

# Kāwili Lā'au

(To mix ingredients, drugs or medicine; pharmacist)



Winter 2009, Volume 2, Issue 2

## CLASS OF 2013



The College of Pharmacy welcomes 90 new students as it moves closer to its inaugural graduation.



The Class of 2013 celebrates the White Coat Ceremony on Oct. 17 at the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center.

## White Coat Ceremony, blessing among school year's milestones

The College of Pharmacy's Class of 2013 celebrated a rite of passage Oct. 17 only hours after the college itself marked a milestone of its growth.

The momentous day began with a blessing ceremony for three modular buildings on the UH Hilo campus that represent Phase I for the temporary home of the College of Pharmacy. The compound, which is being used by pharmacy students and faculty, includes offices, an auditorium, laboratories and research facilities.

"The facilities are really a

significant first step toward answering the state's need for more professionals that are committed to professional health care," said Gerald De Mello, Director of University Relations. "The pharmacy program gives a national distinction in many ways to the island and for our community, and adds a vitality to our university and our town. It will take us to our long-sought goal of redefining the basis of economics in Hilo to depend on a knowledge

**MILESTONES, NEXT PAGE**



“The College of Pharmacy is a shining beacon in the educational system of Hawai'i and the Pacific and I'm proud to be one of its supporters.

— **Hawai'i Gov. Linda Lingle**, announcing the release of millions of dollars for the planning of a permanent College of Pharmacy building at UH Hilo. For the complete story, see **Page 4**.

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# Milestones

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institution that helps move the town, the island and the state forward."

UH Hilo Chancellor Rose Tseng spoke to the more than 65 people who attended, and recognized several dignitaries in attendance who have helped the College of Pharmacy, including state Rep. Jerry Chang; Pat DeLeon, Chief of Staff to U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii; Hilo attorney Roy Nakamoto; retired pharmacist Ron Okamura, a member of the Dean's Advisory Council; state Rep. Clift Tsuji; and Harvey Tajiri, University of Hawaii Regent.

"Without the state legislature, we would never have gotten this far," Chancellor Tseng said. "With Dean John Pezzuto's guidance, the college has already attracted top-notch faculty who really are modern-day pioneers working to make this a health-care mecca of the Pacific. But it takes a community to make this happen."

Dean Pezzuto expressed gratitude to the community, as well as to John Dill, the construction company that built the modular compound and provided the tent for the ceremony.

"These buildings actually got us on the map — the campus map," Dean Pezzuto said. "We are extremely grateful to the state legislature for giving us hope and the strength to carry ahead to reach our vision to become a top-rated College of Pharmacy."

Danny Akaka Jr., son of U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka of Hawaii, conducted the traditional blessing. Akaka, who was the cultural historian at Mauna Lani Resort for 20 years, is a practicing kahu (minister). Using fluent Hawaiian, he led the administrators through the three buildings after untying the maile lei, a symbol for good luck and prosperity.

"Use this time to move with the flow and to enjoy what nature gives us," Akaka said. "It's a symbol that we're not alone. We're surrounded by the beauty of this place and the ancestors who were here before us."



From left: Danny Akaka Jr.; Anna Akaka; UH Regent Harvey Tajiri; College of Pharmacy Class of 2011 President Jessica Toyama; UH Hilo Chancellor Rose Tseng; College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto; state Rep. Jerry Chang; Chief of Staff to U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye Pat DeLeon; Chief of Staff to U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye; state Rep. Clift Tsuji; and Gerald De Mello, Director of University Relations, prepare to untie a maile lei at the College of Pharmacy building blessing ceremony.



Danny Akaka Jr., a practicing kahu (minister), conducts a traditional Hawaiian blessing at the College of Pharmacy's new modular buildings.

## White Coat Ceremony

A celebration of a different kind took place a few hours later at the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center.

The White Coat Ceremony is a rite of passage for students entering their first year in the professional program to affirm their commitment to professionalism,

respect, integrity and caring. Ninety pharmacy students from the Class of 2013 recited the Oath of a

Pharmacist in front of their peers, professors, community and families.

In addition to UH Hilo administrators, the students were addressed by Hawaii County Mayor Billy Kenoi, state Rep. Jerry Chang, Hilo Medical Center Pharmacy Director Nelson Nako, Sen. Inouye's Chief of Staff Pat DeLeon, and Papatya Tankut, Pharmacy Professional Services Vice President from CVS Caremark/Longs Drugs, who sponsored the ceremony.

"We continue to forge ahead and will follow the motto of Queen Kapi'olani, which was 'Kulia i ka nu'u,' meaning 'Strive for the very top of the mountain,'" Dean Pezzuto said. "That's what we will continue to do and we'll do it together. The future is ours to build together."

Many first-year students said they were inspired by the ceremony and the speakers. Veronica Cummings, from Guam, said it was fitting to hear their stories.

"I liked hearing encouragement from the mayor, who pointed out there are going to be hard times but we just need to stick with it," Cummings said.

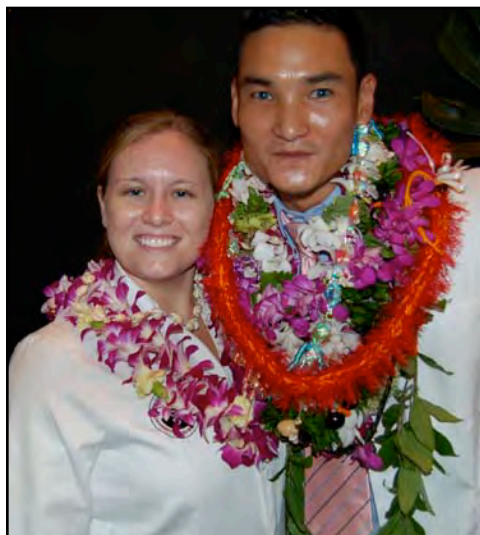
Michael Taylor, who attended Waiakea High School, had moved to California but returned to Hilo to attend pharmacy school.

"It makes us feel like we're part of something important to be going through a ceremony that only two other classes have at UHH," he said.

More photos,  
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First-year student Andy Chau Duong captures the festivities with his camera.



First-year students Nicole Schauer and Jason Okazaki are adorned with leis after the ceremony.



Dean Pezzuto, right, welcomes Hawaii County Mayor Billy Kenoi to the White Coat Ceremony.

# White Coat celebration

*'The future is ours to build together.'*

— **Dean Pezzuto**



Faculty and students from the Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikolani College of Hawaiian Language chant a welcome to honorees and guests.



Kalaniua Okano helps his uncle Matthew Sasaki celebrate his big day.



UH Hilo Chancellor Rose Tseng, left, and Pat DeLeon, Chief of Staff to U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii, speak with Mayor Kenoi before the ceremony begins.

## A message from the dean



**JOHN M. PEZZUTO**  
Ph.D., Professor  
and Dean

Years from now, when I reflect on the success of the UH Hilo College of Pharmacy, I will look back on the events of Saturday, Oct. 17, and Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009, as one of the true showcases of how much we have accomplished with the support of our University of Hawai'i leaders, our local and state elected representatives and our community.

I was fortunate enough to be a part of three milestones in our college's growth on that weekend; better yet, I was able to share these major triumphs with many of the people who have helped get us to this point — from UH Hilo Chancellor Rose Tseng and Hawai'i County Mayor Billy Kenoi to those who represent us at the university, state and national levels.

Saturday's blessing ceremony marked a major step forward by formally welcoming us to our first home on the UH Hilo campus. The modular building complex puts us on the campus map and gives our faculty and students the space they need to learn and do research.

A few hours later, I watched with pride as our third class of students donned their white coats to take the Oath of a Pharmacist. It's an important rite of passage in their lives, and I know those vows will stay with them for the next four years of education as they diligently move toward their career goals.

By early the next morning, our building complex was a buzz of activity as our students took the initiative to organize a free health fair for the Hilo community. More than 150 people showed up for blood pressure, cholesterol and blood glucose screenings, body mass index tests and information about medications, insurance and healthy eating. Each time our students reach out to our community, they show their commitment to serving others, and our College of Pharmacy again demonstrates to the people of our beautiful state that our goal is to improve the quality of health care in Hawai'i and throughout the Pacific.

## \$5.5 million helps CoP plan permanent home

Hawai'i Gov. Linda Lingle has released of \$5.5 million for planning and design of a permanent building for the College of Pharmacy. The state legislature approved the funding earlier this year.

"The College of Pharmacy is a shining beacon in the educational system of Hawai'i and the Pacific and I'm proud to be one of its supporters," said Gov. Lingle, who, on Oct. 23, proclaimed October as American Pharmacists Month. "The presence of this school means that we can keep students from having to leave our state to get a degree in a field that will improve overall health care and the local economy."

The College of Pharmacy has admitted students for the past three academic years, sharing classrooms and laboratories with other departments at UH Hilo. Teaching, research, study, administrative and faculty office spaces are scattered across seven sites on the UH Hilo campus and in the town.

"A permanent home is absolutely crucial in order for the College of Pharmacy to achieve full accreditation as well as to provide an environment that is conducive to quality educational and research opportunities," said UH Hilo Chancellor Rose Tseng. "We are grateful to the legislature and to the governor for recognizing the dire need for pharmacists who will provide an even greater service as our population ages and we experience healthcare reform."

A temporary modular compound of three buildings with one lecture auditorium, laboratories and offices has given the College of Pharmacy a presence on the UH Hilo campus this semester. An investment of the Joseph M. Long Foundation will allow the construction of a \$1 million addition.

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— **Rose Tseng,**  
UH Hilo Chancellor

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"The modular compound will find good use in supporting UH Hilo activities long after the college moves into a permanent building, and we continue to be appreciative of the generosity from our colleagues on campus," said College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto. "Over the past three years, we have grown from zero to a faculty and staff of more than 40, and a student body of about 260. A dedicated College of Pharmacy facility is not a flight of fancy but a necessary component in our quest to become a top-rated pharmacy school while we improve health and health care in Hawai'i and throughout the Pacific. I'd like to join the chancellor in thanking the governor and the legislature for recognizing the urgency of this plan."

UH Hilo began the first phase of construction of the health sciences complex in October 2008 with funding of \$5 million from the state. The finished permanent health complex is estimated to cost between \$25 million and \$50 million.



Mary Wakefield, Ph.D. RN, head of the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration, center; and Jacqueline Rychnovsky, Ph.D., RN, CPNP, Military Nurse Fellow in U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye's office, third from left, visited with UH Hilo faculty Oct. 4 to learn more about the school as well as the new FNP/Pharm.D. program. Among their hosts were, from left: Dr. Ron Taniguchi, Director of Community Partnerships, College of Pharmacy; Dr. Sue Jarvi, Associate Professor and Director, Pre-Pharmacy Program; College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto; Dr. Katharyn (Kay) Daub, Chair of the Baccalaureate Nursing Program; and Dr. Edward Fisher, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, College of Pharmacy.

# DoE awards nearly \$1 million to College of Pharmacy projects

UH Hilo has several projects planned that can move ahead thanks to a congressionally directed \$951,000 grant from the Department of Education.

"Students studying at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo's College of Pharmacy are able to take advantage of the best that Western science, Eastern traditions and Native Hawaiian heritage has to offer as they explore the healing arts," said U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, whose office approved the funding. "We must continue to expand the educational opportunities available to them so that new ways to heal our sick and prevent illness emerge."

With aid from the grant, the College of Pharmacy plans to:

- Develop a dual degree program with a Nurse Practitioner Specialty and Doctorate in Pharmacy (FNP/PharmD) to be jointly offered by the College of Pharmacy and the Department of Nursing. The program is expected to require a 6½-year commitment from the student, said Dr. Edward Fisher, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Pharmacy and

Pharmacy Program Director.

- Create a general practice pharmacy residency program, as well as a drug information and medication therapy management center and distance learning program. Program Director Carolyn Ma, Chair of Pharmacy Practice, said she hopes the residency program will help curtail the potential loss of UH Hilo-trained students to the mainland by offering opportunities for residency training in Hawai'i.

- Develop a clinical pharmacist training model for rural and underserved areas in Hawaii. Dr. Ronald Taniguchi, Director of Community Partnerships, said the goal is to develop a program that sparks awareness, provides incentives and offers support for students from the rural and underserved areas of Hawai'i to choose pharmacy as a career and return to their communities to practice. A secondary benefit to this initiative will be the production of a pharmacist workforce database that will assist in identifying areas in the state where pharmacy and pharmacist needs are not being met,

he said.

- Enhance training of pharmacy students by through the use of new technologies, such as virtual laboratories. Dr. Ma said students will learn to demonstrate clinical effects by responding via sophisticated simulators that mimic real-life clinical situations.

- Begin the planning phase for a doctoral program in physical therapy. Taniguchi said no such program exists in Hawai'i.

"There is critical need for all health care services in rural areas of the Pacific region, including many areas of Hawai'i," said Dr. John M. Pezzuto, Dean of the College of Pharmacy. "This grant will help us expand our reach to these underserved areas. We are very appreciative to the U.S. Department of Education for their vision in helping us to get these innovative programs started."

As a result of the program covered by the grant, the college can significantly enhance the clinical pharmacy training and applied rural science programs conducted by UH Hilo, Dean Pezzuto said.

# Wyeth Corp. donates valuable equipment

The College of Pharmacy will soon install a major instrument that will help further research at the university, thanks to a gift from the Wyeth Corp.

The Bruker-Biospin Avance DRX 400 is a 400-megahertz nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer (NMR) valued at \$250,000. It will be used to identify the structures of unknown chemicals including potential new drugs.

The equipment is being configured at a new College of Pharmacy laboratory space off Stainback Highway that will be used until the growing college has a permanent home.

"The gift of the NMR from Wyeth removes a major impediment to scientific research that must compete on a national or international scale," said Dr. Robert P. Borris, Associate Dean for Research at the College of Pharmacy. "Not having this kind of equipment tells federal funding agencies such as the National Science Foundation that we don't have the facilities in which to do cutting-edge research. Having the NMR at UH Hilo means we won't have to travel to O'ahu or to the mainland to conduct our work. We're very grateful to Wyeth for helping us to establish a cutting-edge scientific base for students at UH Hilo."

Pharmacy collaborates with faculty in chemistry, biology and biochemistry, and hopes to give ample access to anyone at UH Hilo in need of this fundamental tool for analytical chemistry, Dr. Borris said.

The NMR uses the behavior of atoms in a strong magnetic field to help identify the structure of chemicals, alone and in mixtures.

Research that would require an NMR might lead to the discovery of a new drug, which may have been synthesized in the laboratory or isolated from some natural product.

Dr. Guy T. Carter, Assistant Vice President of Chemical Technologies at Wyeth Research's Chemical & Screening Sciences, said Wyeth tries to place retired equipment that is still functional with academic research groups. The drug company, based in New York, typically chooses institutions that are close to one of their sites, such as Columbia University in New York and Temple University in Philadelphia. Carter said he was able to direct the NMR to UH Hilo through personal communications with Dr. Borris.

"I find it personally gratifying that the instrument will enable UH Hilo students to have access to high quality NMR data for their studies," Dr. Carter said. "I am particularly hopeful that the NMR will be valuable in advancing research in natural products drug discovery, which we are passionate about at Wyeth."

The gift is a signal of support from the pharmaceutical industry for the growing College of Pharmacy, said Dr. John M. Pezzuto, the College of Pharmacy dean.

"We are competing for the same funding that universities everywhere need, so it's absolutely critical that we can rely on the pharmaceutical industry," Dr. Pezzuto said. "Support from Wyeth Research is reassuring because it shows we're headed in the right direction. We are determined to continue on our planned path to improve health care in Hawai'i and the Pacific region."



We're very grateful to Wyeth for helping us to establish a cutting-edge scientific base for students at UH Hilo.

— **Dr. Robert P. Borris,**  
College of Pharmacy  
associate dean  
for research



## Pharmacists Advisory Council meets in Honolulu

The Pharmacists Advisory Council, which provides guidance and a sounding board for Dean John M. Pezzuto and the College of Pharmacy, met Sept. 11 in Honolulu.

"We're honored to have input from these professionals because they are the leaders of the practice of pharmacy in Hawaii," said Dr. Ron Taniguchi, Director of Community Partnerships for the CoP. "We are grateful to Ortho-McNeil-Janssen for their generous meeting support in 2008 and 2009."

Members are: Brian Fukunaga, Director, Health Systems & Alternative Care,

AmerisourceBergen; Jan Henry, Executive Director, PharMerica; Kathy Hirano, from Eli Lilly & Co.; Todd Inafuku, government affairs, CVS/Caremark/Longs; Barbara Kashiwabara, Director, Pharmaceutical Services, Kaiser Permanente; Kent Kikuchi, Director of Pharmacy Services, Wilcox Memorial Hospital; Les Krenk, owner, Maui Clinic Pharmacy; Joy Matsuyama, Pharmacy Director, Straub Clinic and Hospital; Marvin Mitchell, Director of Pharmacy, Maui Memorial Medical Center; Nelson Nako, Director of Pharmacy Services, Hilo Medical Center; Lois Nash,

System Director of Pharmacy, Hawai'i Pacific Health; Kerri Okamura, Director of Pharmacy Operations, KTA Superstores; Ron Okamura, retired pharmacist; Kurt Schanzenbach, Director, Pharmacy Services, Queens Medical Center; Roy Yamauchi, Consultant Pharmacist, SynergyRx; Sue-Ann Yasuoka, Pharmacist, Times Supermarket; and Byron Yoshino, President & CEO, Pharmicare Hawai'i.

Dr. Carolyn Ma, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice, was the meeting's co-host.

# Educational programs are economic fuel



By **DAVID HAMMES**  
Ph.D., UH Hilo  
Professor  
of Economics

Looking for a prescription to help cure an ailing economy? Take a look at the impact of educational programs on the local and state economy.

Here at UH Hilo, the growing program in pharmacy helps us retain local students and attract students from off-island and out of state. Each student admitted into the program has a choice of pharmacy programs to attend. By selecting UH Hilo they become new consumers of our educational products.

These students are demanders of our locally produced educational services just as consumers of locally grown agricultural or other products are demanders of our goods. If students go elsewhere our local economy loses, just as it does when demanders of products buy from out-of-area producers.

The College of Pharmacy at UH Hilo helps fill a state- and nationwide need for pharmacists and, more expansively and possibly far-reaching, to conduct research with local industry to investigate the nutraceutical/medicinal properties of various plants and compounds. Thus, the college provides two main economic injections into the local

economy: new expenditures from students, staff and visitors to them, none of whom would be here in the absence of the college; and, new expenditures into the productive stream generated from research funding, again, which would be absent in the absence of the college.

Research funding in all areas — not just pharmacy — through national and international agencies is highly competitive; it's like the BCS football standings with a playoff. Research proposals are submitted and then must survive in head-to-head competition with proposals from hundreds of other programs from around the world. Grant recipients are like winners of a BCS championship series game. They train long and hard and produce the best results. That is where highly qualified and active-researching faculty are crucial. Without their creativity and drive, students will not come, courses won't be taught and research dollars will not be attracted.

At this point UH Hilo's College of Pharmacy is past the midpoint of a four-year arc to grow to 360 students. So, let's consider its economic impact now, as well as once it has reached its designed capacity. This year, net injections into the local economy through the avenues discussed above will be approximately \$18 million. Each dollar paid out in salaries and wages

from state funds will attract \$4.67 in new dollars — enough to pay for itself and have \$3.67 left over.

As the college hits its capacity, those figures will be \$26 million in new expenditures annually and \$4.58 brought in for every \$1 of wages and salaries.

Putting these numbers on a human scale statewide, increases in demand and spending due to the College of Pharmacy create and sustain approximately 400 new jobs, and in two years' time that will rise to about 610 jobs. These are jobs spread throughout the state from faculty, to bookstores, to suppliers, lunch counters and so on.

The story does not end here. Those of you familiar with economic impact studies know that the benefits of new or retained expenditures have an enhanced effect in an economy as the newly injected dollars get spent and re-spent, or multiplied up, over time. Using multipliers derived from the state's DBEDT, we calculate that the increase for final goods and services as a result of the \$18 million new expenditures will be \$34 million this year, and just over \$50 million in two years' time.

That's \$50 million that wouldn't be here without the College of Pharmacy adding to the academic vitality of UH Hilo and the state.

Now that's a big economic punch.

## Grand opening

Speakers await their turn at the grand opening celebration of the Hawai'i Island Family Health Center on Oct. 24. From left are Katharyn (Kay) Daub, Department Chair, UH Hilo Baccalaureate Nursing Program; Howard Ainsley, East Hawai'i Regional Chief Executive Officer, Hawai'i Health Systems Corp.; College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto; and Hawai'i County Mayor Billy Kenoi. The College of Pharmacy is a partner at this multidisciplinary training site for pharmacists, nurse practitioners, nurses and family physicians. Dr. Scott Holuby, Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, provides medication management for patients with chronic diseases, monitors anticoagulation therapy and clinic medication use, provides drug information and education to medical staff and supervises student pharmacists.



# Dean's cancer research project gets additional grant funds

A research project that looks at deep-sea microorganisms to prevent cancer, led by College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto, has received renewal notice from the National Cancer Institute in the National Institutes of Health.

The grant, titled "Natural Inhibitors of Carcinogenesis," is in its 17th year with an annual budget of \$1,341,115. In order to hasten progress, an additional \$477,847 was awarded effective Aug. 1 as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

"This work is an essential component of the national effort to defeat cancer, and it fits in perfectly with our focus on natural products here at UH Hilo," Dean Pezzuto said.

"Using deep-sea microorganisms, along with unique biological assays, powerful tools in spectroscopy and structural biology and innovative organic and medicinal chemistry approaches, we can continue to look for ocean sediment-derived microorganisms that may ultimately promote the prevention of cancer."

The project is aided by an external advisory board, consisting of world-renowned scientists in the field, including Dr. Frank Meyskens, widely considered one of the fathers of the field of cancer chemoprevention.

Dr. Meyskens is the director of the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, as well as Professor of Medicine and Biological Chemistry and Associate Vice Chancellor of

## CO-INVESTIGATORS

Four experts in other fields are participating in the cancer research project as co-investigators.

### MARINE BIOLOGY



**Dr. William Fenical,**  
Professor of Oceanography, Center for Marine Biotechnology and Biomedicine, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California

### CHEMISTRY



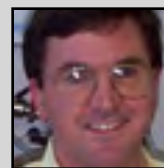
**Dr. Mark S. Cushman,**  
Professor of Medicinal Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Purdue University

### STRUCTURAL & MECHANISTIC BIOLOGY



**Dr. Andrew Mesecar,**  
Center for Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois at Chicago

### LC/MS/MS



**Dr. Richard B. van Breemen,**  
Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy, College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois at Chicago



**Dr. Meyskens**

Health Sciences at the College of Health Sciences University of California, Irvine.

"This idea of looking for new molecules in the marine world is very exciting because the best treatment of disease is its prevention," said Dr. Meyskens, who added that his company, Cancer Prevention Pharmaceuticals, is on the path to preventing colon cancer. "We're further along than people

think in cancer research, and we've made some amazing advances," he said.

Other renowned members of the board include Dr. Michael Sporn of Dartmouth Medical School, Koji Nakanishi of Columbia University and James McAlpine of Thallion Pharmaceuticals Inc

A competitive renewal is under peer review by the National Cancer Institute. Dean Pezzuto said he hopes an additional five years of support will be granted for this important project.



This work is an essential component of the national effort to defeat cancer, and it fits in perfectly with our focus on natural products here at UH Hilo.



— **Dr. John M. Pezzuto,**  
College of Pharmacy dean





### Blood pressure training

Second-year student Sally Van, above, practices her blood pressure measurement technique using a blood pressure simulator arm that was furnished through a grant from the Women's Campus Club at UH Manoa. The simulator allows students to clearly hear blood pressure sounds while providing no discomfort to the "patient." Below, Instructor Mimi Pezzuto lends her arm for a demonstration of proper technique during the class for second-year students.



## Research project will help elderly in state's rural areas

Seniors living in rural areas of Hawaii may benefit from medication safety education that will be provided by UH Hilo's College of Pharmacy. The project was recently awarded \$331,254 over a one-year period from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Health and Safety Education Competitive Grants Program administered through the Cooperative State Research and Extension Service.

According to the Hawai'i Department of Health, most of Hawai'i is medically underserved with primary care staff shortages, especially in rural areas. Excluding Honolulu County, census estimates show more than 50,000 Hawai'i residents age 65 or older in 2007.

"Research has shown that seniors have a greater risk of preventable adverse drug events and that medication therapy management is one of the primary health and safety issues associated with aging," said Dr. Karen Pellegrin, principal investigator for the project and Director of Continuing Education and Strategic Planning in the College of Pharmacy. "This medication safety issue is exacerbated in rural areas by limited access to specialized health-care services. The purpose of this project is to develop, deliver and evaluate the impact of medication safety education pertaining to the elderly."

One of the reasons the project was chosen to receive the grant is because it seeks partnerships with existing community health-related groups, said Dr. Shirley A. Gerrior, National Program Leader in the Families, 4-H and Nutrition Unit at the Extension Service.

"The project promotes sustainability and community outreach with plans to adapt educational seminars and information for delivery through

eXtension, an interactive learning environment connecting consumers with providers," said Dr. Gerrior. "This project is an innovative and relevant program that brings together pharmacy professionals and seniors in rural Hawai'i via seminars in an otherwise isolated setting."

Education will target the elderly and their caregivers as well as primary care providers in rural areas. Advanced pharmacy students, under the supervision of a faculty member, will travel to rural communities throughout Hawai'i, including all of the neighbor Islands, to provide seminars to the public. Pharmacy practice faculty will also provide continuing education to physicians and other clinicians in rural areas via distance technology. These "webinars" will allow busy clinicians to earn credits toward their license renewal from the convenience of their home or office.

"Our advanced-level student pharmacists will assist with this project as the College of Pharmacy continues its mission to improve healthcare in rural and underserved areas of the state," said Dr. Scott Holuby, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, who will supervise the students in the program. "The role of the pharmacist is changing nationwide, and the College of Pharmacy is helping to lead the way in the state of Hawai'i."

Dr. Pellegrin said the two-pronged approach is designed to improve patient outcomes by changing practices of those who prescribe medication for the elderly and increasing safety behaviors of the elderly who take medications and their caregivers.

"Pharmacists are uniquely qualified to educate patients and providers about medication safety and help reduce adverse events from medications among seniors," Dr. Pellegrin said.

# Students organize a free health fair

College of Pharmacy students encouraged community education and healthy living Oct. 18 during a free health fair at the school's new pharmacy site at 722 S. A'ohoku St. The event coincided with American Pharmacists Month.

More than 150 people stopped by the four-hour event, roaming among informational tables under an outside tent before heading inside one of the new buildings for health screenings. Students staffed tables for diabetes and wellness education, asthma control awareness and a "brown bag medication check" in

which visitors brought their medications for evaluation. Students also performed blood pressure checks and cholesterol and glucose screenings.

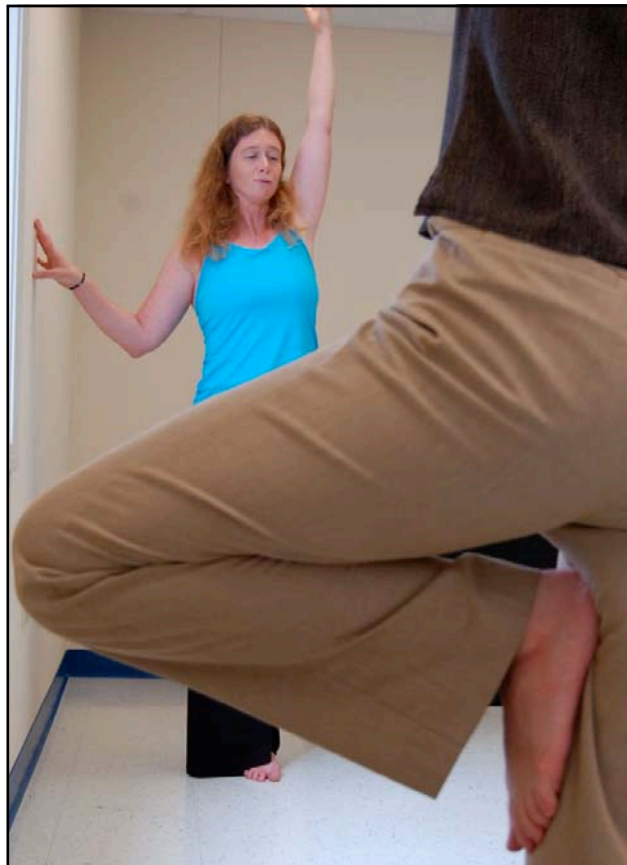
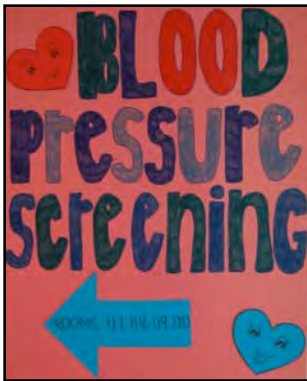
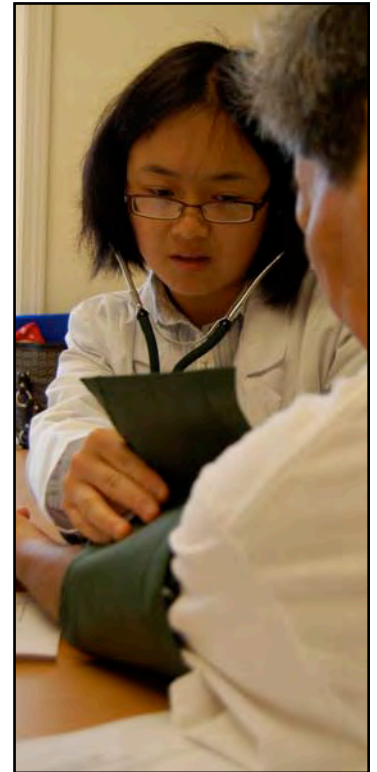
"Our students have developed their skills through working in local pharmacies and taking part in several community functions, but this is our first chance to educate and inform on such a large scale," said Mimi Pezzuto, Pharmacy Instructor and Adviser to the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP), the UH Hilo group that sponsored the fair.

Students from all three classes in the College of Pharmacy participated.

"Our students showed incredible solidarity and leadership in the planning and implementation of this health fair," Mrs. Pezzuto said. "We have every expectation that it will become an annual event."

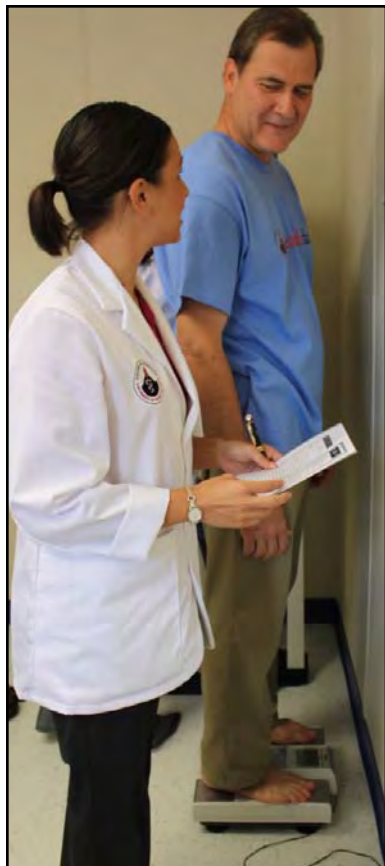


Third-year student Mark Reeves, above, talks with a health fair visitor in one of the screening rooms. At right, second-year student Alicia Loh prepares to for a blood pressure check.



Liz Heffernan, Director of Student Services for the College of Pharmacy, leads a yoga class.

**MORE PHOTOS, NEXT PAGE**



College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto supports the health fair by participating in screenings for body mass index, left, and blood cholesterol levels. Dr. Scott Holuby, Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, helps at the cholesterol station.



The Hilo group Jazz Straight Up provides entertainment during the fair.



## Librarian Amy Knehans applies her knowledge, networking skills



College of Pharmacy medical librarian Amy Knehans, right, works with Instructor Mimi Pezzuto on a historical display in the entranceway of UH Hilo's Edwin H. Mo'okini Library during American Pharmacists Month in October. Many of the items in the display were generously donated by the Wessel family of Hilo. The family owned Hilo Drug Co. (1895-1971) for more than 60 years. The display included compounding tools, such as suppository and tablet makers and a capsule press, as well as decades of prescription records documenting the medical history of Hilo.

If any profession should have the inside scoop on networking, it's librarians. With tools of the trade such as list serves, instantaneous communication and the knowledge how to put them to work, they have the ability to reach out to every corner of the globe.

Amy Knehans knows. As medical librarian for UH Hilo's College of Pharmacy, she tries to emphasize the power of networking.

"I tell the students networking is critical and I believe everyone should be helpful," Amy says. "They need to get involved with associations and other professionals right away, connect with people, get involved. The key is meeting people in the community — all communities. We all have one common goal, and we all have something different to bring to the table."

Amy has found that belonging to professional associations gives her access to innumerable resources; this allows her to share her findings. She belongs to the Academy of Health Information Professionals, the Medical Library Association's (MLA) peer-reviewed professional development and career recognition program. She also is the Membership Committee Chair, and helps with fundraising activities for the Pharmacy and Drug Information section of MLA. She is involved in American Association Colleges of Pharmacy AACP and is Secretary and Chair-Elect designate for the Library and Educational Resources section.

Other organizations in which she has made connections include the Special Libraries Association, the American Library Association, the Hawai'i Library Association and the Hawai'i Pharmacist Association.

"The organizations help me stay connected, and I know if I get stuck for an answer, I have several

resources to explore," Amy says. "But the students are my first priority."

Her job as a tenure-track faculty member at UH Hilo keeps her in constant contact with students at the Edwin H. Mo'okini Library. Sitting behind the reference desk with her long hair, bohemian clothing and smiling eyes, she is as approachable as a lifelong friend. Every day is different, she says, from teaching literature searches, which she loves, to finding student's account numbers to showing them the restrooms.

She also helps faculty in a variety of ways, including getting references for papers, assisting with literature searches and belonging to the Library Committee. She impressed College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto when she uncovered a nearly 100-year-old historical reference.

"We need a health sciences librarian to help us meet accreditation standards, but because of her skills and wisdom, Amy becomes a research partner to each faculty member," Dean Pezzuto says. "She gives us all — faculty, staff and students — training in conducting research that we will use more times than we can count."

After the college received a grant from the HMSA Foundation to purchase handheld personal computer devices (PDAs) for the students in the first three classes, Dr. Ron Taniguchi, Director of Community Partnerships, said Amy's help has been invaluable in identifying and securing the best electronic drug information software to download onto the PDAs so the students have a functional resource to find answers quickly to most drug information questions.

**LIBRARIAN, NEXT PAGE**

# Librarian

FROM PAGE 12

"Medical librarians are always an integral part of drug information services," Dr. Taniguchi says. "Amy has been an integral member of the student/faculty teams that have coordinated the distribution of the hardware and software funded through the HMSA Foundation grant."

Most recently, Amy helped Instructor Mimi Pezzuto put together a display in the entranceway of the UH Hilo library in honor of American Pharmacists Month in October. The display showed compounding tools of the pharmacist and decades of prescription records documenting the medical history of Hilo.

"Many items in the display were very old and fragile, having been donated by the Wessel family of Hilo, who owned Hilo Drug Company for more than 60 years," Mrs. Pezzuto says. "Amy's respect for the value of these aged treasures was commendable, and her knowledge of how to navigate the process to find the best way to show them was nothing short of amazing."

Amy effortlessly blends her work time with her volunteer efforts by often combining the two. When she moved to Hilo four years ago, she looked for a volunteer

opportunity that shared her interests. She joined the Hawai'i Medical Reserves Corps to provide community service. But she found that belonging to the group also helps her as a librarian to improve access to information for health professionals.

"I believe that outreach is not limited to formal meetings, far from it," Amy says. "Basically I'm a walking billboard for the College of Pharmacy. Outreach takes place walking in the park, while paddling a canoe and while on an airplane."

In fact, one of the most recent books she read was because of a chance meeting upon returning to Hilo from a conference in Boston last summer. Frances Townes, the author of "Misadventures of a Scientist's Wife," was stranded in the airport along with her husband, Nobel Prize-winning scientist Charles Townes, both now in their 90s.

"I overheard them talking about how hungry they were and offered them my snacks," Amy says, smiling as she adds, "Healthy snacks, of course." A conversation ensued and, ever the ambassador for the College of Pharmacy, Amy talked about the beginnings of the new school in Hilo and learned about places the author/wife of a famous scientist had visited.

Thus, in the course of a standard day of airport delays, she made a new friend and a new contact. For Amy Knehans, it's standard operating procedure.



## Cultural lessons

First-year pharmacy students, along with College of Pharmacy faculty and staff members, receive a hula lesson during a tour focusing on Hawaiian culture Sept. 12. The tour was led by leaders from Kipuka, the Native Hawaiian Student Center, and was funded through a diversity grant from Walgreens. The grant, which awarded \$10,000 to the College of Pharmacy in January, has included UH Hilo as part of Walgreens commitment to promote programs in diversity at pharmacy schools throughout the nation. Kipuka's Cultural Tour of Hilo included visits to Mokuola (Coconut Island), Pi'opi'io, and Waianeunene to reveal the Hawaiian world view through the exploration of local myths and stories pertaining to significant local sites. Kipuka provides a 'home' on campus for all Native Hawaiian students and assists them to attain their academic and personal goals.

# The A-TEAM

Meet the women  
who keep the  
College of Pharmacy  
running.

## Chris Iha

Chris Iha is secretary to the Dean of the College of Pharmacy. In addition to the secretarial work for the Dean and those who work in the Dean's Office, Chris works on special functions such as the White Coat Ceremony and blessings. She also works on some of the Dean's and college initiatives and projects. Prior to joining the College of Pharmacy, Chris was the secretary to the Director of Continuing Education and Training at Hawai'i Community College and earlier worked in private and public sector positions. She enjoys spending time with family and friends when not at work. She likes dogs and goes to local dog shows when she can to support her breeder and dog-showing friends.



## Tammy M. Tanaka



Tammy M. Tanaka is the secretary to the Associate Dean for Research. She was born and raised in Hilo and graduated from Hilo High School. Tammy attended Hawai'i Community College before transferring to UH Manoa, where she received a bachelor's degree in mathematics. Her first job was at Sears Optical in the Prince Kuhio Plaza. "Then I worked for the Hawai'i State Library System for 10 years before transferring to University of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Community College. I worked for HawCC also for 10 years before coming to the College of Pharmacy in April. I seem to work on a 10-year cycle," she said. Her husband, Curtis, works for Hawai'i County's Environmental Management Department in the Wastewater Division. Her daughter, Cortnie, is attending Hawai'i Community College and is planning to transfer to Oregon State University once she receives her liberal arts degree. Tammy's hobbies include crafting, sewing, Japanese Bon Dance, hula (trying) and Korean dramas. "If anyone were to visit my office they may think that it was invaded by frogs — not the live ones like the coqui frogs (but there are a lot out here at the Waiakea Research Station). So I guess this makes me a collector of frogs."

## Lily Pua-Kaipo

Lily Pua-Kaipo is the office assistant for Dean John M. Pezzuto's office. She has been in the University of Hawai'i system close to nine years — a little over six years with Hawai'i Community College's Office of Continuing Education and Training/Rural Development Project and almost two years with the Hawai'i Life Styles Program before joining the CoP ohana in January. She was born and raised in Hilo. When work is over, "I enjoy going home, having a few cocktails and hanging out with my two pitbulls. They're my babies and they're a handful so they keep me busy." She also enjoys spending time with her family.



**A-TEAM, NEXT PAGE**

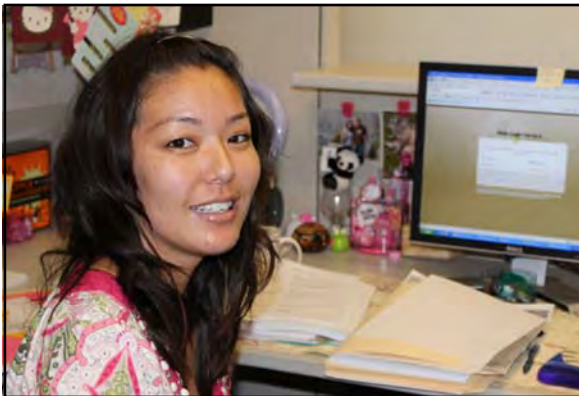
# The A-TEAM

## Jean Cruz



Jean Cruz has been the secretary to the Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences for a year and a half. She also takes care of 14 faculty and post-doctoral associates in the department by ordering lab equipment, scheduling and getting reimbursement for travel, writing memos, ordering books and office supplies. Jean was a clerk at Hawai'i Community College before accepting the promotion at the College of Pharmacy. Before that, she worked at the front desk at the Marriott Resort in Waikoloa, eight years in the Admitting Department at Hilo Medical Center and also at KTA for several years. Jean was born in the hospital where her office is now located, and graduated from Hilo High School. She attended Rollins College in Florida and UH Manoa. Jean doesn't want to take credit, but she's proud of her ancestors, who are a well-known Hawaiian (kama'aina) musical family. Her grandmother, Helen Desha Beamer, was a legendary Hawaiian composer, often called "Sweetheart Grandma," who originated the Beamer style of hula. Her family traces their roots to 15th-century Hawaii and Ahiakumai Ki'eki'e, queen of the island of Hawai'i, and to Kameiamoku, favored wife of Kamehameha I. Jean has a son and two daughters, and several grandchildren on the mainland, whom she visits as often as possible.

## Kristy Nakamura



Kristy Nakamura is the secretary for the Department of Pharmacy Practice. The Puna native is a UH Hilo graduate, with a bachelor's degree in business administration and an economics minor. Prior to joining the CoP 'ohana about a year and a half ago, she worked at Hawai'i Community College's Business Office for three years. She has lived in Hilo for 27 years. Her hobbies include hiking, reading, baking and gardening. "I play as hard as i work," she said. She also has an adopted daughter named Kiko. She has four legs, is somewhat hairy, and sometimes meows. Kristy also is an adoring Hello Kitty fan. "My inner child is easily excited when it comes to Hello Kitty. I have yet to meet her but it's on my to-do list (Universal Studios Japan)!"

## Char Awa Cockett

Char Awa Cockett is the secretary to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and works in all areas related to curriculum, students and faculty, admissions, academic policies, strategic planning, student affairs and professional accreditation. In addition to setting up meetings with students and scheduling travel and reimbursements, Char works on special projects including orientation and the White Coat Ceremony, and takes minutes for the curriculum and the by-laws committees. She inputs courses in the systemwide network, which is the part of the job she likes best because it is detail oriented. She took a promotion to the College of Pharmacy after working in Human Resources at Hawai'i Community College, where she developed a tracking system for every document that came through the office. Prior to that, she was the Island Director for the Girl Scout Council of Hawai'i for 30 years. She attended Laupahoehoe Elementary and High School from kindergarten to 11th grade and graduated from Hilo High School. Char studied apparel design at Hawai'i Community College and is considering taking more classes. She likes to spend time with her husband and two adult sons and 5-year-old grandson, likes to quilt and has just started learning how to make jewelry.



# Scenes from orientation

As members of the Class of 2013 arrived in Hilo to begin their studies, advancing students picked up new skills while work wrapped up at the College of Pharmacy's new modular buildings.



College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto tips his hat to the incoming Class of 2013 as they attend the University Convocation during orientation week.



Second-year student Daniel Loo, left, gives an injection to Eric Lum during mock immunization training. They are guided by Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananut, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice.



Maile Sing from the Office of Admissions, left, interviews Dean Pezzuto in a mock TV show called "Movers and Shakers" that included Gail Makuakane-Lundin, Director of Kipuka, the Native Hawaiian Student Center, and Luoluo Hong, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.



Dr. Douglas Adriance-Mejia, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, right, greets students during an orientation week reception.



Dr. Edward Fisher, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, welcomes a group of third-year pharmacy students in Instructor. Mimi Pezzuto's Health Care Systems course as the first class begins in the new headquarters for the College of Pharmacy. The location is the future home of the health sciences complex, recently supported by a \$1 million gift from the J.M. Long Foundation to add a second lecture hall, student center and adjoining lanai.



## Faculty and staff notes

• **Liz Heffernan**, Director of Student Services, was chosen to be a participant in the President's Emerging Leaders Program for 2009-10. Twenty-seven faculty and staff from campuses and system offices were selected from a pool of 75 applicants this year. The program identifies and develops highly motivated faculty and staff of the university by establishing a base of knowledge about higher education and building leadership skills.

• **Dr. Karen Pellegrin**, Director of Strategic Planning and Chair of the Continuing Education Executive Committee, attended the 13th Conference on Continuing Pharmacy Education in St. Louis, presented by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education in October. The UH Hilo College of Pharmacy recently achieved accreditation from ACPE to be a Continuing Pharmacy Education provider.

• **Dr. Ken Morris**, Professor of Pharmaceutics, participated in an advisory board meeting in September for the Food and Drug Administration's Advisory Committee for Pharmaceutical Science and Clinical Pharmacology. Topics included the antibiotic Vancomycin intended to make it easier for generics get to the market with a potentially life-saving drug that is often not used because of cost. Dr. Morris co-authored a paper on the "Evaluation of the Use of  $E_a$  (Activation Energy) as a Quantitative Indicator of Physical Stability of Indomethacin Solvates: Methanolate and Tertiary Butyl Alcohol Solvate" in the August edition of the journal *Crystal Growth & Design*. Co-authors were V. Joshi, S. Byrn and M.T. Carvajal. He also has a paper co-authored with **Dean John M.**

**Pezzuto** accepted for publication in the *Journal of Nutrition* titled "Unraveling the Relationship between Grapes and Health." Additional co-authors were Venkat Venkatasubramanian from Purdue University and Mazen Hamad from UH Hilo.

• **Dr. Daniela Guendisich**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, presented an abstract at 2009 Neuroscience, the annual meeting for the Society for Neuroscience, Oct. 17-21 in Chicago. The abstract, titled "From Acetyl Bispidine to an Extended Bispidine Amide Framework: Synthesis and Structure Affinity Relationships for Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptors (nAChRs)," will be published in a special issue of *Biochemical Pharmacology*.

• **Dr. Carolyn Ma**, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice, was invited by the Southcentral Foundation, an Alaska Native-owned health-care organization, to visit the Alaska Native American Hospital and Clinic and learn about its award-winning Nuka Model of Patient Care. The foundation and the UH Hilo College of Pharmacy are developing partnerships for Alaska Native pre-pharmacy students, dual degree program (APN/Pharm.D.) and advanced pharmacy practice experiential rotations for P4 students.

Dr. Ma also attended the Experiential Education New Administrators Workshop sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy in Arlington, Va., Sept. 30-Oct. 2. Topics included ACPE standards and guidelines for experiential education, key resources for experiential education

administrators, operational and budgeting procedures, preceptor development and experiential learning assessment.

• **Dr. Edward Fisher**, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, presented two, five-hour continuing education seminars in Las Vegas in September. The ACPE- and CNM-approved seminars are titled "Update On Disorders Treated With Drugs That Act On The Autonomic Nervous System." Dr. Fisher also presented three continuing education seminars in Kauai in October called "Nutritional Facts And Fallacies: An Update On The Management Of Disorders Associated With Nutritional Imbalances."

• **Dr. Linda Connelly**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, published a paper called "Activation of nuclear factor kappa B in mammary epithelium promotes milk loss during mammary development and infection" in the September *Journal of Cellular Physiology*. Co-authors were W. Barham, R. Pigg, L. Saint-Jean, T. Sherrill, D.S. Cheng, L.A. Chodosh, T.S. Blackwell and F.E. Yull.

• **Dr. Ron Taniguchi**, Director of Community Partnerships, spoke during a session at the annual Hawai'i State Rural Health Association Meeting and the 9th annual Hawai'i Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Training at the Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort on Oct. 21. Dr. Taniguchi addressed rural health professions training for building the health workforce supply.

**MORE NOTES, NEXT PAGE**

## Faculty and staff notes

• **Dr. Suaib Luqman**, Postdoctoral Associate and IUSSTF Fellow, was given the Innocentive Award on Sept. 8 for solving a research and development challenge on cooling compounds, efficient chromosome doubling and mitotic arrest. The award was presented by Innocentive Inc. USA. He also has a paper co-authored with College of Pharmacy **Dean John M. Pezzuto** and **Tamara Kondratyuk**, Assistant Specialist and Manager of the Research Laboratory, accepted for publication in Natural Product Research titled "Suppression of TNF-alpha induced NFkB activity by gallic acid and its semi-synthetic alkyl-gallates: Possible role in cancer chemoprevention." Additional co-authors are M.C.C. Morais, M.S. Petronio, L.O. Regasini, D.H.S. Silva, V.S. Bolzani and C.P. Soares. Dr. Luqman also presented a poster on work he conducted with Dean Pezzuto at the 8th International Congress on Targeted Therapies in Cancer on "Inhibition of NFkB activation and aromatase activity by vanilloids: An in vitro and in silico study" in Washington, D.C. in August. In addition, he presented a poster at SCI-MIX of 238th American Chemical Society Meeting. He was also co-author of a poster presented by M.C.C. Morais on "Chemopreventive potential of natural products isolated from *Alchornea glandulosa*, *Pterogyne nitens* and its semi-synthetic analogs" at the 7th International Congress of Pharmaceutical Sciences in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, in September.

• **Dr. Dianqing Sun**, Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was co-author on a paper

titled "Structure-based design, synthesis, and evaluation of 2'-(2-hydroxyethyl)-2'-deoxyadenosine and the 5'-diphosphate derivative as ribonucleotide reductase inhibitors" published in the 2009 journal ChemMedChem. Co-authors were H. Xu, S.R. Wijerathna, C. Dealwis and R.E. Lee. Dr. Sun also published "Evaluation of analogs of reutericyclin as prospective candidates for the treatment of staphylococcal skin infections" in the 2009 journal Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy. Co-authors were J.G. Hurdle, R. Yendapally and R. E. Lee.

• **Dr. Anthony D. Wright**, Associate Professor and Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has a paper co-authored with **Dean John M. Pezzuto**, **Tamara P. Kondratyuk** and Postdoctoral Associate **Eun-Jung Park**, accepted for publication in Natural Products Communications titled "Cancer Chemopreventive and Anticancer Evaluation of Extracts and Fractions from Marine Macro- and Micro-organisms Collected from Twilight Zone Waters Around Guam." Additional co-authors are P. Schupp, C. Kohlert-Schupp, S. Whitefield, A. Engemann, A. Rohde, L. Marle, T. Hemscheidt, and B. Rostama.

• **Dr. R. Scott Holuby**, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, was invited by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) to participate in the North American Pharmacy Licensure Exam (NAPLEX) standard setting conference in Mount Prospect, Ill., in November. The conference will help determine the pass/fail point for the pharmacy licensure exam.

## Welcome!

**Dr. Anna Barbato** is the newest Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice. She received her



Pharm.D. from the University of Mississippi in 2005. She completed an ASHP-accredited pharmacy

practice residency with the University of Washington Medical Center and Harborview Medical Center in Seattle. After completing her residency, she served as a staff pharmacist and interim clinical director at Midwest Regional Medical Center in Midwest City, Okla. Dr. Barbato became a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist (BCPS) in 2009. Her first professional publication, "Prazosin for the Treatment of Posttraumatic Nightmares in a Refugee Population," will be in the November issue of the Journal of Psychiatric Practice. The paper is based on her research during her residency in Seattle. She is interested in geriatrics and will help establish the Pacific Island Geriatric Education Center. She and her husband, Lyle, have been married since March 2008. In her free time, she enjoys reading and hopes to learn scuba diving. She and her husband enjoy traveling and are excited about the chance to explore Hawai'i.

## Student notes



Jacob  
Blair



Candice  
Carbaugh



Bernie  
Cheng



Derek  
Dominguez



Angelina  
Eustaquio



Ceslee  
Fukuhara



Eiko (Amy)  
Harvey



Daniel  
Navas



Casey  
Ogata



Anthony  
Thai



Wendy  
Yamasaki-Herring



Marina  
Yeh

# College names 12 scholarship winners

Twelve students from the College of Pharmacy have been awarded scholarship funds that will be applied to their spring 2010 tuition. Criteria for the scholarships, made possible by generous donations from four corporations and one individual, are based on merit and financial need and other criteria.

Scholarship donors and student recipients are:

- **The National Association of Chain Drug Stores Foundation** has provided \$2,000 in funding for students with an interest in pursuing a career in community pharmacy. Student recipients of the 2009-10 NACDS Foundation Pharmacy Partners Scholarship are Candice Carbaugh, a second-year student from Philadelphia, and Daniel Navas, a third-year student from Honolulu.

- **The J.M. Long Foundation** has donated \$5,000 to assist students in their second or third professional year of study with an interest in practicing in a retail community setting. Awardees of the 2009-10 J.M. Long Foundation Scholarship are second-year students Derek Dominguez from Lake Forest, Calif.; Anthony Thai from San Francisco; and Marina Yeh from Honolulu; and third-year student Ceslee Fukuhara from Aiea.

- **The Grace Mizuko Miyawaki Pharmacy Scholarship**, which is made possible by retired Honolulu pharmacist **Grace Tsutaoka**, provides \$1,000 to students who have graduated from a high school in Hawaii. The 2009-10 awardee is Jacob Blair, a second-year student from Keaau.

- **CVS Caremark/Longs Drugs** has provided \$5,000 in funding to students with an interest in retail pharmacy. Recipients of the 2009-10 award are second-year students Wendy Yamasaki-Herring from Honolulu and Bernie Cheng from Cerritos, Calif., and third-year students Eiko (Amy) Harvey from Honolulu and Casey Ogata from Kapaa, a town on Kauai.

- **Walmart** has donated \$1,000 to assist students with a desire to enter community practice and who have demonstrated evidence of leadership. Preference is given to students who have achieved high academic standing over the past three years and have previous experience in community practice. The student chosen for the 2009-10 Walmart Scholarship is Angelina Eustaquio, a third-year student from Santa Rita, Guam.

"These students were chosen from a large pool of competitors, all of whom were selected from an even larger pool to enter the College of Pharmacy, and we're very proud of their ambition and fortitude," said Liz Heffernan, Director of Student Services in the College of Pharmacy and a member of the scholarship committee. "We rely on help from these generous funders, especially during these difficult economic times, and are extremely grateful for their continued support."



From left, Sylvia K.S. Werny, senior diabetes care specialist for NovoNordisk, demonstrates the proper technique for an insulin pen injection. Diabetes Educator Kevin Kam, R.Ph, of City Pharmacy & Diabetes Learning Center in Honolulu, discusses insulin pump therapy. Dr. Forrest Batz, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, teaches students how to use a glucometer.

# Diabetes training

Third-year pharmacy students received hands-on experience in September at a diabetes training workshop as part of the Integrated Therapeutics course. Students learned how to inject insulin using syringes and pen devices, perform foot exams and test blood glucose levels. The skills will help them play an integral role in the management of one of Hawai'i's most prevalent diseases. This is the first workshop of what will become an annual event. The UH Hilo Department of Nursing assisted students with foot exams, while NovoNordisk contributed to insulin pen training and One-Touch aided glucometer training.



Third-year student Casey Ogata, above, tests her blood glucose level. At left, Steven Evans draws a dose of saline to practice his injection technique.



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