Pharmacy Association with its 2021 Pharmacist of the Year award.

Bass is owner and pharmacist in charge at San Joaquin Drug, Planada, Calif., which is a full-service pharmacy offering free delivery, COVID-19 testing and immunizations. She also owns and operates Yosemite Drug in Coarsegold, Calif., which she opened in 2019 as a full retail business that also does compounding. The Bowl of Hygeia award is given annually to a pharmacist for exemplary community involvement and for providing patients with accessible healthcare through expanded services.

Bass is proud to be keeping San Joaquin Drug a family business, buying it in 2019 from her parents, who have owned it since 2000. Growing up there allowed her to perform nearly every job in the place, including stocking shelves and making deliveries.

While it takes long hours to run her own business, she makes time to be with her two-year-old son Aulin and husband Jeff Meyer, and is expecting a second child in August.

“I was really excited to hear about Jimmy’s award, as well,” says Bass. “We were Class of 2014 liaisons together back in pharmacy college.”

◀ Former DKICP classmates (Class of 2014), Katie Bass and Jimmy Stevens were both honored this Spring with awards from their respective state pharmacy associations.

Stevens, along with wife Madison, recently became partners in Prescott Compounding Pharmacy in Prescott, Ariz., where he is managing pharmacist. He also works as a Pharmacology Scholar at the e-learning company Picmonic, and is adjunct faculty at Midwestern University’s College of Pharmacy in Glendale, Ariz. In 2020 he published his first article in Pharmacy Times.

Prior to becoming a co-owner of Prescott Compounding, he was director of pharmacy at Copper Springs, a behavioral health hospital for the east valley area. Since graduation from pharmacy college, he has been an active member of the Arizona Pharmacy Association, working to improve the pharmacy practice. In 2018 he was selected as co-chair of the group’s continuing education committee.

In his off time, he enjoys traveling, biking and being a devoted friend, husband, and dad to his newborn son Tegan and dog dad to Ty (short for Tylenol), his chocolate lab.

## First Legacy Path bricks installed

The pathway leading up to the home of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy is more than a walkway. It honors those who have dedicated energy and resources to build and maintain the college as a beacon of learning in the Pacific.

The bricks from which the walkway is built are engraved with the names of donors who are an important part of the college’s legacy. Some donors have chosen to celebrate an achievement or create a tribute to a friend or loved one by purchasing a brick.

The first engraved bricks were installed into the pathway in May. Each donor received a photo of their engraved and installed brick, surrounded by a lei and description of the flowers and plant materials used to create it. The lei was placed on each legacy brick to represent the continuing knowledge that each person has contributed to the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy.

The lei consists of three plants they are the kupukupu fern, kukui nut, and la’i. All three of these plants are part of the DKICP mural on the

building’s first floor and, brought together, symbolize the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy as cultivating growth of knowledge in a quiet and calm setting.

Kupukupu fern symbolize growth and the sprouting of knowledge, and is one of the first plants that sprout after a lava flow.

Kukui nut symbolizes enlightenment, knowledge, wisdom and protection. Its bark, flowers and the nuts are used for medicine.

La’i or ti leaf symbolizes solace, calmness and silence. La’i has many medicinal uses, one is to reduce fever by covering a person with the leaves.

All three plants are planted on site here at Hale Kihō’iho’i.

“What’s wonderful about this first group of bricks installed is that they contain the names of not just legislators and administrators who worked to conceive and establish this college, but also faculty and students who care deeply about its future success,” says Dean Carolyn Ma. “One of the students who purchased a brick is a member of the Class of 2022.”

Price of the bricks varies, based on their location on the pathway, and ranges from \$500 to \$1,500. To learn more about leaving a legacy, see details on the inside back cover of this issue.

View a video of the installation at <https://youtu.be/09dPwYs2goI>.







# HONORING ACHIEVEMENT

## STUDENT AND FACULTY AWARDS PRESENTED IN ONLINE PROGRAM

For the second year, the DKICP spring awards ceremony was conducted online, with awards and scholarships presented to 67 students and faculty. Also announced was the 2021 Preceptor of the Year, Dr. James Montague, a 2013 DKICP alumni who has precepted Ambulatory Care APPE rotations at the Sinfonia Medication Management Center in Tucson, Ariz. The Faculty Preceptor of the Year is Dr. Camlyn Masuda, associate specialist at DKICP.

This year's student award and scholarship winners include:

### PHARMACY CURRICULUM OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT:

Brian Petrone had the highest score in the DKICP Class of 2022 and scored in the 97th percentile, nationally.

### USPHS EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH PHARMACY AWARD:

Paige Cajudoy

### NCPA OUTSTANDING STUDENT MEMBER OF THE YEAR:

Mindy Kim

### APHA-ASP SENIOR RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE:

Karen Pae

### VIATRIS EXCELLENCE IN PHARMACY AWARD:

Taylor Hiraga

### KAHELE STUDENT LEADER OF THE YEAR:

Patricia Stevens

**CLASS AMBASSADORS** were recognized for all of their contributions in representing the school to prospective students and the community. Those students include:

**Class of 2022:** Alysha Cosier, Ashley Fukuchi, Olivia Graham, Andy Lin, Danh Nguyen, Angelyn Park, Janny Phong and Kara Tsuzaki

**Class of 2023:** Kateleen Caye Bio, Analeslie Martinez and Daijiro Oshitari

### UH HILO STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATORS:

Roanne Deabler, UHHS executive senator; Mercedes Dennis, DKICP senator; and Nadra Nour, senator at large

### STUDENT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR:

Delta Lambda Chapter of Phi Lambda Sigma (pharmacy leadership society)

This year's faculty award winners include the **STUDENT CHOICE AWARDS FOR TEACHING**

### Class of 2024:

**Pharmaceutical Sciences:** Dr. Abhijit Date

**Pharmacy Practice:** Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananutit

### Class of 2023:

**Pharmaceutical Sciences:** Dr. Dianquing Sun

**Pharmacy Practice:** Dr. Bryce Fukunaga

### Class of 2022:

**Pharmaceutical Sciences:**

Dr. Daniela Guendisch

**Pharmacy Practice:** Dr. Faith Hicks

## SCHOLARSHIPS

### CVS HEALTH FOUNDATION PHARMACY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS:

Tomomi Kohno and Cleighton Lagmay

### ELWIN & VALERIE GOO ENDOWED EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP:

Tran Dinh

### GRACE MIZUKO MIYAWAKI PHARMACY SCHOLARSHIP:

Tyler Branco-Hedke

### HAGA FAMILY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP:

Alysha Cosier

### HAWAII INDEPENDENT PHARMACIES, INC. ENDOWED EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS:

Roanne Deabler and Rosalie White

### EDWIN AND GEORGIANA KAM ENDOWED EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP:

Kalen Niimi

### MOLOKAI DRUGS, INC. SCHOLARSHIPS:

Teva Kealoha Meyer and Daijiro Oshitari

### MR. NAGAKATSU KUMAO OTSUKA AND DR. RAYMOND MASASHI OTSUKA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS:

Kendrick Justin Dalmacio and Sasha Nealand (Kovacs)

### ALBERTSONS SAFEWAY PHARMACY SCHOLARSHIP:

Ashley Fukuchi

### WALGREENS DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION SCHOLARSHIP:

Chrystal Cardoza

### WALGREENS MULTILINGUAL SCHOLARSHIP:

Ola Gbadebo

### JOHN M. AND MIMI F. PEZZUTO EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS:

Danh Nguyen and Yun Soo Park

### DKICP MERIT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

#### Class of 2022:

Alysha Cosier, Tran Dinh, Ashley Fukuchi, Leia Hasegawa, Brian Petrone, Donald Sachs and Melanie Sacro

#### Class of 2023:

Jasmin Curiel, Emily Tu Le, Kalen Niimi and Sung Mi Yoon

#### Class of 2024:

Carly Bell, Corey Duenas, Cheyenne Garretson, Molly Moran, Jeff Michael Regalaro and Daniella Wallace

### UH HILO COLLEGE OF PHARMACY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS:

Analeslie Martinez, Matthew Neumann, Nadra Nour and Daniella Wallace



**Julie Adrian**, DVM, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, and **Dana-Lynn Ko'omoa-Lange**, Ph.D. and associate professor, were co-authors of a paper titled "Attitude toward companion and guard dogs in Hawai'i: Health and welfare implications," accepted for publication in *People and Animals: The International Journal of Research and Practice*, 2021. Adrian was also the tending veterinarian and co-investigator on the research project. In May, Dr. Adrian was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for demonstrating expectations of an effective mentor in the Faculty Development Committee, by Chancellor Bonnie Irwin.



**Shugeng Cao**, Ph.D. and professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received the UH Hilo campus-wide award for Excellence in Creative and Scholarly Activities. The award is given annually to a tenure track faculty member for outstanding achievement in scholarly and/or creative endeavors, including publication of well-reviewed books, publication in refereed journals or performances or exhibitions at the state or national levels.



**Camlyn Masuda**, PharmD and associate specialist, is primary investigator on a grant awarded by the National Institute of Minority Health Disparities and administered by Ola Hawai'i Grant. The purpose of the grant is to better understand how to manage diabetes for those who are homeless. She was also a co-author of two poster presentations: "Resilience initiative in emerging health professionals to empower Hawai'i homeless with diabetes and pre-diabetes education", presented at the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Spring Institute, held virtually in April 2021; and "A pilot program to teach pharmacy students practical skills to navigate drug insurance benefits", presented at the Hawai'i Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting, held virtually in April 2021.



**Karen Pellegrin**, Ph.D., MBA, and director of continuing education, strategic planning and the Center for Rural Health Science, is part of a team receiving a grant from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute. The grant award is titled "Engaging Older Adults and Caregivers in Medication Optimization Research." Dr. Pellegrin

FACULTY PROMOTIONS

This year five DKICP faculty were successful in the Promotion and Tenure process.

IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY PRACTICE:

**Dr. Julie Adrian** was promoted to full professor. **Dr. Camlyn Masuda** was promoted to associate specialist and received tenure. **Dr. Jarred Prudencio** was promoted to associate professor and received tenure.

IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES:

**Dr. Shugeng Cao** was promoted to full professor. **Dr. Leng Chee Chang** was promoted to full professor.

is the primary investigator of a subaward for the Hawai'i region. She was also co-author of a poster presentation titled "Geographic and social characteristics of Medicare beneficiaries eligible for Medication Therapy Management who were not offered Comprehensive Medication Review," presented at the 2021 American College of Clinical Pharmacy Virtual Poster Symposium, May 25-26, 2021. Co-authors included M Lee, B Zarowitz, C Cooke and N Brandt.



**Jarred Prudencio**, PharmD and associate professor, was recognized with the Outstanding Local Advisor Award by HOSA - Future Health Professionals, at their virtual International Leadership Conference in June, for his work advising the UH Hilo HOSA student organization.



**Dianqing Sun**, professor and chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, published an invited review article entitled "Macrocyclic-antibiotic hybrids: A path to clinical candidates" in *Frontiers in Chemistry* with Abdrrahman Surur. He also gave a poster presentation entitled "U.S. FDA-approved antibiotics during the 21st Century" at the 2021 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Annual Meeting, Virtual Pharmacy Education 2021, held on July 19-22, with Taylor Hori and Yaw Owusu. In addition, Dr. Sun was invited to serve on a NIAID/NIH grant review panel to review grant applications related to Topics in Coronavirus Drug Discovery and Development. He will also serve on the 2021-2022 AACP Council of Faculties Faculty Affairs standing committee.

**Nicole Young**, PharmD, BCCP; **Jarred Prudencio**, PharmD, BCACP, BC-ADM; **Christina Method**, CPhT; **Lara Gomez**, PharmD; **Roy Goo**, PharmD; **Carolyn Ma**, PharmD, FNAP, presented a poster titled "Vaccination Engagement Impacts COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution in Hawaii and Pharmacy Students' Perceptions on Pharmacist's Role" at the AACP Virtual Pharmacy Education 2021 Annual Meeting in July.

CHAMPION OF PHARMACY

JASON DELA CRUZ & ERIC HONDA

*Along with the rest of the Hawai'i Department of Health team on the Big Island, they have worked tirelessly to oversee the county's COVID-19 response and implement vaccination efforts.*



In lead positions for the Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) on the Big Island, Eric Honda and Jason Dela Cruz have had a very challenging year and a half.

Honda is the acting district health officer and is normally responsible for overseeing environmental health, food safety and vector control functions on the island. As a planner with the DOH's Office of Public Health Preparedness, Dela Cruz typically spends his time educating the public about topics such as rat lungworm and helping the county respond to dengue fever outbreaks or air-quality issues tied to volcanic activity on the island.

But the COVID-19 pandemic changed all of that beginning in March of 2020, when planning the pandemic response became their primary focus. It continued to take up more than 90 percent of their work time for a year. "Only in the last few months it's dropped back to taking only 50 to 60 percent of our time, and we're able to address other work that got pushed to the side," says Honda.

Both Dela Cruz and Honda bring diverse professional backgrounds to their work in public health but agree that nothing prepared them for dealing with a global pandemic. "Our jobs were to manage the county's response to the pandemic, which included contact tracing and disease investigation," explains Honda. "That required us to create a lot of the organization for those

things in real time, learning and doing as we went."

It was an all-hands-on-deck situation at the DOH, statewide. But the district office faced a particular manpower shortage. "We were able to pull half of our district staff from their normal duties in vector control, food safety and as public health nurses and educators, to focus on pandemic response," explains Honda. "They worked on contact tracing, isolation and quarantine, and later vaccination programs. The National Guard was also essential in supplementing our efforts for much of this."

Another valuable resource DOH staff tapped into were the faculty, staff and students at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. "UH Hilo started its own Medical Reserve Corp chapter and we were able to use pharmacy students to help at the vaccine PODs," explains Dela Cruz. "For years we've used P1 students to help out at our K-6 school clinics, so we already had a good working relationship with the college and Dean Ma."

She and other UHH administrators were involved in early pandemic planning on county and state levels, he notes. "Her involvement was really valuable and she and the college provided a great conduit to local pharmacies as we moved into the vaccination stage."

Dela Cruz also oversees the work of several DKICP student pharmacists on rotation at the district DOH office each semester. "This past year, those students were a great help with contract tracing and monitoring programs early on, they helped research proper federal procedures we needed to follow in working with local pharmacies for vaccinations, and they supported our nursing teams and worked in preparation and observation areas at the many large-scale PODs that took place."

Student pharmacists currently on rotation with the DOH are also working to understand vaccine hesitancy within the public and developing strategies to overcome it, he says. "They often bring fresh eyes to the problems we've been dealing with this past year, and their help has been valuable."

Adds Honda, "Public health has often been an unappreciated field. When we do a good job, it's taken for granted. But the pandemic has really highlighted the important role it plays in our society. It would be great if more students would consider it as a career."

## PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR



### JAMES P. MONTAGUE

#### Helping students get their clinical wings

For pharmacist James Montague, the most rewarding thing about being a preceptor is watching his students grow, professionally. “Their interactions become so much more detailed and their confidence increases throughout their rotation,” he says. “It’s fun to see.”

Montague precepted DKICP students for several years in his previous position as a medication management specialist at the SinfoniaRx Medication Management Center at the University of Arizona. He hopes to continue in that role again after he’s settled into a fairly new position with Centene Corporation in Phoenix.

too, in order to teach them the most up-to-date information.”

The Arizona native completed his undergraduate coursework at both the University of Arizona and Arizona State University before working toward his PharmD at the newly formed UH Hilo College of Pharmacy. After graduating in 2013, he worked in retail as a pharmacy manager for several years before moving into MTM.

Montague is active in professional organizations, including serving on the board of directors of the Arizona Pharmacy Association. In 2018 he received the association’s Distinguished Young Pharmacist award.

“I try to take a more encouraging approach when working with student pharmacists and, rather than pimping them and asking questions until they’re stumped, I try to lead them to the answer,” he says.

“For me, teaching is a mutually beneficial relationship – the students are learning and, often, I’m learning things with them and from them,” says Montague. “It also keeps me on my toes, professionally, since I have to do my homework,

“Dr. Montague’s mission is to maintain the high quality of care for patients that has made pharmacy one of the nation’s most trusted professions,” notes Jarred Prudencio, PharmD, DKICP associate professor and chief of experiential education. “As a preceptor he works to advance the field of pharmacy by sharing his knowledge with the next generation of rising pharmacists. We really appreciate those contributions.”

#### CAREER PATH

- Graduated with PharmD, UH Hilo College of Pharmacy, 2013
- Pharmacist for CVS Health, Phoenix, Ariz. – 7 years
- Medication management specialist, SinfoniaRx Medication Management Center at the University of Arizona, Phoenix – 5 years
- Clinical trainer – 3 years
- Pharmacist, Centene Corp., Phoenix – 6 months

## FACULTY PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR



### CAMLYN MASUDA

#### Making sure students are well prepared

With a strong interest in the sciences, Camlyn Masuda knew while in her undergraduate studies that she wanted to pursue a career in healthcare. “I’ve always liked working with people but I didn’t really think about getting a pharmacy degree until a cardiologist whose office I worked in suggested it might be a good fit for me as the profession then was poised to expand into more patient counseling.”

That advice proved to be spot-on, and it’s a career Dr. Masuda says she’s found to be both challenging and rewarding. She enjoys working at University Health Partners Family Medicine Clinic, a family medicine clinic in Central Oahu, focused mainly on helping patients manage their diabetes.

In the seven years she’s been on the DKICP faculty, she has taught

courses in integrated therapeutics and drug information, as well as worked with fourth-year students on ambulatory care rotations. Prior to the pandemic, she’d have students with her in the clinic two to three days a week. “The past year, we went to all virtual rotations, which most students adjusted to fairly easily. The biggest challenge was often not having reliable internet connections where our patients were but, other than that, both students and patients adapted to the online routine.”

She said there were advantages to talking with patients while they were at home. “When the students go over all a patient’s medications with them, the patients would have them all there in front of them, which is often not the case when we meet with them in the clinic.”

As a preceptor, the thing she most enjoys about working with student pharmacists is when they have “aha” moments. “You see them learning to apply the concepts you’ve been discussing and the transition they make from the didactics to applying it with a specific patient. It’s rewarding for the student to experience and for me to witness.”

When working with students on rotation, she encourages students to practice tasks and activities they will do as pharmacists such as performing medicine reconciliation and counseling for side-effects. “They also need to become comfortable with and knowledgeable about the latest technologies that are most helpful for them and their patients.”

From an educational standpoint, she says the past year has forced everyone to be more tech savvy

and creative in communicating. “There are a variety of platforms we’ve been using for remote learning and conferencing with medical staff and patients. If anything, it has made our students even better prepared for handling the technical aspects of the healthcare jobs they are training for.”

#### PROFESSIONAL MILESTONES

- Pharm.D. from Oregon State University
- PGY1 residency – Kaiser Permanente, Honolulu
- Ambulatory care pharmacist Residency program coordinator – Kaiser Permanente, Honolulu
- Physician’s Mutual/Hawaii Pharmacists Association Distinguished Young Pharmacist – 2008
- Assistant Specialist in Pharmacy Practice, DKICP – 7 years
- Hawaii Pharmacists Association Pharmacist of the Year 2016
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar – 2020-2023

# Spring 2021 Dean's List

The following students from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo have been named to the Dean's List for the 2021 Spring semester:



## CLASS OF 2022

Liana Ang	Ashley Fukuchi	Zhian Lin	Kellen Sakamoto
Caroline Boule	Laura Hardaway	Kyle Nakagawa	Jessica Song
Tyler Jo Branco-Hedke	Leia Hasegawa	Danh-Ronald Nguyen	Lillian Tran
Paige Cajudoy	Yan Yee Ho	Angelyn Park	Kara Tszuzaki
Alysha Cosier	Viky Huang	Brian Petrone	Sabrina Uchino
Roanne Deabler	Christopher Kaneko	Jenny Phong	
Tran Dinh	Jane Lakritz	Cody Porter	
Tara-Ann Dumlao	Tiffany Lam	Melanie Sacro	

## CLASS OF 2023

Kateleen Caye Bio	Analeslie Martinez	Kalen Niimi
Chrystal Cardoza	Kathleen Millard	Tiana Tran
Katrina Heyer	Stephanie Mojumdar	GaYeon Wang
Tu Le	Selena Joy Morita	Rosalie White
Hyeji Lee	Matthew Neumann	Sung Mi Yoon

## CLASS OF 2024

Meara Michi Abad	Cheyenne Garretson	Jeff Michael Regalario
Crystal Beardsley	Olatunji Gbadebo	Hien-Trang Tran
Carly Bell	Chase Ibia	Daniella Wallace
Brennan Palani Buccat	Teva Kealoha Meyer	Gabriel Won
Kylie Bungcayao	Erin Kim	
Judhea Mae Campollo	Gladys Hope Lorenzo	
Dyani Chock	Chan Hong Min	
Corey Duenas	Skye Pyo	

# NAME A BRICK, INSPIRE A LEGACY

The Legacy Path provides alumni, family and friends of the The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy the chance to show their support for the college and the pharmacy profession.

When you buy an inscribed brick on the DKICP Legacy Path, which leads up to the main entrance of our new home, you establish a permanent link to the history of the college. And you pave the way for future generations to remember it. Show your UH pride or make a lasting tribute to a loved one today, and leave a legacy for tomorrow.

- The Legacy Path is located at the UH Hilo Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, and begins at the entry garden and extends up the walkway to the main entrance.
- Bricks are installed in Spring and Fall. We will let you know when your brick is installed.
- Each rust-hued brick is approximately 4½ by 9 inches.
- Inscriptions can be up to 3 lines of 16 characters/spaces per line. (Include spaces and punctuation in the count.)
- Special requests will be accommodated if possible. Submit orders together for adjacent bricks.
- Participation is open to all alumni, parents, friends and supporters.
- The full amount of your gift is tax deductible.



## I want to be part of the DKICP Legacy

Please reserve my brick in the:

- Kawili La'au Kipuka: \$500 per brick
- Oath of a Pharmacist Path: \$750 per brick
- DKICP Gateway: \$1000 per brick
- Alumni & 'Ohana Legacy Circle: \$1500 per brick

Purchaser: \_\_\_\_\_

Alumni Class Year if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

- Friends & Family
- Other

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Inscription: 3 lines, 16 characters each (including spaces and punctuation)




To reserve multiple bricks, please submit forms together.

### Payment Information

- Check/Money Order  
*(payable to UH Foundation. Add "DKICP Legacy Path" on bottom of check.)*

For credit card payments visit  
<https://online.uhfoundation.org/memberships/UHHLegacyPath.aspx>  
 or submit payment with form to:



**DKICP Legacy Path**  
**Attn: Nadine Hara**  
**200 W. Kawili Street**  
**Hilo, Hawai'i 96720**

## Kāwili Lā‘au

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- ▼ *The return of students to campus, and especially in study and meeting areas around Hale Kihō‘iho‘i, will be a welcomed sight this Fall.*

