

*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 2013 • Volume 5, Issue 4



*Aloha Class of 2013*



# A Message from Dean Pezzuto



Anyone reading *Kawili La`au* now knows that the State legislature has chosen to withhold funding for a permanent building for our College. This was the outcome of their budgetary session despite the fact that our President and the Board of Regents ranked the College of Pharmacy as the number one priority.

The state legislature knows what we have accomplished. They know all the successes of our program, the wonderful students we have here, more than half of whom are from Hawai`i, the economic impact of the program, the dynamic effect we are having on the state as a whole. I know they know because many of us, actually thousands of us, have told them. Each and every legislator received a copy of our book, *Emergence* of the University of Hawai`i at Hilo College of Pharmacy, which documents in painstaking detail all of the tremendous progress we made in the first five years. In addition, we respectfully, promptly and thoroughly responded to their questions by providing pages upon pages of documentation.

I can only tell you one thing as a matter of fact: They did not withhold funding for our building because of any issues with our program.

If nothing else, this was proven by a site visit team from our accreditors, the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE.) Of the 30 professional standards by which we are judged, we were found to be completely compliant with 29. This is not easy. This is the result of hard work and planning by hundreds of people throughout the community, including Senator Gilbert Kahele, Representative Clift Tsuji, Mayor Billy Kenoi and our Big Island Delegation. My heartfelt thanks goes to all who spent valuable time on our behalf and who continue to believe in us.

According to a local Honolulu newspaper, one state representative did provide an explanation. He said all of the money must go into health and safety, almost all at the Manoa campus. Who can argue with this? People must be safe. But if you look into the facts, you discover that the legislature did in fact provide funding for another new building deemed lower priority by our President and the Board of Regents, a building that was not even planned, and that building will be on Oahu. You can make your own conclusions.

There is one good thing about the state not funding our building. And that is, for now, it is over. A decision has been made. We can stop dwelling on this for the moment. It is time to face the facts. It is time to come to grips with reality and figure out how we are going to move on. As one of my favorite singer/song writers, Jackson Browne, wrote, we must "remember why we came." It's about the students. Yes, the pursuit of providing a building has been distracting. But I can say unequivocally that our students have never stopped receiving a quality education from qualified educators. These are qualified educators who care about the kind of pharmacists who graduate from UH Hilo. Beyond our PharmD program, we have researchers investigating diseases such as cancer and tuberculosis. All of this critical work, and much much more, never stopped due to politics.

And here's another reality check. We do everything we do with state support that adds up to around 15 percent of our annual budget. So will we go on? Of course we will go on.

The load has been heavy but we have broad shoulders. Now the load is even heavier, so what is the answer? We will broaden our shoulders even more. Yes, that is exactly what we will do. We are now exploring the use of our own resources to take the next steps in securing our permanent building.

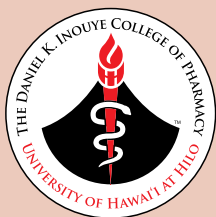
So we are moving down the road and we have encountered a bend. But a bend in the road is not the end of the road... unless we fail to make the turn. We have made many turns in the past, and we will make this one as well.

We must continue doing our best, and remain focused on our vision of becoming one of the top ranked pharmacy programs in the world. I have no doubt we can do this. We will do this.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John M. Pezzuto'. The signature is stylized and fluid.

John M. Pezzuto  
Professor and Dean



## Kāwili Lā'au

Summer, 2013 Volume 5, Issue 4

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Kāwili Lā'au is the magazine for the only college of pharmacy in the Pacific region, the University of Hawai'i at Hilo



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII  
**HILO**

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**On the cover:** This replica of an outrigger canoe, shown in front of the historic Coconut Island in Hilo, was presented by Mrs. Irene Hirano Inouye to The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at 2013 commencement ceremonies. The gift, which is from the Daniel K. Inouye Legacy Collection, now resides in a glass bookshelf at one of the administrative offices of the college.

# Commencement Day, May 11, 2013

The Class of 2013, the first class of student pharmacists to graduate from a college named The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, entered the Edith Kanaka'ole Multi-purpose Stadium in Hilo at 9 a.m. May 11 to be bestowed with the right to use "Dr." before their names.

Pharmacy graduates were among 765 candidates for degrees and certificates at University of Hawai'i at Hilo's Spring 2013 commencement. There were 85 PharmD's awarded and 35 graduates earned a Bachelor of Arts in Pharmacy Studies (BAPS) this year.

Hawai'i Senator Tulsī Gabbord delivered the keynote address. The College was honored with a presentation from Irene Hirono Inouye, the widow of the late U.S. Senator, who brought with her a special gift for her husband's namesake college. The gift, a replica of an outrigger canoe, was part of the Daniel K. Inouye Legacy Collection. Jennifer Sabas, of the Daniel K. Inouye Institute Fund, said the hand-carved and laced canoe had been presented to the Senator to commemorate the historic round-trip voyage from Hawai'i to Tahiti of the double-hulled Hokulea. The gift now resides in a glass bookshelf at one of the administrative offices of the College.

Thousands of families and friends, teachers and mentors, packed the stadium to watch the carefully choreographed march of the graduates as they took their seats. Many faculty members showed their support and donned the garb of their graduating institution and marched in with the students.

The event was coordinated by Commencement Committee Chair, Judith Fox-Goldstein, and the music was the traditional "Pomp and Circumstance," produced by the Hilo High School Viking Band.

Patiently waiting for hundreds of other graduates receiving undergraduate degrees, certificates and master's degrees, students from the professional pharmacy program filled the first four rows in the center of the biggest venue in Hilo. When it was time for them to enter the stage, they walked, one by one, as their name was called, first to Associate Dean for Academic Affairs



Dr. Edward Fisher, who took the ceremonial hood from over their arm. They then approached Dean John Pezzuto, who placed it over their heads, signifying success at completing the program. Then on to Chancellor Donald Straney, who presented them with their diplomas. In addition to Congresswoman Gabbord, other dignitaries on stage included UH President M.R.C. Greenwood, Barry Mizuno from the UH Board of Regents and Mrs. Inouye.

Afterwards, many graduates stayed at the stadium to pose for pictures, receive masses of colorful flower leis and make plans for more celebrations.

And now the Class of 2013 takes its place in the annals of The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy.





# Graduation weekend begins with luncheon by the sea



The official kickoff for graduation weekend was held at Hilo Yacht Club May 9 when the Class of 2013 returned to Hilo from their respective rotation sites to celebrate during a special luncheon by the ocean.

Dean John Pezzuto welcomed the students and faculty and introduced Mina Pharmacy owner Hany Guirguis, RPh, Certified Clinical Nutritionist, PhD, who presented a check for \$20,000 to signify his annual gift to the College of Pharmacy building fund.

"This is a dream come true, since one of my dreams is to have a school of pharmacy in Hawai'i," Guirguis said, as he urged the graduates to spread the word about the college as they go out to earn their paychecks.

Soon-to-be graduates Victor Lin and Chris Lai Hipp announced the Class Gift, which was a \$3,000 scholarship, with funds raised by all the classmates. The scholarship award was announced at the Graduation Celebration the next evening.

Students receiving awards were:

- **William "Jamey" Engen**, the 2013 Mylan Excellence in Pharmacy Award. The award is given for academic achievement, professional motivation and a demonstrated ability to communicate drug information.

- **Marcus Kouma**, the Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database Recognition Award. The award is presented to outstanding graduates and residents worldwide who have shown an interest in an evidence-based approach to patient care.

Jarred Prudencio, Class of 2015, represented the UH Alumni Association when he told the upper class members: "I look forward to being where you are now in a couple of years."

Faculty member Lara Gomez helped Dean Pezzuto conclude the event by participating in an often-humorous demonstration of how the graduates would receive the hood to complete their regalia at the Saturday commencement.



Jarred Prudencio represents the UH Alumni Association.



Class of 2013 Graduates Nicole Schauer, Victor Lin and Chris Lai Hipp present Dean Pezzuto with their class gift.



Marcus Kouma receives Natrual Medicines Comprehensive Database Recognition Award.



Dean Pezzuto with Hany and Madeleine Guirguis, owners of Mina Pharmacy.



Victor Lin doing a video interview.



William "Jamey" Engen received the 2013 Mylan Excellence in Pharmacy Award.

## Graduation Luncheon: Student Awardee Profiles



**Name: Marcus Kouma,  
Class Valedictorian**

**Origin:** Southern California

**Destination:** Residency, VA Medical Center, Spokane, Washington

**Memory:** During his first semester in his first year, there was a tsunami warning for the Big Island. He remembers gathering with everyone on campus at the modular buildings because it was high enough not to have to worry. "Not everybody has that kind of experience in pharmacy school," he recalled.

**Name: William "Jamey" Engen,  
2013 Mylan Award**

**Origin:** Thousand Oaks, California

**Destination:** Walgreens, Ft. Collins, Colorado

**Memory:** During his second year in pharmacy school, Jamey was one of the group of students who was chosen to go to the island of Molokai for the Walgreen's diversity initiative. This memory was made even more special because three of his closest friends also went on this interesting historical journey.



**Name: Victor Lin,  
Class President**

**Origin:** Guam

**Destination:** Residency, St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital, Manhattan, New York

**Memory:** He looks back as his greatest accomplishment in pharmacy school was not being voted president of the class, but being voted Mr. Aloha for the yearbook. "Somehow, it validated my presidency," he said.

**Name: Tina McDonald,  
Inaugural Rho Chi  
President**

**Origin:** Great Falls, Montana

**Destination:** Residency, Queen's Medical Center, Honolulu

**Memory:** She remembers hiking 10 miles in Waimanu Valley, carrying 70 pounds of water (which she later had to ditch) and some protein bars. "As hard as it was hiking 10 miles in Hawai'i, it was easier than getting through pharmacy school," she remembered, laughing.



**Name: Cheryl Lopez**

**Origin:** Wailuku Maui

**Destination:** Pharmacist, Target stores, Los Angeles

**Memory:** Her most striking memory was going to her first pharmacy conference, which was the national meeting of the American Pharmacy Association in Seattle. "It was at that point that it hit that I was a part of this profession," she noted.



# Graduation Celebration 2013



The night before officially receiving their Doctor of Pharmacy degree, the Class of 2013 joined their families, faculty, friends and colleagues for a celebration banquet at Sangha Hall in Hilo. They were there on Friday May 10 to forget about final exams, forget about deciding what comes next, to do one thing: celebrate.

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Edward Fisher served as Master of Ceremonies for the graduation celebration, where approximately 320 people gathered to honor the grads-to-be. He gave them all the signal to enjoy a buffet dinner, after which Dean John Pezzuto welcomed everyone and congratulated the new graduates.

Highlights of the evening were speeches by Class President Victor Lin and Valedictorian Marcus Kouma. Miho Aoki from the Class of 2014 was recognized as the recipient of the Class of 2013's scholarship. At the end, every classmate present was able to speak on

their own behalf in front of their peers, family and faculty.

The graduates had all spent their last year as students conducting fourth-year Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotation experience, so they honored two preceptors on their special night. Ben Chavez, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, was named Faculty Preceptor of the Year. Wendy Tawata, PharmD, pharmacist in the Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) at The Queen's Medical Center, was awarded APPE Preceptor of the Year.

Dr. Fisher made a special

announcement in honor of Liz Heffernan, who in July is leaving her post as DKICP director of Student Services after almost six years.

"Due to her dedication and organization skills, she has brought stability to the department," Dr. Fisher said. "Recently she has served as the chair of our admissions committee and I truly believe that our admission process has never functioned more efficiently. But I think what I will miss most is the genuine care she shows for all of our students."

Before the graduates left the hall, Dr. Fisher thanked the office of Student Services for coordinating the evening, as well as Pacific Floral Exchange and the UH Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) for donating the flowers used in the ceremony.

## Class of 2013 Student Council Officers

*President* Victor Lin

*Vice President* Ryan Abeyta

*Secretary* Tina Marrie McDonald

*Treasurer* Ahmad Musheinesh

*Delegate* Christine Lucas

*Activities Coordinators* Margaret Kang,

Alison Kobayashi

*Historian* Nicole Schauer

*Webmaster* Christopher Ayson

*Class Liaisons* Christopher Lai Hipp,

Prabu Segaran



# Graduates continue training in pharmacy postgraduate residency programs



By Carolyn Ma, PharmD, BCOP  
Chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice

**P**harmacy residencies began back in the 1930's and were originally developed as internships to train pharmacists in developing skills for hospital pharmacy management. ASHP, known back in 1948 as The American Society of Hospital Pharmacists began

to further develop these programs into "residencies." Accreditation standards followed as programs rapidly developed in the 1970's with standards outlining general and clinical residencies as separate programs. By the early 90's the two types of programs were combined and replaced with the term "post graduate residency" in pharmaceutical care (PGY1) <sup>1</sup>

Residency training is designed to provide recent graduates with accelerated growth beyond entry-level professional competence. One year of residency informally equates to approximately three years of practice experience. A resident's year focuses on intensive patient-centered care with advancement of clinical judgment, experience in pharmacy operations, clinical research, and project management and leadership skills.

Placement of pharmacy graduates and practitioners into PGY1 programs is extremely competitive. Although the application and match process begins about six months before graduation, many successful applicants have been working towards residency from their PY1 year by demonstrating ongoing leadership, excellent experiential and didactic aptitude and exemplary community service. For those who are unsuccessful on their first try, a second application in a following year may yield success. Some individuals may progress to a second year of residency (PGY2) especially if they plan to specialize in areas of pharmacy practice such as critical care, emergency medicine, oncology, infectious diseases and ambulatory care.

For 2013, the ASHP Residency Match Program had 2694 PGY1 positions for 3508 applicants and 462 positions for the 558 advanced PGY2 applicants. <sup>2</sup> Graduates from DKICP have consistently placed approximately 10% of their graduating class into an accredited residency program that represents an excellent rate for a newly formed college.

DKICP congratulates the following students from the class of 2013 and 2012 who will represent the college in residencies across the country.

References:

1. <http://www.ashp.org/menu/Residents/GeneralInfo>
2. <http://www.natmatch.com/ashprmp/stats/2013progstats.html>

## Post Graduate Year One Class of 2013

**Chris Lai Hipp** – Scripps Mercy San Diego, CA

**Marcus Kouma** – Veterans Administration,  
Spokane WA

**Christine Nguyen** – Veterans Administration,  
Oregon

**Tina McDonald** – The Queens Medical Center,  
Honolulu, HI

**Cassie Kim** – Veterans Administration, Las Vegas,  
NV

**Kaylene Peric** – St Vincent, Indianapolis, IN

**Prabu Segaran** – Providence St. Peter, Olympia,  
WA

**Shanele Shimabuku** – Wilcox Memorial Hospital,  
Kauai, HI

**Michael Tsuji** – Veterans Administration,  
Honolulu, HI

**Victor Lin** – St. Luke's - Roosevelt Hospital, New  
York, NY

**Melissa Yoneda** – Wilcox Memorial Hospital,  
Kauai, HI

## Class of 2012:

**Daniel Hu** – Providence St. Peter, Olympia, WA

**Alexandra Perez** – The Queens Medical Center,  
Honolulu, HI

## Post Graduate Year Two (Specialty Residency) Class of 2012

**Anthony Thai** – Veterans Administration, Arizona  
– PGY2 in Critical Care (completed PGY1 at  
VA Arizona)

# DKICP initiates new members in Rho Chi academic honor society

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) held an initiation banquet April 19 for the Delta Iota chapter of Rho Chi Society, the only academic honor society in pharmacy.

UH Hilo CoP received a favorable vote to begin the chartering process at the National meeting of Rho Chi held during the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) annual meeting March 9-12, 2012 in New Orleans.

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and former National Rho Chi Secretary Dr. Edward Fisher petitioned to establish the nationally recognized chapter at UH Hilo, which was approved by the (APhA) last year. He said all top-ranked pharmacy schools have chapters of the Rho Chi Society.

"This is just another example of the growth and maturation of our College. It is a great privilege for us to honor our students by induction in our chapter of Rho Chi," Dr. Fisher said.

The Rho Chi Society is a national organization that encourages and recognizes excellence in intellectual achievement and fosters fellowship among its members. Further, the Society encourages high standards of conduct and character, and advocates critical inquiry in all aspects of pharmacy.

Students must be full-time students who have completed not less than one half of the required professional didactic coursework and rank in the highest 20 percent of their class.

At the initiation banquet, held in Imiloa Event Hall on UH Hilo campus, Dean John Pezzuto made the opening



Top: Rho Chi induction pin.  
Bottom: Student pharmacists from the Class of 2015 Dayna Wong (left) lights Ann Txakeeyang's candle at the Rho Chi initiation banquet, with Adviser Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananut looking on in the background.

remarks. The keynote speaker was Dr. Victoria Roche, acting dean, School of Pharmacy and Health Professions at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska (see her speech on next page).

As advisor, Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananut presented the initiation of Chapter Members, which included our traditional candle lighting ceremony, recital of the pledge and passing out the new member Rho Chi pins.

## New members include:

**Class of 2014:** Maurina G. Bartlett, Jizanne D. Evangelista, Mariko Katagiri\*, Daniel J. Kim, Kyle R. Kumashiro\*, Andy-Long T. Le\*, Yan F. Lin, Janelle N. Matsukawa, Tracy M. Nakama, Steven M. Nishimoto, Keri E. Oyadomari, Benham Rostami, Joanne D. Sablan, Jed E. Sana\*, Caroline Sousa, Hana Ha Tran, Christopher N. Tsue, Ann Txakeeyang, Dayna M. A. Wong\*

**Class of 2015:** Brianne Blakesley\*, Andrea L. Brauer, Chao R. Cox, Jozelle M. A. Gabriel, Davis I. Hanai, Daniel S. Hasegawa, Kelly T. Ishizuka, Tiffany A. Khan, Traci M. Kusaka, Daniel K. Leong, Wei Lin, Kristina M. Lo\*, Tracy Ng\*, Jarred B. M. Prudencio\*, Lindsey K. Takara\*, Trina M. Tran, Jill Anne D. Villarosa, Nichole E. Wilson, Akio Yanagisawa

\* Denotes Officer-elect

Also, full-time faculty who instruct in the PharmD program are eligible to apply. Those who were initiated that night were: Dr. Leng Chee Chang, Dr. Christina Mnatzaganian, Dr. Wendy Yamasaki-Herring. Dean Pezzuto and several other faculty formerly have been inducted into Rho Chi.

# LISTEN UP!

## Five Important Lessons for Rho Chi Compliments of the USMC



(Speech to DKICP students and faculty at 2013 Rho Chi banquet)

By Victoria F. Roche, Ph.D.,  
Acting Dean and Professor  
of Pharmacy Sciences,  
Creighton University  
School of Pharmacy and  
Health Professions, Omaha,  
Nebraska

I doubt if many people associated with the profession of pharmacy have ever mentioned the Rho Chi National Pharmacy Honor Society and a distinguished branch of our country's armed forces, the United States Marine Corps, in the same breath. However, I had reason to do exactly that shortly after being invited to share this very special evening with all of you. And that reason is visible behind me.

The man in the picture (at right) is my dad, Al Frisbie, who served as a Marine in the Pacific theatre during the Second World War. Dad is 91 and just survived his first year without mom by his side. When Dr. Fisher extended your gracious invitation, I tried very hard to get him to come with me, and he actually considered it for a couple of days before deciding it was just too far for him to travel.



When your folks are in their 90s you realize how precious each and every day you have with them really is. After he told me of his decision not to come to Hilo, I was reflecting on his life and, simultaneously, thinking about this presentation. And that's when the parallels between what the Marines are known for, and what Rho Chi espouses, hit home.

So this talk is really from the two of us. Dad's providing the inspiration through the Corps he loves, and I'm adapting it to the Society I love.

### **The Few, The Proud** (the "tag line" for the USMC)

Rho Chi is Pharmacy's national honor society. Honor societies are, by definition, exclusive groups, and a desire to belong is simply not enough to garner an invitation to membership. Those few who are invited must have proved themselves worthy of the recognition. This might sound snooty and elitist, but a lyrical explanation for this exclusivity can be found in the last line of a song called "There Lived a King" from Gilbert & Sullivan's operetta *The Gondoliers*: In short, whoever you may be, To this conclusion you'll agree, When everyone is somebody, Then no one's anybody!

Tonight is our night to celebrate the new initiates of Delta Iota...special somebodies all. These are the students and faculty members from your College who have demonstrated, through their sustained commitment to intellectual achievement and critical inquiry related to the science and practice of pharmacy, that they have merited a place in the ranks of this prestigious Society.

Rho Chi is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies, and the ACHS has fairly strict rules related to membership that we are bound to heed. So we can indeed only invite "The Few" who have risen to the top of their class through dedicated attention to their studies. And because Rho Chi membership is an internationally recognized sign of academic distinction, we trust you are also "The Proud."

Initiates, it's certain that your family, friends, and faculty all take tremendous pride in you, not only for what you've accomplished to date, but also for what lies ahead for the profession as you graduate and bring your intellectual gifts to bear in shaping it. For, as our ritual states, "no distinction, no honor, no privilege, comes to anyone without added responsibilities." The future of this profession is truly in your hands.

Now, that said, Rho Chi members should not feel superior to others who found themselves on the other side of the top 20% line. There are many professionally dedicated and high achieving students who didn't make the cut, and we respect each and every one for the many gifts with which they've been blessed. These classmates will make their own distinct and valuable mark on the profession and on the society they too will serve with dedication and diligence. So, while Rho Chi members are The Few, The Proud of the profession, they should also be The Collaborative, The Humble and The Gracious.

### **Once a Marine, always a Marine** *(a Marine slogan)*

Many of my own chapter's initiates, when accepting our invitation to membership, express concern that they'll be booted out if they don't retain their position within the top 20 percent of their class. I don't know how many of you had this worry, but the reality is that most of our members continue to excel academically throughout their time in School. The few times P2 students invited to membership turn us down (which opens up vacancies in the subsequent P3 year) when we review those in the top 20 percent of the P3 class the following year we find the same names. I think this proves that academic excellence isn't a fluke; it's born from an internal drive to make the most of each and every opportunity to learn, with the realization that the ultimate beneficiaries of that dedication to learning are the patients you'll serve.

While it's rare to find a Rho Chi initiate who subsequently drops in class rank below the 20 percent line, it does happen. But, just like in the Marines, once a Rho Chi member, always a Rho Chi member. The Society recognizes that the grades can rise and fall as you negotiate your way through the curriculum. Some subjects will come easily while others will be more of a challenge. But there is the expectation that we chose wisely...that the pledge you make when you promise to support and work with the Society to the best of your ability will stimulate you to honor the Society's vision of "pursuing intellectual excellence and critical inquiry to advance the profession" throughout your academic and professional life. For Rho Chi membership isn't an isolated moment-in-time honor. It's a disposition...a lifelong way of thinking and doing.

This sustained relationship is reflected the Society's vision statement to engage members as lifelong intellectual leaders in pharmacy. We are currently trying to identify the best ways to engage alumni members and to "foster fellowship" between alums and collegiates. We want alums to stay connected with their original chapters, as well as affiliate with chapters close to where they live and work. Rho Chi established an Alumni Honor Roll several years back to recognize members who have kept the Society's spirit alive as they've moved into the workplace. I encourage Delta Iota to maintain close contact with your alums and nominate deserving graduates for this honor when the call from the National Office comes out each spring. As you approach graduation, share with national officers and Delta Iota advisors your ideas on how best to engage alum members in the Society and cement their commitment to staying connected throughout their practice careers. The Society needs your guidance to fulfill this important aspect of our mission and vision.

### **First to fight for right and freedom** *(from The Marine Corps Hymn)*

To convert this line from The Marine Corps Hymn into a lesson for Rho Chi, we need to consider the right of everyone to learn and the freedom to find one's way in the profession, wherever that path may lead.

Almost every Rho Chi chapter I know is on the front lines when it comes to helping their fellow classmates achieve their academic best, in good times and in bad. For example, most chapters offer tutoring services, commonly working in collaboration with their School's Academic and Student Affairs administrators to maximize their effectiveness. Tutoring can involve leading group study sessions or providing one-on-one guidance tailored to individual learner needs. Those of you considering a career in academia might be particularly interested in spearheading Delta Iota's tutoring program. Since tutoring requires dedicating valuable and often scarce time to assist others, it's important to emphasize that both tutor and protégé win in a tutoring session because there's no better way to experience deep and persistent learning than to teach what you understand to someone else.

Some chapters have put on programs designed to help students develop good study habits or explore effective study strategies targeted to specific course expectations or academic demands (e.g., critical thinking, clinical reasoning, case presentations). Others have made promoting research opportunities a focus of their career service initiatives. These chapters have organized poster presentation events, sponsored scientific symposia, highlighted outstanding faculty researchers (especially those who involve students in their work) or given awards for noteworthy student-directed scholarship. Many chapters are taking the lead in sponsoring mock residency interviews, setting up residency student interest groups, and/or finding other ways to help fellow students succeed in the very competitive residency marketplace. Liaising with alums who can provide career guidance or leads to promising jobs in new graduates' areas of practice interest is yet another way to fight for the right and freedom for all to succeed in the pharmacy profession.

### **And to keep our honor clean** *(from The Marine Corps Hymn)*

Earlier we emphasized that, like in the Marines, once a Rho Chi member, always a Rho Chi member. But, in truth, there is a way students can get themselves cut from the Society's membership roll, or be prohibited from even being considered for membership, and that's by violating their commitment to integrity by committing academic, non-academic or professional misconduct. The Rho Chi mission states that the Society "encourages high standards of conduct and character" but the reality is they demand it.

*Continued on Page 14*

## Listen UP -- continued from page 13

You don't have to be Einstein to figure out that an honor society is not going to abide cheating in any form. But studies have shown that contemporary students (particularly at the undergraduate level) do not have a clear understanding of what constitutes cheating, and what differentiates dishonest from acceptable academic behavior. Dishonesty doesn't have to be egregious or flagrant to be a Rho Chi deal breaker. The National Society Bylaws mandate that all it takes is one upheld charge of misconduct on record. Situations of misconduct within pharmacy programs are tragic when the students committing integrity infractions are basically good kids who made a foolish, but professionally costly, mistake; when they didn't recognize that an inappropriate action that they didn't think was that big of a deal could have such a significant impact on how others would judge their character. Maybe these students would have stayed on the straight and narrow if a classmate had simply reminded them of the importance of professionalism and integrity.

As Rho Chi members, I ask you to commit now to upholding the Society's mandate for integrity in all things. Commit now to taking the courageous step to call the question if you see someone about to violate your School's honor code, or experience an integrity lapse, or make an error in judgment, or take a shortcut that will not only hurt

them professionally, but will ultimately hurt the profession and the patients that student will eventually serve. Like the Marines, commit to keeping your honor clean throughout your professional life and to helping others do the same.

### **Semper Fi** (*The Marine Corps Motto*)

This final and, to me, most important lesson needs no lengthy explanation. Semper Fi...always faithful.

- Faithful to the Society's mission and vision.
- Faithful to the promises you will make during the initiation ritual.
- Faithful to your profession and the patients you will serve.
- Faithful to the members of your health care team.
- Faithful to the College that prepared you so well for practice
- Faithful to those who have sacrificed so that you could achieve and succeed
- Faithful to yourself and the professional and personal values you've forged over the years

In closing, I want to again thank Dr. Fisher for inviting me to be with you, to thank you for listening, and to thank dad for pretty much everything. We both wish you all the very best in the days and years ahead.

# Pharm2Pharm begins connecting patients with pharmacists on Maui and Kauai

Consulting pharmacists on Maui and Kauai are now helping patients at risk of medication-related hospitalizations and ER visits through Pharm2Pharm, a project from The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) at UH Hilo.

The project, located in the UH Hilo DKICP's Center for Rural Health Science and led by Karen Pellegrin, launched on Maui in February and on Kauai in May. Plans are to expand the services to the Big Island in June.

Funded by a \$14.3 million CMS Health Care Innovation Award, Pellegrin and her team are using a model of care that is designed to improve quality and reduce costs among elderly and others at risk in Hawai'i's rural counties of Maui, Kauai and Hawai'i.

"By offering these consulting pharmacist services, we can improve the quality of life for our elderly population," said Pellegrin, who is Director of Strategic Planning and Distance/Continuing Education for DKICP. "In addition, we can make healthcare in Hawaii more sustainable by preventing hospitalizations and ER visits."

Patients who may benefit from the services are identified by the hospital consulting pharmacists, who begin working with the patients on medication management issues while they are still in the hospital. At discharge, the patient is formally connected to a community consulting pharmacist, who continues providing medication-management services for a year.

"I have been encouraged by the reaction from the physicians and pharmacists in our rural communities," Pellegrin said. "Everyone has been extremely positive about this additional patient care."

Maui-based Anita Ciarleglio and Kauai-based Roy Goo, both assistant professors of pharmacy practice for DKICP, are leading the hospital component of the project in these two



Roy Goo, assistant professor of pharmacy practice.

Karen Pellegrin (left) and Anita Ciarleglio met with pharmacist Les Krenk on Maui.

counties. Additional project partners are: Hawai'i Community Pharmacist Association, Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation, Hawai'i Pacific Health, Hawai'i Health Information Exchange, and Hawai'i Health Information Corporation.

All consulting pharmacists participating in the Pharm2Pharm service are required to complete an eight-hour continuing education program. Some DKICP student pharmacists are now receiving experiential training, called rotations, using this model.

"The goal of the Pharm2Pharm project is to achieve the three-part aim of the CMS Innovation Center: Better health, better care, lower cost," Pellegrin said.

Acknowledgement of federal funding: The project described is supported by Funding Opportunity Number CMS-1C1-12-0001 from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HHS or any of its agencies.

# 2013 Spring Awards Celebration



Teacher Award recipients



Ambassadors



UHHSA Senators

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy held the 2013 Spring Awards Celebration May 1 at Sangha Hall for the second year. Previous ceremonies were held on the Hawai'i Community College campus and the Pezzuto home.

## Awards that night included:

### Teachers of the Year (voted by students):

Class of 2016 selected Drs. Leng Chee Chang and Forrest Batz; Classes of 2014 and 2015 each selected Dr. Aaron Jacobs and Dr. Leslie Rodriguez

### Preceptor of the Year:

Michael Hoskins, RPh, Pharmacy manager, Mina Pharmacy, Hilo

### Recognition of Ambassadors:

Class of 2014 - Miho Aoki, Maurina Bartlett, Steven Nishimoto  
Class of 2015 - Jeremy Daube, Kristina Lo, Jarred Prudencio, LaTasha Riddick

### Recognition of UHHSA Senators:

Shadi Obeidi and Kyle Kumashiro, both from the Class of 2014

### Lily Achievement Award:

Ann Txakeeyang, Class of 2014

### Student Organization of the Year :

Gamma Theta Chapter of Phi Delta Chi

### Student Leader of the Year:

Janine Masri, Class of 2014

### US Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Practice Award:

Davis Hanai, Class of 2015

### CoP Student Promo Video Contest:

Daniel Kim, Kim Nguyen, Kyle Kumashiro, Shadi Obeidi, Class of 2014

Also for the second year, the students presented a talent show. The winning act was "A Musical Consultation," a comic musical piece performed by Q6 Hours made up of Li Chen, Kyle Kumashiro, Roxanne Sewake, Jizan Evangelista, Amanda Nicolas, and Andrew Reinhart, all from the Class of 2014.

Other students who performed were: Reggae Infusion, performed by: Okezie Irondi and Leilani Isozaki from the Class of 2016; Pharm-Fu! performed by Bryan Huynh, Kristina Lo, and Stephanie Sumner from the Class of 2015; Heartfelt Duet, performed by Annie Hu & Ericson Ganotisi from the Class of 2015; and Classical Contemporary, performed by Arnold Sano & Leilani Isozaki from the Class of 2016.



# 2013 Spring Awards Celebration

*Davis Hanai, US Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Practice Award recipient*



*Gamma Theta Chapter of Phi Delta Chi*



*Winners of the talent show were "Q6 Hours," made up members from the Class of 2014.*



*2013 Scholarship recipients*

## College of Pharmacy invests in local health care with contribution to HMC

Students, faculty and staff from The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) teamed up to collect more than \$7,000 to support the Hilo Medical Center Foundation Adopt-A-Room Project. The gift was presented to Julie Tulang, President of Hilo Medical Center Foundation, at DKICP's 2013 Spring Awards Celebration May 1 at Sangha Hall.



Julie Tulang (left), President of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation (HMC), accepts a donation for the Adopt-A-Room Project from John Pezzuto, Dean of The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. Pezzuto was surprised May 1 with a \$7,000 check that was a collection in his honor from faculty, staff and students.

The announcement, made at the end of a long list of awards given to students in the college, was meant to surprise Dean John Pezzuto, said Daniel Watanabe, student pharmacist and 2015 class president.

"The entire college kept this a secret from the Dean so we could surprise you as a way to say 'thank you' for everything you do," Watanabe told the crowd of about 200 people. "Please know that the college appreciates you and each and every one of us is proud to be able to say that you are the Dean of our college."

Pezzuto, who has been Dean of the College since 2006, is a member of the Board for the Hilo Medical Center Foundation. The Adopt-a-Room Project aims to collect money to renovate 14 semi-private and 18 private

patient-care rooms on the third-floor Medical Unit.

"Hilo Medical Center has been central to many DKICP student pharmacists learning experience," Pezzuto explained. "I joined the Board as a way to give back to my community, and have been rewarded by the many good friends I have made there. This evening was definitely a nice surprise that came at a time when we all needed a boost. There were tears in my eyes."

The students spearheaded the collection of the funds with the help of Student Support Specialist Tracey Niimi and faculty member, Mimi Pezzuto. Presidents from all of the College of Pharmacy student organizations, including the class council presidents, met before spring break in March.

"Due to Hilo Medical Center's continued dedication and support of our college, we unanimously decided we were going to all work together and participate in the Adopt-A-Room project because it means a lot to our Dean," said Sean Pfundstein, Class of 2014.

Lori Rogers, Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation stated, "The Foundation is excited to receive a donation from the faculty and students of the Daniel K. Inouye School of Pharmacy honoring Dr. John Pezzuto. The patients that have occupied the renovated rooms have been very pleased with the results. This is truly an endeavor that is making an impact with the community."

## Pharmacy students awarded for leadership



From left: Daniel Kim, Kelly Ishizuka, Ericson Ganotisi, Davis Hanai, Alysia Osugi (Photo and story by Tracey Niimi)

The University of Hawai'i at Hilo Campus Center Student Leadership Program recently presented various student organizations and individuals with the 2013 Ka Lama Ku Student Leadership Recognition Award for excellence and contributions to UH Hilo and the community.

The Laulima Certificate of Leadership was presented to the A.L.O.H.A. Project Committee for their community outreach projects. The committee is comprised of student pharmacists Davis Hanai, Ericson Ganotisi, Daniel Kim, Keshia Mahi-Leopoldino, Alysia Osugi, Nicole Tabandera, Tracy Nakama, Jenny Lee Ramos, and Kelly Ishizuka.

The Ike Papalua Award - To Have the Gift of Vision, was presented to Amanda Nicolas of the National Community Pharmacists Association for her volunteerism and leadership during events such as Compounding for Kids and The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy's Bone Marrow Drive. The award was accepted by Ericson Ganotisi on behalf of Amanda Nicolas.

## Native Hawaiian pharmacy and pre-pharmacy students team with the Nā Pua No'ēau Center on the Ke Ola Mau project

Under the guidance of Dr. David Sing, founding executive director of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo's Nā Pua No'ēau (Center for Gifted and Talented Native Hawaiian Children), students from the pre-pharmacy and PharmD programs in The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) are hoping their work will help increase the number of native Hawaiians in the health professions.

The effort is part of Nā Pua No'ēau's Health Career Pathway initiative funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Nā Pua No'ēau is a Hawaiian education center working with Hawaiian youth statewide in increasing their potential to attend and succeed in higher education. Through the Ke Ola Mau Project, the Center extends its work to college students majoring in health careers and/or STEM areas.

Native Hawaiian students from DKICP were selected for the program based on their proposed research, internship, and/or community activities related to the goal of resolving health issues that confront Native Hawaiians.

"The students have been active facilitators in the Ke Ola Mau activities since last fall semester," said Dr. Susan Jarvi, associate professor in pharmaceutical sciences, director of the Pre-Pharmacy Program, and member of the Ke Ola Mau Advisory Council. "They have conducted a variety of activities at health fairs, Nā Pua No'ēau Super Enrichment Saturday programs, and other events."

Some activities they conduct include:

- 1) Marine natural products information session
- 2) Marine First Aid game called "Wheel of Misfortune"
- 3) Compounding
- 4) Heart Rate and Exercise
- 5) Hawaiian Medicinal Plants and cancer research
- 6) Sharing their experiences with Na Pua No'ēau students, as well as discussing why they decided to obtain their PharmD or PhD at UH Hilo.

Dr. Dana Lynn Koomoa-Lange, assistant professor in pharmaceutical sciences, has been working directly with the COP students in designing the hands on activities for interacting with the K-12 students. She said they have a repertoire of activities that they can pick and choose from, depending on the event and the age of the students.

According to Dr. Koomoa-Lange "The activities are engaging and fun for the students, and teaches responses



*Ke Ola Mau Participants*

*Seated from left: Rachel Loo, David Sing and Susan Jarvi*

*Standing from left: Eric Tsuji, Jason Perreira, Toni Mallow, Shannon Makanui, Kimberly Victorine, Bert Matsuo, Jairus Mahoe, Joshua Day*

*Missing: Dana Koomoa-Lange*

to real life situations, or how to live a healthier lifestyle by monitoring their heart rate during exercise. We have some activities that are more specific for Pharmacy, such as compounding exercises, and those that are more specific to pharmaceutical sciences, such as Hawaiian medicinal plants and cancer research or marine natural products."



*Dr. Dana Lynn Koomoa-Lange*

The group is planning a trip to Moloka'i where the students will facilitate educational enrichment activities related to health for Moloka'i children hoping to inspire the youth to pursue a health career. They hope to do the same on Maui, Oahu, Kaua'i, Moloka'i, Lana'i as part of their partnership with Nā Pua No'ēau.

"Our students are really busy with their studies and extracurricular activities but they still find time to work with the Ke Ola Mau program," Koomoa-Lange said. "I am really impressed by their commitment to give back to the Native Hawaiian and local communities."

# Pacific Islander Mobile Screening Clinic Receives National Recognition

Drs. Carolyn Ma and  
Katherine Anderson

A team of student pharmacists from The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) at UH Hilo won the American Association of College of Pharmacy (AACCP) Student Community Engaged Service Award for their commitment to improve the health of Hawai'i County residents.

Shanele Shimabuku (Class of 2013), Jed Sana, Tracy Nakama, Ann Txakeeyang, Brienne Gustillo, Amanda Wendel, Naoto Oki (Class of 2014) and Davis Hanai (Class of 2015) led the PIMSC Big Island health and wellness outreach this past year. Their award-winning project, the Pacific Islander Mobile Screening Clinic (PIMSC), is a student-inspired project that has been supported by Dr. Katherine Anderson, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice, who is the faculty adviser for the project.

"We could not have accomplished this without the support of volunteer pharmacists and nurses from the community," Dr. Anderson said.

Jed Sana, a student from Guam, coordinated the commitment of his skilled teammates, she said. Collectively they successfully garnered strong community leadership and support, particularly among the Marshallese. Tracy Nakama established relationships with Micronesians United-Big Island, an advocacy group and student translators from the UHH Pacific Island Student Center.

While Jed was instrumental in organizing screenings, managing supplies and budgeting resources for 20 screening events, Brienne Gustillo and Ann Txakeeyang coordinated screenings on-site. PIMSC has held screenings at churches and community centers in Hilo, Keaau, and



*Student pharmacists who worked on the PIMSC project are (from left) Ann Txakeeyang, Brienne Gustillo, Amanda Wendel, and Jed Sana. In the back row are Katherine Anderson, PharmD, PIMSC Advisor and assistant professor and Leslie Rodriguez, PharmD, Preceptor and Clinical Education Coordinator, both in the Department of Pharmacy Practice.*

Puna, as well as an elementary school and a community event at Waiohinu Park in Naalehu. PIMSC collaborated with Ola Pono Ko Kau Ohana, a health and wellness organization serving Kau; and the Hawaii Island Beacon Community Healthy Eating and Active Living Program.

In addition to PIMSC providing an initial wellness screening, second year pharmacy students schedule follow-up visits at the Aging Disability Resource Center (ADRC) in Hilo to monitor changes in screening results and review medications to assure they are taken safely and effectively. Recently, caregivers from all over the island came to the ADRC and benefited from the wellness

screenings and health education offered by the pharmacy students.

"PIMSC began with Shanele Shimabuku's vision to reach those with limited access to healthcare," Dr. Anderson explained. "Amanda Wendell has done a phenomenal job of facilitating communication between the PIMSC and all its community partners. Every student member brought his or her own gift to the team. They have been an inspiration to their classmates who have rallied to the cause and called on the faculty to mentor them in medication therapy management."

The students were awarded plaques and a cash team prize to be used for enhancing or sustaining PIMSC, or for travel support for them to attend and present their projects at a professional meeting. The college also received a cash award to be used exclusively to support program expansion of recognized or new community engaged service projects, as well as a Tiffany & Co. Shooting Star. One designated

student and faculty advisor will receive funding to attend the national awards ceremony at AACP's 2013 annual meeting that will be held in Chicago this July.

Txakeeyang, who is the lead author on a poster presented at a conference for the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) March 1-4 in Los Angeles, said PIMSC has come a long way since beginning in 2010. She said being a part of the mobile clinic has helped her and her fellow students become better future pharmacists.

"By reaching out to Pacific Islanders and giving us hands-on, real professional pharmacy experience working with people, we as student pharmacists have the ability to increase our cultural awareness," Ms. Txakeeyang said. "One of our greatest accomplishments this year was establishing relationships with some of the Marshallese leaders. This

allowed us to build bridges with a group of individuals who typically do not seek health care due to barriers such as language and health care access."

The Marshallese Mobile Screening Clinic got its start with funding from the DKICP's Student Leadership Enrichment fund. In March 2012, it was named one of 17 Healthy Eating and Active Living projects to receive funding from the Hawai'i Island Beacon Community.

"Most importantly, we are taking care of precious people," Dr. Anderson said. "I see hearts in action, and our students making time to care for our kupuna, and those who most need help on this island. We are honored that our national pharmacy professional organization, American Pharmacists Association, has honored us with this award."

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## Mahalo for Supporting a Healthier Hawai'i County



Forrest Batz, PharmD  
Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice  
The Daniel K Inouye College of Pharmacy  
University of Hawai'i at Hilo  
2013 Chair CTFH-East Hawai'i Community Coalition

**T**he Coalition for Tobacco-Free Hawai'i (CTFH) and CTFH-East Hawai'i Community Coalition gives a big nod to the fifth anniversary of the ban of tobacco use at Hawai'i County beaches, parks and recreational facilities including parking lots on the Big Island.

Following Hawai'i Island's footsteps, Honolulu recently passed a smoking ban for several O'ahu beaches, including those in Waikiki. This is a step in the right direction for O'ahu to ensure health and safety to those enjoying the outdoors. We acknowledge those who have enforced the law in Hawai'i County and we are eager for the same results at Honolulu beaches.

For the past five years, the CTFH-East Hawai'i Community Coalition has led in teaching the community through classroom presentations, promotional banners and bookmarks, and community events to promote the tobacco-free parks, beaches and recreational facilities law. We appreciate all the community partners who are assisting in teaching our communities about the ordinance including the American Cancer Society, Hui Mālama Ola Nā `Ōiwi Native Hawaiian Health Care System, The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, the University of Hawai'i at Hilo Nursing Program, the Hawai'i County Police Department: Community Policing Division and University of Hawai'i Mānoa Cooperative Extension Services. We are thankful for their kokua and partnership.

Together, we are helping our communities reduce resident and visitor exposure to second-hand smoke. We are keeping outdoor recreational facilities and the environment free of tobacco litter. It takes a unified community to create a healthier Hawai'i County and to set positive examples for our keiki. We are proud of this milestone and will continue to foster a healthy living environment for all.

# Pre-pharmacy group gets sample of their future as student pharmacists

By Susannah Welch, pre-pharmacy advisor and Linda Connelly, assistant professor

Each spring semester, the Pre-Pharmacy Program offers a course called IS201: Pre-Pharmacy Orientation. This course is designed to familiarize students with the academic requirements of the Pre-Pharmacy Program and the Doctorate of Pharmacy degree. On March 1, for the first time, Pre-Pharmacy students visited The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy as a component of the IS201 class. The visit to the college included a visit to faculty member Mimi Pezzuto's lab and a tour of the facilities.

Mrs. Pezzuto welcomed the visiting pre-pharmacy students into her lab for hands-on educational activities, much like those offered as part of PharmD coursework. Two of her PharmD lab assistants, LaTasha Riddick (Class of 2015) and Amanda Wendel (Class of 2014), led a compounding demonstration during which they showed students how to make lotion from beeswax. In addition, Mrs. Pezzuto explained some historical pharmacy items and their purposes including a Hawaiian stone pestle, an iron suppository press, and a Hilo Drug Company record book that contains prescriptions written in Hawaiian. Afterwards, Mrs. Pezzuto delivered a presentation on the history of pharmacy, highlighting important discoveries, paradigm shifts, and influential figures.

Additionally, IS201 course coordinator Dr. Linda Connelly led a walking tour of the DKICP modular buildings. During the tour, students had the chance to visit Dr. Sue Jarvi in her lab and learned about her research on rat lung work disease. Students also had the opportunity to see other laboratories, the breakout rooms, the student lounge, and the Mock Pharmacy. The



highlight of the tour for some students was the chance to sit behind the desks in an empty classroom and imagine how it might feel to be a PharmD student someday.

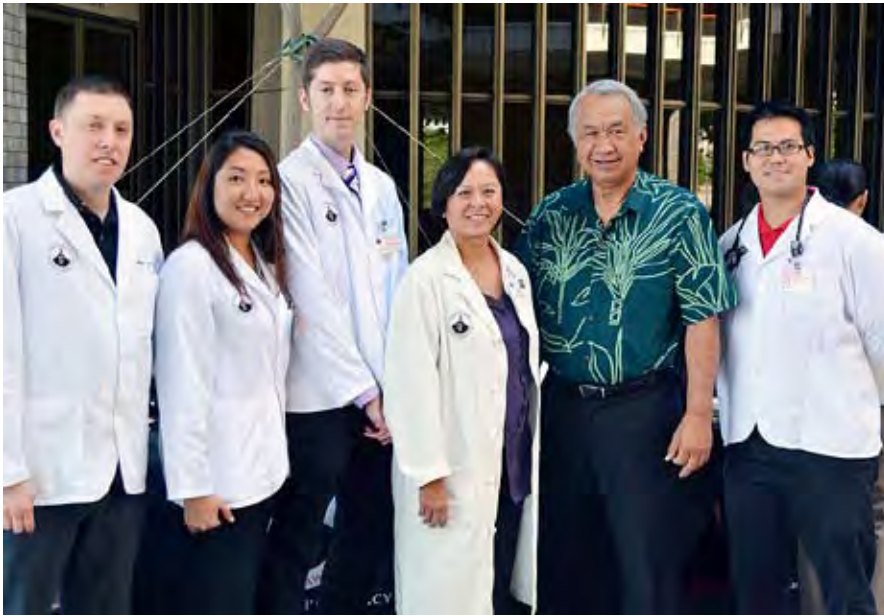
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## Local pharmaceutical wholesaler closes doors, adds to DKICP historical collection



Faculty member Mimi Pezzuto shows a mortar and pestle that was part of a donation from Dennis and Sharon Machida, who owned a family wholesale pharmaceutical supply company in Hilo. Machida Inc. closed its doors this year after selling pharmaceuticals for more than 100 years, and donated several items to DKICP historical collection, including sheets of gold leaf that were used in coating tablets, antique glassware and balances as well as trademarked proprietary products written in both Japanese and English.

# UH Day at the Capitol



Several fourth-year students visited with legislators in Honolulu during UH Day at the Capitol, including (from left) Chris Lai Hipp, Margaret Kang, James Montague, Dr. Carolyn Ma, Senator Gilbert Kahele, and Reece Uyeno. (Photo by Micah Alameda, legislative aid for Sen. Kahele). Also that day, students participated in providing wellness tests. James Montague, Class of 2013, monitored blood pressure for Sen. Gilbert Kahele.



## Hawai'i's Lt. Gov. Shan Tsutsui tours DKICP physical facilities

Dianqing Sun (left), associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, gave a tour of Panaewa labs at Waiakea Research Station April 4 to Lt. Gov. Shan Tsutsui and University Relations Director Jerry Chang.

# Pharmacy students join forces to educate lawmakers

Chris Lai Hipp, a Class of 2013 student pharmacist from The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) at UH Hilo, was interviewed for local television news at the Hawai'i State Capitol April 16 as he and other students and alumni delivered informational packets to Hawai'i state legislators.

The packets, including a CD with more than 1,000 letters of community support and petitions with 1,243 signatures, were a product of a group of community members called the Friends of The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (FDKICP) Steering Committee, headed by Kelvin Sewake, a Hilo resident.

"The community has really come out in full support of the College, and for that we are truly grateful," said Sewake, who also is the father of a student pharmacist. "The letters and petitions represent the hopes and dreams of the current pharmacy students as well as the bright future for all young aspiring pharmacists."

Besides visiting the lawmakers, current student pharmacists helped amass signatures and testimonies by asking friends and families to participate, as well as at community events such as the Saturday AIDS Walk, where they conducted wellness tests, and the Farmer's Market.

The legislators were unable to provide funding for the building this year.





# Pharmacy, nursing, medical students collaborate in workshop to focus on patient safety

(Portions of the following are from a media advisory from the John A. Burns School of Medicine)

**H**ow can doctors, nursing professionals and pharmacists work together to improve patient safety? It begins with communication—talking and learning side-by-side.

For the past two years, the University of Hawai'i Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) and the UH Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene have brought their first-year students together each Spring, to learn each other's perspectives, and how to work better as a team in health care settings.

This year, 24 students from The UH Hilo Daniel K. Inouye School of Pharmacy also joined in the daylong session held at JABSOM April 19, along with about 50 nursing students and 60 MD candidates. Faculty of all three schools led discussions.

Ben Chavez, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice who is based in Honolulu, thanked everyone and welcomed pharmacy for joining the workshop.

"Interprofessionalism is important because when students get into practice they are going to have to work together with other disciplines, such as medicine and nursing," Dr. Chavez said. "This leads to better patient care because the patient has a whole team working for them. By getting students from different disciplines to interact with each other earlier in their career hopefully it will lead to better collaborations in the future."

Student pharmacists included 12 third-year students from Hilo, and 12 students who were on Oahu for their fourth-year rotations. Chavez noted, "We were greatly welcomed. Several people mentioned about how great it was to have pharmacy involved."



*Pharmacy students joined students from nursing and medical school in Manoa for a workshop on April 19.*

"The trend in health care is toward interdisciplinary training, with an emphasis on improving patient safety in health care settings," said Dr. Roy Magnusson, JABSOM Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs. "Our partners in health care education throughout the UH System are excited to be on the forefront of implementing curriculums which advance those goals."

# Annual meeting brings DKICP together with Advisory Council to discuss future



Dean John Pezzuto (left) introduces Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Matt Platz

In preparation for an April site visit from reviewers from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), DKICP held an annual meeting of 70 faculty, staff and students with members of the Advisory Committee Feb. 15-16 at the Waikoloa Hilton.

Dean John Pezzuto led the two-day meeting with an introduction of Dr. Matthew “Matt” Platz, who became Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at UH Hilo in January. Dr. Platz was director of the Division of Chemistry for the National Science Foundation (NSF) after being on the faculty at Ohio State University (OSU) for 35 years, where he was a department chair, dean and vice provost. He spoke briefly, and told the group he believes research will make a difference on the island.

The guest lecturer on the first day was Kevin Slavik, Senior Director of Pharmacy, Health Care Service Corporation, which operates Blue Cross and Blue Shield operating from Illinois. He spoke about how the Affordable Care Act will transform the way individuals buy health care, as well as how the increased demand of medical care in the U.S. will require a greater need for pharmacists, which will emphasize their role as medication therapy experts who promote patient well being.



Kevin Slavik, Senior Director of Pharmacy, Health Care Service Corporation, was the guest lecturer

Most of the second day was devoted to a dissection of the 30 ACPE standards required to maintain accreditation, which was granted to DKICP in 2011 when the inaugural class of PharmD students graduated. The College's accreditation standards include a wide range of goals for the school's mission, planning and evaluation; organization and administration; curriculum; students, faculty and staff; and facilities and resources. Dean John Pezzuto told the group the Standard Number 27, Physical Facilities, was a “turning point” for the future of accreditation. “I have met many in

the state legislature one by one to inform them why we've earned their support. It's critical for us to have a unified front,” he told the group.

Other presentations during the day included a continuing education lecture by Dr. Julie Adrian, DVM, on “Vet Information 101” as well as a discussion on recruitment, led by Director of Student Services Liz Heffernan.

Faculty members also met with and received input from members of the Dean's Advisory Council, who offered their input on the accreditation goals. Some members have been involved with the College's creation and development since 2002.

“We are very fortunate that these leaders in the field take the time to give us input,” Dean Pezzuto said. “They provide us with an invaluable tool as we train future pharmacists to join their ranks.”



Dr. Julie Adrian gave a CE lecture entitled “Vet Information 101”



*The Advisory Committee includes:*

*Front Row from left: Ron Okamura, retired pharmacist, Kaiser Permanente; Kurt Schanzenbach, Queens Medical Center; Roy Yamauchi, consultant pharmacist, SynergyRx; Lois Nash, Pali Momi Medical Center; Joy Matsuyama, past president, Hawai'i Pharmacists Association and pharmacy director, Straub Clinic and Hospital.*

*Second Row: Todd Inafuka, government affairs, CVS/Caremark; Sueann Yasuoka, Pharmacy Operations Manager at Times Supermarket; Nancy Huang, Walgreen's; Brian Fukunaga, director, Health Systems & Alternative Care, AmerisourceBergen; Elwin Goo, former chief of pharmacy service at U.S. Army Health Clinic for Schofield Barracks and chief of inpatient pharmacy for Tripler Army Medical Center*

*Third Row: Barbara Kashiwabara, Kaiser Permanente, Valerie Matsunaga, Kaiser Permanente, Kent Kikuchi, Wilcox Memorial Center; Patrick Garman, Tripler Army Medical Center*



*Seventy faculty, staff and students from DKICP met with members of the Advisory Committee in February*

# High School students attend pharmacy lecture



Students from the Hawai'i Preparatory Academy attended a lecture at The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) from Dean John Pezzuto and Dr. Edward Fisher, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, at UH Hilo campus April 23. The students were part of a class taught by HPA Anatomy/Forensics/Biology teacher, Dr. Kristal G. Blacksmith.

## Science Symposium

The Program Directors of the NCI-designated University of Hawai'i Cancer Center (UHCC) from Honolulu visited The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo for a science symposium March 13-14. The purpose of the visit was to learn about each other's instrumentation resources and core services as well as to present current research projects of faculty at DKICP and discuss future collaborations in drug discovery by discussion in lively break out sessions, said André Bachmann, associate professor and chair, DKICP Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, the host for the two-day symposium.

*Front row: James Turkson, Director, Professor, Natural Products and Experimental Therapeutics Program, UHCC; Andre Bachmann, DKICP, UH Hilo; Pebbles Fagan, Director, Associate Professor, Cancer Prevention and Control Program, UHCC. Back row, Joe Ramos, Co-Director, Associate Professor, Cancer Biology Program, UHCC; Reinhold Penner, Co-Director, Cancer Biology Program, UHCC.*



## Campus Visit

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy welcomed students from the Maui College Pai Ka Mana program during a visit on Friday, April 5. These students received a pharmacy overview with Admissions Counselor Kristy Nakamura and a campus tour with second-year Student Ambassador Kristina Lo. Dr. Sue Jarvi also addressed the group about her research involving host-parasite interactions and rat lungworm disease.

*(Photo by Tracey Niimi)*

# Student pharmacists visit local elementary school to provide training



*Shanaya Simeona (left) pours lotion solution in a bottle with help from Kasia Quintal, Mimi Pezzuto, Shanon Makanui and Bert Matsuo.*

Students from Keaukaha Elementary School learned about what pharmacists do and were able to make their own scented lotions at a special visit from a group from The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) April 11.

Mimi Pezzuto, faculty member at DKICP, took several first-year student pharmacists to the school on Desha Avenue in Hilo to talk about pharmacy, Hilo Drug Company historical pharmacy collection, and explain about pharmaceutical compounding.

“Not everyone responds to drugs the same way. With compounding, pharmacists can provide better patient care by customizing a prescription that addresses each individual situation,” Pezzuto said. “I know of pharmacists who also create compounds for

veterinarians and their animal patients. We try to prepare our students to be as versatile as possible when they graduate, so this is an important skill for them to learn.”

The 46 elementary students also learned the importance of what goes on a label. They designed and colored their own labels, then made scented lotions.

“This was a very good experience for all the students,” said Lynn Fujii, one of the homeroom teachers at Keaukaha Elementary. “They were engaged and had fun. It was important for them to see that science can have practical applications.”

Pezzuto takes her first-year students from laboratory to local schools at least once a semester. Student pharmacists have given demonstrations at several local schools, and student organizations participate in community events such as Ocean Day and Onizuka Day. The compounding booth is always popular with the crowds, she said.

“This is one way we try to give back to our community, but also a way we try to spark interest in science at a young age,” Pezzuto said. “I am hoping that some of these budding chemists will be my future pharmacy students.”



*Chase Agpoon (leaning forward) and Dan Ahuna watch first-year student pharmacist Shanon Makanui as she pours ingredients into a tall beaker.*



## DKICP shows community support in rainy Merrie Monarch parade

By Tracey Niimi  
Student Support  
Specialist



Students from

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy

(DKICP) and the UH Hilo Pre-Pharmacy Club participated in the Annual Merrie Monarch Royal Parade on April 6. About 40 student pharmacists and a dozen Pre-Pharmacy Club members braved the morning rain and passed out 1,500 copies of *The Mystery of Rat Lung Worm Disease*, an educational coloring workbook to children that lined busy downtown Hilo Streets. The book was the result of a team of student pharmacists led by Dr. Susan Jarvi, associate professor and Director of the Pre-Pharmacy Program.



During the Merrie Monarch Parade, it is customary to present a ho'okupu, or ceremonial gift to the Royal Court at the end of the parade. This year Lance Niimi from the Queen Liliuokalani Children Center kindly ulana launiu (coconut weaved) a basket and provided a kalo (taro plant) out of his kalo patch for the DKICP to offer as ho'okupu this year. Kalo is famous for being used as food like poi, laulau, lu'au, or kulolo. Being an integral part of the Hawaiian Culture, Kalo is also used medicinally to cure sores, stop bleeding, and to settle the stomach.



Student participation and parade float was organized by student pharmacist Frederick Taylor, Class of 2015. "We wanted the float to look like a mobile pharmacy," Taylor said. Using a metal shelf, some wire, old empty prescription drug bottles, and some greenery, the students constructed a mobile pharmacy to walk

alongside during the parade. "Everyone really enjoyed our float," said Taylor. "Some even jokingly asked if we could fill their prescription during the parade."



Photos by Edwina Leung (Class of 2015) and Amanda Wendel (Class of 2014)



## Pharmaceutics demo

Dr. Ken Morris (right), professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, demonstrates a tablet press to first-year student pharmacists (from right) Melissa Monette, Aryn Meguro, Samantha Chang and Yao Den-Barnes. The students created their own mock formulations and made tablets in faculty member Mimi Pezzuto's Pharmaceutics Compounding Laboratory 506.



## Student pharmacists participate in Heart Walk 2013



KICP students provided blood pressure and blood glucose screenings in partnership with the Hilo Medical Center and Clinical Laboratories of Hawaii at the Hilo Heart Walk March 2. The annual event supports the American Heart Association in the fight against heart disease and stroke. Students also participated in the walk itself.

# PhD students present research at graduate seminars



Cara Suefuji  
Academic Support Specialist

This year's graduate seminar for the PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences Program was held on two separate days in the Joseph M. Long Pavilion Classrooms and featured a total of 11 presentations. The graduate seminar held on April 20 featured 40-minute seminars by seven of the second year students and a pizza lunch sponsored by the NSF – Engineering Research Center – Structured Organic Particulate Systems. On May 3, four of the first year students presented their 30-minute seminars. Faculty, post docs and other graduate students were given the opportunity to ask questions at the conclusion of each presentation.

Presenting a seminar each year is a requirement of the PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences Program. Students worked with their major professors to create a presentation showcasing their graduate research. The purpose of the graduate seminar is to provide the students with an opportunity to develop presentation skills, share their research with their colleagues, and to provide a forum for the open discussion of scientific principles

## Second Year Student Seminars (April 20)

### Marites Calibuso

"Effects of antidepressant drugs on brain and cranial development"

### Micah Glasgow

"Development of hybrid DFMO/Etoposide nanoparticles for the treatment of Neuroblastoma"

### Kehau Hagiwara

"Hawaiian natural products: Sponges and associated microbes"

### Talysa Ogas

"Combinatorial analysis of potential anticancer natural products and derivatives"

### Mayuramas "Jan" Sang-ngern

"Potential of *Physalis peruviana* (poha) as Anticancer Agents"

### Nalini Yadav

"Inflammatory signaling in cancer: the role of the adipocyte-macrophage interaction in breast cancer"

### Susanne Youngren

"The development and evaluation of targeted gelatin nanocarriers for the treatment of asthma"

## First Year Student Seminars (May 3)

### Randall Carpio

"Calcium signaling plays a role in pathophysiological processes by regulating macrophage function"

### Nishant Gandhi

"Design, development and evaluation of targeted therapies for the treatment of lung cancer"

### Lissa Tsutsumi

"Design and synthesis of small molecule and natural product-inspired antitubercular and antibacterial agents"

### Joel Vonnahme

"Peroxisome proliferator activated receptor and its potential as a therapeutic target for resveratrol derivatives"



# Annual HPhA meeting highlights DKICP involvement

Three faculty members from the Department of Pharmacy Practice were sworn in to the Board of Directors at the annual Hawaii Pharmacists Association (HPhA) meeting April 13-14. Department Chair Carolyn Ma was elected President, Roy Goo, assistant professor based on Kauai, is Outer Island Board of Director and Ben Chavez, assistant professor based on Oahu, is Health Systems Board of Director. Assistant professors Julie Adrian, DVM, Roy Goo and Sheri Tokumaru were speakers for the event.

Many DKICP student pharmacists and faculty had abstracts that were accepted to present posters at the meeting, including:

**Addition of hypoglycemics following hemoglobin A1C levels: An epidemiological study from a large Hawaii database.** Ben Chavez, PharmD; Jim Davis PhD; Deborah Juarez ScD

**Description and impact of clinical pharmacy services in a dialysis unit.** Ramona Corson, PharmD, BCPS, Charles Chiu PharmD, BCPS

**The impact of a diabetes center in an independent community pharmacy.** Justin G Tadina, PharmD(C); Shanelle S Shimabuku, PharmD(C); Brandon K Reiss, PharmD(C); Kathleen A Ancheta, RN, CDE; Sheena S Jolson, PharmD; Leslie J Krenk, RPh

**Impact of Pharmacist Care in a Shared Medical Appointment Model for the Management of Type 2 Diabetes in a Pacific Islander Population.** Candace Tan, PharmD, BCACP; Stacy Haumea, MPH; Deborah Juarez, ScD; Charlotte Grimm, APRN

**Motivational interviewing and the impact of pharmacy and nursing students on lifestyle modifications among members of the community [The A.L.O.H.A. (A Life of Health and Awareness) Project].** Student pharmacists Davis I. Hanai, RN and Ericson C. Ganotisi; Lara Gomez, PharmD; Mimi Pezzuto, RPh

**Outreach efforts of the Pacific Islander Mobile Screening Clinic.** Student pharmacists Jed E Sana and Brianne A Gustilo; Katherine J Anderson, PharmD

**Pharmacy student conducted admission medication reconciliation: A proposal and literature review.** Student pharmacists Elizabeth Lee, Tina McDonald and Christopher Ayson; Marcy M. Rapp, PharmD; Eric H. Gilliam, PharmD, BCPS

**Beers in pharmacy technician training: limited introduction of 2012 Beers Criteria in a precursory course at a career college.** Phillip A. Fong, PharmD, CGP

**Multi-disciplinary proactive controlled substance diversion program: prevention, detection, and monitoring.** Brande Ribillia, CPhT; Laura Ota, PharmD; Andreas Pirl, PharmD; Vicki Buchda, MS, RN, NEA-BC; Joy Matsuyama, PharmD, BCPS

**Pharmacist-managed gout prophylaxis to achieve uric acid goal and the appropriate use of colchicines.** Kelsy Hernandez-Saca, PharmD, BCPS, Ivie Kumura, PharmD, BCPS,



From left, Kelly Ishizuka, Ericson Ganotisi, Davis Hanai, Alysia Osugi, all from DKICP Class of 2015, were some of the students who presented posters at HPhA's annual meeting in Honolulu April 13-14.

Kimberly Legawa, PharmD, BCPS, Camlyn Masuda, PharmD, BCACP, Terri Miyamoto, PharmD, BCACP, Gavin T Sakamoto, PharmD, BCPS

**Practice insights to home infusion delivery systems.**

Student pharmacists Shaina C Coloma, Ashley M Kanda, Rachelle W Shoji, Andy M Nguyen and Christopher Ayson; Walt Kunimitsu, PharmD

**Prevalence of diabetes among Hawaii County residents identified by Pacific Islander Mobile Screening Clinic health screenings.** Katherine J. Anderson, PharmD; student pharmacists Francine Amoa, Amanda Wendel, Jed Sana, Brianne Gustilo

**Prevalence of Diabetes and Hypertension among Marshallese Identified in Pharmacist-Led Health Screenings in Hawaii.** Student pharmacists Ann Txakeeyang, Amanda Wendel, Naoto Oki, Davis Hanai, and Shanelle Shimabuku; Yaw B. Owusu, PharmD, M.Sc., Supakit Wongwiwatthanakut, PharmD, Ph.D., Katherine J Anderson, PharmD

**Reducing *Angiostrongylus cantonensis* (rat lungworm) infection on the Island of Hawaii through an integrated educational and research approach.** LaTasha Riddick, Kathleen Howe, Steven Jacquier, Jill Villarosa, Akio Yanagisawa, and Susan Jarvi, PhD

**Student-directed implementation of a community health fair in a rural setting.** Student pharmacists Janine Masri, Jack Goldsberry and Margaret Kang; Forrest Batz, PharmD; Jim Davis PhD; Deborah Juarez ScD

# Phi Delta Chi

## Phi Delta Chi walks, tests in Big Island Aids Walk

Members of Phi Delta Chi participated in the Second Annual Big Island Aids Walk by conducting wellness tests at a booth in Liliuokalani Park April 13. Kim Victorine, student pharmacist from the Class of 2016, was the chair for the event and provided the photos. She said they received good feedback from the community and screened a lot of people for A1C and cholesterol. "The sun was so bright that day, that the heat started to ruin our screening test results, so we had to stop screening a little early," she said. "Overall I think that the event went really well." Photo by Kim Victorine



## PDC picks up award at national convention

Janine Masri, (right), Class of 2014 and president of DKICP's Phi Delta Chi (PDC) Gamma Theta Chapter, accepted an engraved loving cup for from Amy Valdez, who is the national pharmacy fraternity's Grand President. Masri traveled to Lexington, Kentucky last August to receive the Dale W. Doerr 100 percent Achievement Award for 2011-2012 at the Leadership Development Seminar, a national PDC convention. The Doerr Award is a noncompetitive program that involves the submission of several chapter reports throughout the year. Masri said: "It represents a chapter's involvement as well as the efficiency and responsibility of its members. It is well-deserved recognition for Gamma Theta because it reflects our members' ability to effectively build and grow our organization on campus."

# Phi Delta Chi

Members of DKICP's Gamma Theta Chapter of Phi Delta Chi were hosts to three national representatives from their professional pharmacy fraternity on April 12-14, 2013. This weekend-long visit was part of the Chapter Excellence and Quality (ChEQ) Program, which serves to enhance and fine-tune a high performing chapter, to be competitive among the top chapters across the country.

The representatives included Amy Valdez, Grand President, Patient Care Services Manager for Safeway Inc. Northwest Division - Portland (Clackamas, OR); Matthew Maglalang, Pacific Regional Director of Collegiate Affairs, Clinical Pharmacist - Critical Care, Providence Portland Medical Center, Portland, Oregon; and Hovik Mekhijian, Pacific Regional Correspondent, PharmD Candidate 2013, University of Southern California School of Pharmacy.

The students provided a professional and service projects report that highlighted some of their chapter projects and community involvement over the last year, including:

- College of Pharmacy Health Fair, planning and conducting blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes screenings, education services, and medication counseling services for the community.
- Window Display Project, bringing informative posters to farmer's markets across the island, to discuss the unseen risks of OTC pain killers and natural supplements.
- "Ola Na 'Oiwī, E' Ola Kakou," the breast cancer survivors celebration, bringing health education services, in collaboration with Hui Malama, to their community event.



From left, Front row: National Representatives, Matthew Maglalang, Amy Valdez and Hovik Mekhijian. Second row: Mimi Thong, Kimberly Victorine, Bryan Huynh, Keith Acab, Samantha Chang, Janine Masri. Third row: Jynelle Tangonan, Kristina Lo, Madison Karr, Tracy Ng, Jamie Mizusawa, Mina Ibrahim, Anissa Marzuki, Kelsey Chang. Back row: LaTasha Riddick, Andy Le, Jarred Prudencio, Advisor Dr. Leslie Rodriguez, Eric Wigmosta



(from left): Eric Wigmosta, Amy Valdez, Madison Karr, Bryan Huynh (background), Hovik Mekhijian, Matthew Maglalang

- New Hope Church, a monthly relationship with the food pantry packaging and handing out grocery bags of food to families in need.
- "Operation Christmas Child," buying, wrapping, and donating 45 boxes of toys to children in need.
- Career Day at Kalaniana'ole School, creating a Prezi presentation for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders on getting into college, our DKICP program, and the many career options pharmacy offers.
- Miloli'i Annual Health Fair, a H.E.A.L funded community project in rural Hawai'i, conducting wellness tests for families, keiki sports camp and keiki learning activities.
- Big Island AIDs Walk, walking in support of the DKICP, as well as donating and conducting A1c diabetes screenings for participants.

"PDC's National Representatives were amazed by the Aloha Spirit of the Big Island, The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, and the members of our Gamma Theta Chapter. They were impressed with our ability to remain connected on a national level, despite our distance and physical separation from the mainland. They also shared that we have been one of the fastest growing and improving new chapters, something that makes me very proud to hear! We are all looking forward to hearing our national standing, which will be announced during the 2013 Grand Council meeting in August," said Janine Masri,

DKICP Class of 2014 and President, Phi Delta Chi, Gamma Theta.

Next year promises to be a big year for the group. According to LaTasha Riddick, Class of 2015, the Gamma Theta Chapter of Phi Delta Chi Fraternity has the honor of being the hosts for the Pacific Regional Conference in Honolulu, HI from February 21-23.

# Phi Delta Chi

"A regional conference is held every other year in each of Phi Delta Chi's eight regions across the United States," Riddick said. "The Pacific Region is comprised of eight schools, including DKICP."

Adviser Dr. Aaron Jacobs, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, said the conference is a good opportunity for the young organization.

"I am proud that our Chapter has achieved so much in so little time," Dr. Jacobs noted. "Hosting this regional event will give us the chance to showcase how PDC has both enhanced pharmacy education and worked to improve public healthcare in the state of Hawai'i."

## The PDC executive board, outgoing and incoming:

WCC (President) Janine Masri and Bryan Huynh  
WVC (Vice President) Andy Le and Jill Villarosa  
WKRS (Secretary) Katie Bass and Katie Tamai  
WKF (Treasurer) Jimmy Stevens and Jarred Prudencio  
WC (Correspondant) Lindsey Takara  
WP (Motivational Leader) Keith Acab and Eddie Wong  
WAL (Alumni Liaison) LaTasha Riddick and Samantha Chang  
WMA (New Member Recruiter) Jin Bae Pak and Mina Ibrahim  
WIG (New Member Educator) Bryan Huynh and Moani Hagiwara  
Webmaster Jill Villarosa and Derick Taylor  
Historian (new position) Jillian Wewers  
Faculty adviser: Dr. Aaron Jacobs

## Phi Delta Chi holds third annual health fair in Miloli'i



For the third year, students from UH Hilo's College of Pharmacy organized a Health Screening and Fair for the people of Miloli'i and their families March 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event, which was held at the Miloli'i Community Center, included blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol screenings; brown bag medication reviews; diet, lifestyle and health information; food, fun and more.

The students represent Phi Delta Chi, a professional pharmacy fraternity with more than 43,000 pharmacists and

student members nationwide. Natalie Savona, a second-year pharmacy student from the Class of 2015, coordinated the event alongside chapter president Janine Masri, a third-year pharmacy student from the Class of 2014.

The event was managed under the supervision of Dr. Forrest Batz, a professional pharmacist and member of the Department of Pharmacy Practice. Other faculty taking part in the event were Dr. Aaron Jacobs, who is Phi Delta Chi faculty adviser and Linda Connelly, assistant professor in pharmaceutical sciences.



## Spring 2013 Faculty Briefs



**Julie Ann Luiz Adrian, DVM**, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, has an article entitled "Equine Color Genetics and Deoxyribonucleic Acid Testing" accepted by the Journal of Veterinary Science and Technology. Dr. Adrian also presented "Vet Information

101" at the Hawaii Pharmacist Association Annual Meeting in April on Oahu.

**Katherine Anderson**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice, fulfilled the requirements for qualification as a Fellow of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists. ASCP Fellowship is a special honor bestowed upon pharmacists who meet the highest standards in Senior Care Pharmacy and have demonstrated an extraordinary level of service and dedication in professional practice activities.



**André Bachmann**, associate professor and chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was the lead author on "Activity Enhancement of Synthetic Syrbactin Proteasome Inhibitor Hybrid and Biological Evaluation in Tumor Cells" published in Biochemistry, with co-authors Archer, C.R., Groll, M., Stein,

M.L., Schellenberg, B., Clerc, J., Kaiser, M., Kondratyuk, T.P., Pezzuto, J.M. and Dudler, R. He also has published a paper in the International Journal of Cancer, together with DeVos Children's Hospital's Dr. Sholler on "AMXT-1501, a Novel Polyamine Transport Inhibitor, Synergizes with DFMO in Inhibiting Neuroblastoma Cell Proliferation by Targeting both Ornithine Decarboxylase and Polyamine Transport." Dr. Bachmann was an invited speaker at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology in Miami, FL (April) as well as the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Neuroblastoma and Medulloblastoma Translational Research Consortium (NMTRC) in Orlando, FL (May) to speak to physicians and parents about the progress of the DFMO neuroblastoma clinical trials. He is also session chair and invited speaker at the 2013 Gordon Research

Conference (GRC) on Polyamines in Watterville Valley, NH and serves on a National Cancer Institute (NCI) study section to review federal grant applications in Washington DC (June).



**Linda Connelly**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, presented a poster entitled "Stable knockdown of osteoprotegerin increases cell proliferation and metastasis in breast cancer cells" along with her post-doctoral associate, Michael Weichhaus at the Annual Meeting of the American

Association of Cancer Research in Washington DC on April 6-10. Additional authors are P. Segaran and D. Geerts.

**Mahavir Chougule**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a grant for \$50,000 from the Hawai'i Community Foundation for research entitled "Targeted Nanocarrier based Gene Therapy for Lung Cancer."

Dr. Chougule was a recipient of the 2013 The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Minority-Serving Institution Faculty Scholar in Cancer Research award. The award is given to full-time faculty members of Minority-Serving Institutions, including Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions, as defined by the US Department of Education. Dr. Chougule also was a co-author on a book chapter called "Application of polymers in lung drug delivery" with Atul Kolate, Smithers Rapra Publishers, 2012, In Press and wrote an editorial article with R. Tekade entitled "Current scene and prospective potentials of siRNA in cancer therapy" that was published in J Pharmacogenom Pharmacoproteomics in 2012.



**Liz Heffernan**, director of student services, published "The Cross-cultural field excursion initiative: An educational approach to promote cultural competency in student pharmacists" along with co-authors Prabu Segaran (DKICP Class of 2013) and Edward Fisher, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, in

Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning (2013).

## Spring 2013 Faculty Briefs



**Deborah Juarez**, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice co-authored 4 manuscripts that were accepted for publication. 1) Relations of ethnicity and body mass index with the development of hypertension and hyperlipidemia. *Ethn Dis.* 2013;23[1]:65–70. Co-authors were Jim Davis and

Krista Hodges; 2) Diabetes-Related Potentially Preventable Hospitalizations in Native Hawaiian, Chinese, Filipino, and Japanese Elderly Compared to Whites in Hawai'i. *Prev Chronic Dis.* (in press). Lead author was Dr. Tetine Sentell; 3) Factors Affecting Sustained Medication Adherence and Its Impact on Health Care Utilization in Patients with Diabetes. *J Pharm HSR.* (in press); 4) Using Quantile Regression to Assess Disparities in Medication Adherence. *American Journal of Health Behavior* (in press). Co-authors for the last two publications were Drs. Candace Tan of COP Pharmacy Practice, James Davis, and Marjorie Mau. Dr. Juarez also gave two invited talks: "U.S. Health Care Reform" at Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden, March 25, and "Cost of Chronic Disease" at the Annual Asian and Pacific Islander Nursing Association 10th Annual Conference, Honolulu, March 20. Dr. Juarez gave an oral poster presentation, with Dr. Ben Chavez of Pharmacy Practice, entitled, "Relationship of Antidepressant Use to Anti-Diabetic Medication Adherence, Health Care Utilization and Costs in Patients with Diabetes in Hawaii" at the Pacific Institute Nursing annual conference, Honolulu, March 26. She also co-authored poster presentations at the American College of Physicians Hawaii Chapter Annual Meeting, Honolulu, January 12, two at the Hawaii Pharmacists Association (HPhA) annual meeting, April 13, at "College of Psychiatric & Neurologic Pharmacists annual meeting; and three at the Annual JABSOM Biomedical Sciences and Health Disparities Symposium, Honolulu, April 9, 2013.

**Ken Morris**, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, is the senior author on "Thermodynamics associated with monitoring pre-nucleation aggregation at high supersaturation" with co-authors Amber Laird, Alan Laird, Mahavir Chougule and Mazen Hamad, published in *International Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences Review and Research*.



**Karen Pellegri**, director of continuing and distance education and strategic planning, and **Anita Ciarleglio**, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice, were invited speakers and panelists at the Arkansas Pharmacist Association 2013 Annual Convention, June 6-8 in Little Rock. Their presentation

is titled "The Pharm2Pharm Model: Improving Care in Rural Hawaii".

**Helen Wong Smith**, librarian, has been elected to a three-year term to Council, the governing body of the Society of American Archivists. Founded in 1936, the SAA is North America's oldest and largest national archival professional association with over 6,000 individual and institutional members. SAA provides education and leadership to ensure the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. The last archivist from Hawai'i serving on Council was State Archivist Agnes C. Conrad who served in 1968-1969. Wong Smith will present "What's an Ar-ki-vist?" at a session, "Working on Your Perfect Pitch: Elevator Speeches from the Field," at the Society of American Archivists' annual conference in New Orleans in August. Ms. Wong Smith also has been elected as President of the Hawaiian Historical Society in Honolulu. Established in 1892 the Society is dedicated to preserving historical materials relating to Hawai'i and to publishing scholarly research on Hawaiian history. In subsequent years the Society's interests broadened to include the Pacific region and Hawai'i's role within it. Wong Smith is the first president residing on a neighbor island.



**Dianqing Sun**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, is corresponding author on "Syntheses and evaluation of macrocyclic engelhardone analogs as antitubercular and antibacterial agents" with the *Journal of Antibiotics* (2013, 66, in press) published by Nature Publishing Group.



# DKICP joins thousands of professionals at ASHP Midyear conference 2012

By Andrea Brauer  
Class of 2015

Last December thousands of people gathered from all over the nation in Las Vegas, Nevada, for the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Annual Midyear Conference of 2012. 'Midyear' is the biggest gathering of clinical pharmacists nationwide. In fact, Midyear 2012 had a record attendance with over 20,000 attendees, including numerous representatives from the University of Hawai'i Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy and the Hawaii Student Society of Health-System Pharmacy (HSSHP).

HSSHP sent four members to Midyear 2012 to compete in the Clinical Skills Competition (CSC) and present in the Student Society Showcase. As described by ASHP, "The [CSC] is an interactive, team-based analysis of clinical scenarios for hospital/health-system pharmacists. [The competition] provides pharmacy students the opportunity to enhance their skills in collaborative practice with physicians in providing direct patient care."

Daniel Kim and Kyle Kumashiro won the local CSC hosted by HSSHP in October, beating 13 other teams to secure a spot in the national clinical skills competition. Even though Kim and Kumashiro did not eventually qualify for the final round at nationals, they still walked away with a great experience. Kyle recapped his experience from the Midyear conference: "Daniel Kim and I had an unparalleled opportunity competing in the national CSC. The national competition was based on a patient who presented with acute schizophrenia and depression. The case was challenging when accounting for both the disease and the patient-specific therapeutic options. Nevertheless, it was a great educational experience to propose clinical recommendations in a specific amount of time."



*Maurina Bartlett and Steven Nishimoto presented their research at the Student Society Showcase at the 2012 American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Annual Midyear Conference in Las Vegas.*

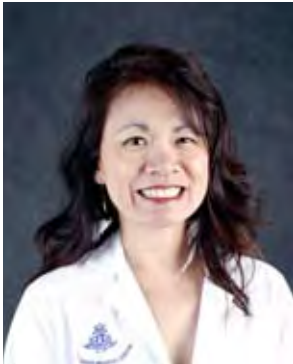
HSSHP also sent two members, Steven Nishimoto and Maurina Bartlett, to present at the Student Society Showcase. As described by ASHP, "The purpose of this event is to share best practices with ... [other student groups] from across the nation to help ... [design and apply programs successfully on their respective campuses]." Nishimoto and Bartlett showcased the collaborative annual health fair between HSSHP, the National Kidney Foundation and Hilo Medical Center. Beyond

sharing and learning from other student societies, HSSHP members gained so much more, as Bartlett describes: "It was a great opportunity to meet people from different schools and get ideas for projects we could start at UHH. I was also curious to see the Residency Showcase. I am interested in applying for a residency next year and was curious about the application process. It was really eye-opening to see how many students are applying for such a small amount of residency positions. I recommend for anyone going to Mid-Year next year to do research about the different residency opportunities and make sure you have a plan. Overall, my experience was very positive and memorable. I recommend attending at least one professional pharmacy convention while in school."

HSSHP is dedicated to providing a forum where pharmacy students interested in any health system may exchange ideas, gain insight and develop skills in clinical pharmacy. HSSHP strives to provide educational experiences beyond skills gained in class to help navigate students toward their career goals. Sending four members to the ASHP Midyear conference was just one of the many ways HSSHP works to supplement a student's exposure and experience.

HSSHP is already preparing to send some of its members to the next ASHP Midyear, 2013, this coming December in Orlando, Florida.

## Preceptor Focus: Wendy Tawata, PharmD



[Dr. Tawata was named Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE) Preceptor of the Year at the Class of 2013 graduation dinner on May 10, but she had to work at her job as pharmacist at The Queens Medical Center in Honolulu. Dr. Carolyn Ma read the following for her:]

I am incredibly touched and deeply humbled by this honor.

I am privileged to be part of the medical team in the Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) at The Queen's Medical Center. Part of that privilege offers me the opportunity to work with University of Hawaii Hilo College of Pharmacy (UHH COP) students. This honor and privilege is a hugely rewarding part of that job.

In all honesty, though teaching can be time consuming and can be perceived as an additional workload, the joy that I receive from "giving back" and introducing my students to clinical pharmacy practice in the MICU makes it all worthwhile. It is truly a blessing to me, to be a part of your development and growth into skilled and confident (or at least more confident) clinician's.

Recently, what I was most touched by this year, was having one of my students, one of your colleagues, who is planning to go into retail practice tell me that had he done my rotation earlier, he would have considered doing a pharmacy residency. While this may seem insignificant to many, I was deeply moved because it tells me, for whatever reason, something I shared may have inspired someone to strive for more than what they believed they could achieve.

As a preceptor, I always worry that I'm not doing enough for you, my students. I worry about getting too caught up trying to get you to write SOAP notes with a "Declarative Statement" or just not teaching you enough of what you need. I worry that I may be doing you a disservice. "To whom much is given, much is expected". I am so blessed to be able to do what I truly love and I thank you again for the privilege and the opportunity to be a part of you lives.

My congratulations to all of you! Take pride in your accomplishment. Enjoy your reward for your perseverance and your "I aint gonna quit" attitude. But this isn't the end of your journey, its just the beginning. I wish you all the best as you continue to move forward. Remember, when things get tough, and sometimes it will, never forget WHY you chose to become a pharmacist and remember that you can make a difference. God Bless!



## Preceptor Focus: Michael Hoskins, RPh

### Pharmacy manager at Mina Pharmacy in Hilo, Hawaii

[Mr. Hoskins was named Preceptor of the Year for Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPE) at the 2013 Awards dinner May 1.]

I graduated from University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy in 1976 and soon began a 25-year retail pharmacy career in Austin before moving to Hilo in 2002.

I remember being very proud and honored to be asked to become a preceptor for pharmacy students at the College of Pharmacy at Austin. Little did I know at the time that the challenges and fears I would face would be so rewarding.

I really have a passion for serving the community as a pharmacist and therefore am eager to share my knowledge and experience with the pharmacy students. Some students may even think I am too eager to share, but listen anyway. I hope all students leave their rotations sharing my passion and the desire to serve their patients to the best of their abilities.

I realized very early as a preceptor that I too gain so very much from the students. I have found that they also are eager to share their knowledge. The students succeed in keeping me current by challenging me regularly with their questions. They keep me motivated to excel.

My coworkers at the pharmacy also gain so much from the students and look forward to the rotations just as much as I do.

I must admit that once again, I was proud and honored when Dr. Carolyn Ma came to the pharmacy and ask our team to become preceptors for the University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy.

I am humbled and honored to be chosen IPPE Preceptor of the Year. This acknowledgement by the students has motivated me even more to excel.



# Rotation Report: North Hawaii Community Hospital



By: Tasha Medeiros,  
Student Pharmacist,  
Class of 2013

I had the pleasure of doing my in-patient hospital rotation at North Hawaii Community Hospital in Kamuela on the Big Island. I chose this hospital because I wanted to stay on the Big Island, being that I was born

and raised in Hilo. Although Hilo Medical Center would've been a more reasonable drive, I wanted a different hospital experience, and I got exactly what I wanted during my 6 weeks there. From the very first day I got there, it was a hands-on learning experience. The pharmacy staff was so welcoming and willing to teach me anything and everything from dose adjustments, PYXIS machine loading, making ER med packs, and making IV's.

NHCH is a small, private hospital with just 33 beds. They provide a wide range of services including orthopedics, family birthing, oncology and general surgery, just to name a few. Since the hospital is so small, there was lots of inter-professional interaction that I got to experience. I worked alongside nurses from different departments- same day surgery, critical care, ER, and most of all oncology.

There seemed to be many patients being treated in the oncology department on a daily basis, so I quickly got familiar with the oncology nurses as well as pre-medications and chemotherapy drugs. I also had the opportunity to communicate directly with doctors and physician assistants, surgeons, social services, physical therapists and diabetes educators.

To be honest, I was terrified to make IV's when I first started my rotation! But I had nothing to be scared of- all the pharmacists were patient and helpful. By the end of the first week I considered it my "job" to make the IV's every day, and the funny thing is, I actually liked it! I also feel blessed to have learned about chemotherapy drugs and IV's from their "chemo king" Richard, who had years of experience in New York working as a chemo pharmacist. Another exciting moment for me was learning how to make compounds for ophthalmic surgeries. There were a couple different eye surgeons at the hospital, each with his/her own "cocktail" for use during surgery, so I had the chance to compound those solutions and learn about the effects those drugs have on the eye during surgery. These compounds are "state of the art," so I'm really lucky to have been a part of it.

I could go on and on about my experience there because there were so many opportunities for learning! It may be a small hospital but as they say- size doesn't matter! I couldn't have hoped for a better learning environment. It was hard to leave there, but who knows, maybe one day I'll be back!

# Alumni Report: Dr. Alexa Perez, Class of 2012



I am the type of person who plans everything. When I started pharmacy school in 2008, I immediately formulated my game plan, which focused on pursuing a clinical residency after graduation and establishing my career in the field. I never imagined that life would throw me a

curveball and I would not match with a residency program. In the aftermath of the match, I found myself humbled, with a shattered game plan and with no “Plan B.”

Fortunately there was an opportunity back home at the Guam Memorial Hospital. It seemed that my humble beginnings as a pharmacist were predestined — I was meant to return to my island, my people and the hospital with which I grew up. I never dreamed that I would have so many opportunities to make a personal impact on the patient care on Guam.

I started working at the Guam Memorial Hospital in September 2012 and was asked to undertake the huge project of establishing an Antimicrobial Stewardship Program. The goal of this program is promote the appropriate use of antibiotics while maximizing our patient outcomes and minimizing toxicity and bacterial resistance. In the next month, I researched the literature on developing a program, presented the proposal to the Internal Medicine Department and the Medical Executive Committee and recruited various members of our healthcare team to form GMH’s first Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Committee.

Since its launch in October 2012, I devote two days of my workweek to perform a retrospective review of patients on our broadest spectrum antibiotics, tracking labs and cultures, tailoring antibiotic therapy to patient parameters and contacting physicians with recommendations and interventions. I analyze hospital-wide antibiotic usage trends and track pharmacy antibiotic interventions on a monthly basis. I have facilitated the acquisition of new antibiotics to our formulary for use in multidrug resistant infections. I have also had the opportunity to present in-services to our pharmacy staff, provide continuing education services to

our nursing staff and meet with JCAHO surveyors to present our Antibiotic Stewardship Program initiatives. In addition to my antimicrobial stewardship duties, I supervise the hospital pharmacy workflow, process daily medication and TPN orders and provide support to our nurses and physicians regarding patient care. Outside the pharmacy walls, I participate in brown bag events, diabetes fairs and give career day presentations at our local high schools.

The patient population on Guam is a kaleidoscope of ethnicities — we serve our local Chamorro population, as well as people from Asia, the Marianas Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia and the U.S. Mainland. With our diverse patient population and geographic isolation, we have a unique opportunity to set the standard for patient care in the Pacific region. Our patients are afflicted with chronic diseases, such as diabetes, hypertension and heart disease — diseases where their effects are more pronounced due to our small size and varied population. With that, there is a great need for health care professionals — especially for pharmacists. I am so grateful for the opportunity to come home to Guam and give back to the community that helped mold the individual I am today.

It’s funny how age-old clichés ring true to one’s life story. My personal cliché is “when one door closes, another one opens.” Within a year of graduating with my PharmD, I have gained knowledge and experience that would normally take years to get under my pharmacist belt. As it has played out, my life after graduation didn’t go according to the game plan. But I’ve learned that life doesn’t always happen that way and you have to roll with the punches. And this “punch,” namely Guam Memorial Hospital, has given me more than I can ever repay. It has allowed me the freedom to pursue my love for clinical pharmacy and encouraged my professional growth. I truly feel lucky to say that I love my job! I am so grateful for the constant support and encouragement from my preceptors, from the UH Hilo administration and the Guam Memorial Hospital. I don’t know what the next few years have in store but I’m armed with this wealth of experience and a newfound confidence, excited to take the on whatever comes my way.

# Alumni Report: Dr. Angelina Eustaquio, Class of 2011



**R**eturning home to Guam has always been a long-term goal since I left in 1995 to attend college. I didn't think it would take me 15 years.

Most of my adult life was spent in the mainland getting educated, and gaining experience that would

hopefully make me a valuable asset when I returned.

When Dr. Ma told me I could do rotations on Guam during 4th year, I was very excited. It was ideal that I get to go back home, get a feel for the profession, meet local pharmacists, and decide where I want to end up. After four rotations, I decided Guam Memorial Hospital (GMH) was the best fit for me. Some of the decision had to do with my mom being a nurse there for 25 years. Seeing her devotion towards the hospital was something I wanted to share.

GMH, Guam's only civilian hospital, is a 158-bed acute care facility with a satellite 40-bed skilled nursing facility. I started in late August 2011 and have

enjoyed every day since then. My responsibilities are split between inpatient and clinical duties at the skilled nursing unit. Inpatient duties are primarily distributive-centered, making sure patients receive the right medication while trying to promote (or intervene towards) rational drug use. The population we most serve are uninsured or medically indigent. And like most government hospitals, we are challenged with supply issues, limited finances, and adequate staff.

The skilled nursing unit is where I really get to stretch my legs and make use of my clinical skills. I am able to provide direct patient-oriented care while working with a multidisciplinary team of therapists, nurses, social workers, and physicians. The work here is based on medication management; developing care plans, continuous follow-ups, evaluating outcomes, discharge planning, and patient education. It's very rewarding to be able to follow patients throughout their stay from an admission to discharge while practicing true pharmaceutical care.

Throughout the time at GMH, I have also been able to work with UH interns, two of whom are from Guam. It makes me very happy and proud to see the enthusiasm and hard work of the students. I hope Guam continues to see more pharmacists return home and share in the challenges of providing good pharmaceutical care to our people.



## Outreach on Guam

*In white coats, Drs. Angie Eustaquio (Class of 2011) and Alexa Perez (Class of 2012) were joined by Jordan Shibata (Class of 2013) for a brown bag outreach during Pharmacists Month last October in the village of Malesso, a very small village in southern part of Guam.*