



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
February 11, 2020 at 3:05 p.m.

by

David Lassner
President
University of Hawai'i

Michael Bruno
Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 589 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong opposition to SB 589, which proposes to legislate the internal structure and management of the University of Hawai'i (UH) by moving the UH Cancer Center (UHCC) under the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM).

This bill would replace the judgment and decision of the Board of Regents, which established the Cancer Center in 1981 as a freestanding Organized Research Unit (ORU) of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, by imposing a structure suggested by the Legislature without regard for the potentially devastating impacts of such a change.

We oppose this bill for three reasons:

First, passage of this measure would gravely threaten the P30 grant from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) of the National Institutes of Health, which carries our formal designation as one of only 71 NCI-designated cancer centers in the nation. This is a critical designation for which we have worked diligently and in which the university and State have invested significant resources.

Second, a legislative mandate regarding internal restructuring is not necessary or appropriate to achieve synergies and efficiencies among the Cancer Center and other UH units, which include but are not limited to JABSOM.

Third, while the Legislature has reserved to itself the right to legislate matters of statewide concern, it is neither appropriate nor necessary for the legislature to substitute its opinions on this specific matter of internal structure and management for the reasoned views of the UH, which is responsible to maximize the ability of the Cancer Center to reduce the burden of cancer on the people of Hawai'i.

Threat to NCI designation

Each year the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center is assessed by our External Advisory Committee (EAC), which is sometimes referred to as the External Advisory Board or EAB. The EAC is composed of a group of Cancer Center directors and leaders from around the

country who visit each year to provide unbiased input and guidance to advance our program and help ensure our compliance with the NCI P30 guidelines.

The EAC could hardly have been more positive over these past years regarding the turnaround at the UH Cancer Center under the leadership of Dr. Randy Holcombe, our esteemed, accomplished and experienced Cancer Center director. I have appended the latest Executive Summary of their report to this testimony so that you can see just how well Dr. Holcombe and his team have addressed what were longstanding and widely recognized challenges. This report is from their 2020 visit – we have not yet received the 2021 report from their more recent (virtual) review but the verbal debriefing we received was extremely positive as well.

During our outbrief with the EAC in 2020, we discussed some recent changes in the NCI P30 guidelines for cancer center designation. They noted in particular the importance of our current structure to the success and continuing designation of the Center. We have excerpted the most relevant paragraph below (with emphasis added):

*The unique structure of the UHCC, in essence a hybrid of a “matrix” center within a University and a “free-standing” center with defined authority, has been a key to the Cancer Center’s success. This has enabled you as Director to expand membership in the HCC [Hawaii Cancer Consortium], forge new community alliances, and strategically recruit faculty researchers who support your efforts to conduct cancer research with particular relevance to your unique population. **This type of authority speaks directly to NCI’s expectations of a cancer center director. The structure your institution has put in place, with you reporting to the Provost and working closely with the University President, is vital for your continued success and continued NCI designation.***

We also reached out directly to the Chair of the EAC, Dr. George Weiner, regarding the changes in the NCI guidelines and he provided additional rationale for the language above:

Most institutions are interpreting this language as meaning the cancer center director should have the authority equivalent to that of a dean. This is particularly important for your center for a number of reasons. The UHCC is one of the smallest centers in the NCI cancer center program and has faced challenges at various times over the past decade that resulted in modification of the usual 5 year funding period from the NCI. For these reasons, the institutional support and authority of the UHCC director will receive extra scrutiny from the NCI. While some NCI designated cancer centers are embedded within Health Systems, these centers are making changes to comply with the new guidelines. In addition, such cancer centers are located within universities that have major clinical operations. This assures synergy between the cancer center and the broader clinical mission of the institution. Cancer centers in Universities that do not have such clinical operations organizationally report to the University as a whole or are free-standing. The structure your institution has put in place with your reporting to the Provost and working closely with the University President is vital for your continued success including continued NCI designation.

It is clear that implementing this legislation would create significant risk for the NCI designation of the UH Cancer Center with grave consequence to our ability to reduce the burden of cancer on the people of Hawai'i.

Achieving Synergies

It is important also to note that modern cancer research reaches across the entire University, including but not limited to our medical school, where there are many opportunities for synergies at our Kaka'ako campus. Major synergies and efficiencies have already been achieved through collaboration with JABSOM and other critical parts of UH.

It is notable that **26 full and associate members** of the Cancer Center are based in UH units other than the Cancer Center as are **21 collaborating members**.

Some specific academic examples of synergies and efficiencies include:

- Dean of JABSOM participates as a member of the Hawai'i Cancer Consortium which was created by UHCC and includes the CEOs and other representatives of the major hospital systems (Queens, HPH, Adventist Health Castle, Kuakini) and the UH President and UHM Provost to coordinate efforts in Hawai'i to reduce the burden of cancer and enhance the quality of cancer care for our state.
- UHCC moved ownership of the NMR (more than \$1M in value) to Chemistry to better support their work as their NMR was less capable and eventually non-functional. The NMR also remains housed in JABSOM.
- The R25 CREATE grant (\$1.3M) which is designed to give the undergraduate students summer instruction has PIs from both the UH Cancer Center (Maskarinec & Ramos) and the Department of Native Hawaiian Health at JABSOM (Kaholokula).
- UHCC has one of its Faculty (Ramos) working as multi-PI with JABSOM (Kaholokula & Gerschenson) and Engineering (Francis) PIs to submit a large Proposal called 'Akahi which is designed to provide funds to recruit Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders into Faculty positions across UH STEM programs and create a culture of Inclusive Excellence at UH Mānoa.
- Support of two First year Graduate students in JABSOM's Cell and Molecular Biology Program.
- Support of two graduate students per year in Public Health (School of Social Work) or Nutrition (CTAHR)
- JABSOM and UH Cancer Center share access and expenses of running the vivarium at Kaka'ako with members from both on its Space Allocation Committee.
- UHCC collaborated with Outreach College to create the highly successful and oversubscribed Clinical Research Professional Certificate Program in Fall 2020. This was an intense program taught by faculty from UHCC to fill the great need in Hawai'i of Clinical Research Associates to help run clinical research in the hospitals. Several have already obtained positions.
- UHCC works with hospitals in the Hawai'i Cancer Consortium to recruit much needed Cancer Specialists to Hawai'i. This includes providing a research/clinical trials outlet for them which is an expectation of these Clinicians.

- UHCC is working with Life Sciences to identify areas where its faculty can work to help teach undergraduates there in lecture formats (they already coordinate to identify students for research training).
- Joint faculty appointment with Nursing (July 1, 2018)
- Participation in the Colleges of Health Sciences which includes not only JABSOM but Nursing & Dental Hygiene, Social Work & Public Health, and Pharmacy (UH Hilo)
- All Cancer Biology faculty provide course direction and teaching in the JABSOM CMB department
- Cancer Center participation in JABSOM-created UHP faculty practice plan
- Support of Kaka'ako wide Genomics and Bioinformatics Shared Resource (joint venture between UH Cancer Center and JABSOM)
- Support of Chemical Biology Core leader, who is Chemistry faculty
- UH Cancer Center NMR facility is housed in JABSOM
- Cancer Center endowed chair awarded to a Chemistry faculty member
- JABSOM faculty member (Palafox) heads Cancer Center effort on a research partnership with Guam
- Cancer Center faculty participate in innumerable graduate committees for programs in other units, particularly Cell and Molecular Biology (JABSOM), Molecular Biosciences & Biotechnology (CTAHR), Public Health (Social Work)
- UH Cancer Center faculty participate as members of the JABSOM recruitment and curriculum committees for Cell and Molecular Biology
- Multiple UH Cancer Center clinically oriented faculty hold joint appointments in JABSOM (Medicine, OBGYN, Pediatrics, Pathology)
- UHCC and JABSOM merged phone systems to improve efficiencies
- UHCC and JABSOM share common area maintenance charges
- UHCC and JABSOM coordinate on achieving parking solutions for Kaka'ako campus
- Several of the large COBRE grants include UHCC faculty either currently or previously
- Clinical Faculty at UHCC practice through the University Health Partners of Hawai'i Practice Plan
- Cancer Center Director serves as chair of IFA search committee
- Standing meetings between Cancer Center and JABSOM administrative directors
- Cancer Center supports 2 months of salary for a JABSOM researcher
- Significant amount Cancer Center pilot research funds have been awarded to JABSOM faculty (>\$150,000 over the last 3 years)
- Nomination of JABSOM faculty researchers for grant mechanisms restricted to Cancer Centers
- UHCC Director serves as a Board member of University Health Partners
- UHCC Director serves as a Steering Committee Member Ola Hawai'i
- UHCC Director serves as a Board member for the Hawai'i Journal of Health and Social Welfare with JABSOM, Nursing, Social Work, Pharmacy Schools
- UHCC member Morita serves as Contributing editor, Journal of Health and Social Welfare
- UHCC Director serves as Internal Advisory Committee member for Marla Berry-led COBRE project, Pacific Biosciences Research Center

- UHCC member Braun-Inglis holds a secondary appointment in School of Nursing, developing advance practice training program for cancer APPs with Assoc. Dean of Nursing Qureshi.
- UHCC and JABSOM Facilities/Admin collaborated on lease arrangement for Disney for Doogie Kamealoha
- UHCC has established 3 advisory boards to enhance collaborations in the community: Community Advisory Board, Patient Advocacy Committee, Native Hawaiian Cancer Research Advisory Board (Cathy has membership of each).
- UHCC member Shepherd collaborates actively with the Hawai'i Data Science Institute

We fully realize that our work to create and expand synergies in Kaka'ako is not done. But it is clear that an ongoing effort to identify further synergies and efficiencies in the areas of research, education, clinical practice and administration within Kaka'ako and beyond does not require the legislative imposition of a draconian change that would gravely threaten our NCI designation and compromise the ability of our UH Cancer Center to serve the people of Hawai'i as the sole NCI-designated cancer center in the Pacific.

University Governance

Article X, Section 6 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i charges the Regents with "exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management, and operation of the university," with the legislature reserving to itself laws of statewide concern. Imposing this change in internal structure and management via statute, with disregard for the university's consultative shared governance and management processes, would overrule the judgments of those who are responsible for the internal structure and management of the university under the Constitution. These are the entities and processes responsible for making decisions that will lessen the burden of cancer on the people of Hawai'i.

Furthermore, at a more detailed level this bill creates a completely new appointment process that is inconsistent with the Board of Regents policy utilized for all other executive appointments across the UH system. And it might inappropriately constrain the mission and activity of the Cancer Center from other valuable work, such as the educational collaborations noted above.

We urge that the legislature not overstep the spirit of the Constitution to legislate the internal structure and management of the university. As noted, this could have grave consequences for the continuing NCI designation of our Cancer Center. And it is unnecessary.

We strongly oppose this measure and ask that it be deferred.

ATTACHMENT

January 31, 2020

Randall F. Holcombe, MD, MBA
Director, University of Hawaii Cancer Center
701 Ilalo Street
Suite 600
Honolulu, HI 96813
rholcombe@cc.hawaii.edu



Dear Dr. Holcombe

Thank you for hosting the External Advisory Board during our recent visit to the University of Hawaii Cancer Center (UHCC). It was exciting to see the continued progress taking place at UHCC under your leadership. We will be sending you a detailed report on our recommendations concerning the various aspects of your center with a focus on performance and compliance with the NCI P30 guidelines. This letter is an executive summary that focuses on the larger issues that go beyond the details of NCI guidelines. Feel free to share this summary with others as you see fit.

First, and most importantly, we would like to comment on the remarkable progress that you, your colleagues, and University and community leaders have made over the past year. The morale and esprit de corps of UHCC members and staff are stronger than they have been for a very long time. The new faculty you have recruited to the University of Hawaii over the past two years are top tier and are already making significant contributions including obtaining funding, publishing and assuming leadership roles within the UHCC. The presentations they gave during our visit were dynamic and scientifically exciting. Bringing such quality new talent to the UHCC is key to your continued scientific success, will strengthen the base of your research programs, and will contribute economic and educational value to the University, Hawaii, and the people of Hawaii in general.

The development of an early phase clinical trial capability in Hawaii has been a topic of discussion during EAB meetings for over a decade. It is exciting to see the progress you have made over the past year including obtaining a construction grant from the NIH, securing state support, and moving forward with plans for both building the unit physically, and recruiting the talent needed to make it work. In addition, the work that you have done to secure the collaboration of your clinical partners in the Hawaii Cancer Consortium for this endeavor is exceptional. This effort should remain a top priority as it will provide the people of Hawaii with access to Phase 1 clinical trials, that is the newest cancer treatments, at a time when cancer care is advancing at a remarkable rate. It also has great potential to serve as a hub for "medical tourism" for the entire Pacific rim. Given the diversity of your patient population, we are confident big pharma and small biotech will seek out your participation in their most promising early phase trials; the resultant enhanced reputation for clinical research will benefit both the Cancer Center and all of the HCC clinical partners.

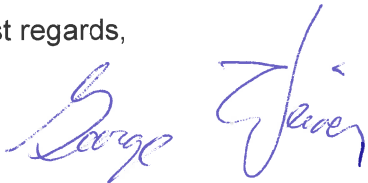
Equally impressive is the progress you and your colleagues have made in strengthening the Hawai'i Cancer Consortium. UHCC's leadership in this consortium will help the participating health systems recruit top flight oncology clinicians who see the value of clinical trials and the research that underpins them. UHCC's oversight over all oncology clinical research activity within the HCC, and the broader clinical trials network, is an outstanding example of the value-added of an NCI-designated cancer center to its home state and the benefits that can accrue to affiliated clinical partners.

UHCC is a national leader in population-based research. Particular strengths include the Multiethnic Cohort (MEC) that has led the way in helping the cancer research community explore the relationship across race and ethnicity of genetics and environment in cancer risk and the NCORP that enrolls patients from across Hawaii on NCI trials. Your basic research scientists are also making major contributions and bringing external research funding to Hawaii at a time when getting such funding at the national level is incredibly competitive.

The unique structure of UHCC, in essence a hybrid of a "matrix" center within a University and a "free-standing" center with defined authority, has been a key to the Cancer Center's success. This has enabled you as Director to expand membership in the HCC, forge new community alliances, and strategically recruit faculty researchers who support your efforts to conduct cancer research with particular relevance to your unique population. This type of authority speaks directly to NCI's expectations of a cancer center director. The structure your institution has put in place, with you reporting to the Provost and working closely with the University President, is vital for your continued success and continued NCI designation.

Once again, congratulations on your ongoing success. We look forward to seeing the future contributions being made by the UHCC to the health and welfare of the people of Hawaii.

Best regards,



George Weiner, MD, Chair
Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Iowa
On behalf of the External Advisory Board Members



Alana Dung Research Foundation
Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
By
Alana Dung Research Foundation

SB589 - Relating to the University of Hawai'i

Dear Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and Members of the Committee,

I am writing as President of the Alana Dung Research Foundation to voice my strong **OPPOSITION to SB589** which would establish an organized research unit for cancer research within the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine.

- Passage of this bill would threaten UHCC's designation as one of only 71 NCI-designated cancer centers in the nation. If this bill is passed, it would likely lead to loss of UHCC's NCI designation, which would lead to a loss of between \$15 and \$20 million in funding.
- The legislature has approved significant funds to create UHCC's Early Phase Clinical Trials Center, which will be the only such facility in Hawai'i, providing access to clinical research for patients here at home, and expanding the research capabilities of the only research university in the state. If this bill passes, the consequences of the loss of NCI designation to this project are unknown and possibly disastrous.
- Collaboration with JABSOM and with many other parts of UH is thriving under the leadership of Dr. Randall Holcombe, Cancer Center director, hence this restructuring is not necessary.
- The Legislature should not substitute its opinions for those of the experts and stakeholders at UH and UHCC, who have achieved significant successes and progress with the current management structure.

For the reasons above I strongly **OPPOSE SB589**.

Thank you,

Adelia C. Dung
President



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Higher Education
Thursday, February 11, 2021; 3:05 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
Via Videoconference**

RE: SENATE BILL NO. 0589, RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill No. 0589, RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

The bill, as received by your Committee, would formally recognize and establish the University of Hawaii Cancer Center within the administrative and management purview of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM).

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines in rural and underserved communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of healthcare.

The goal of studying cancer is to develop safe and effective methods to prevent, detect, diagnose, treat, and ultimately cure the collections of diseases known as cancer. The better we understand these diseases, the more progress we will make toward diminishing the tremendous human and economic tolls this malady inflicts upon our citizenry.

By formally recognizing and establishing the University of Hawaii Cancer Center (Cancer Center) within the administrative and management purview of JABSOM, the Cancer Center will be better able to forge research collaborations, undertake research studies or trials, and participate in projects and programs of the National Cancer Institute because their participation will be recognized as part of the University of Hawaii, one of the premier research institutions of higher learning in the world as determined by *U.S. News and World Reports* in 2020.

Accordingly, the HPCA wholeheartedly supports this important measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Public Affairs and Policy Director Erik K. Abe at 536-8442, or eabe@hawaiiipca.net.

**Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
By
Laurie Chun**

SB589 - Relating to the University of Hawai'i

Dear Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and Members of the Committee,

I am writing as community leader to voice my strong **OPPOSITION to SB589** which would establish an organized research unit for cancer research within the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine.

- Passage of this bill would threaten UHCC's designation as one of only 71 NCI-designated cancer centers in the nation. If this bill is passed, it would likely lead to loss of UHCC's NCI designation, which would lead to a loss of between \$15 and \$20 million in funding.
- The legislature has approved significant funds to create UHCC's Early Phase Clinical Trials Center, which will be the only such facility in Hawai'i, providing access to clinical research for patients here at home, and expanding the research capabilities of the only research university in the state. If this bill passes, the consequences of the loss of NCI designation to this project are unknown and possibly disastrous.
- Collaboration with JABSOM and with many other parts of UH is thriving under the leadership of Dr. Randall Holcombe, Cancer Center director, hence this restructuring is not necessary.
- The Legislature should not substitute its opinions for those of the experts and stakeholders at UH and UHCC, who have achieved significant successes and progress with the current management structure.

For the reasons above I strongly **OPPOSE SB589**.

Thank you,

Laurie Chun

February 11, 2021

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SENATOR MICHELLE N. KIDANI, VICE-CHAIR
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Association of Community Cancer Centers

ASCO State/Regional
Affiliate Program

Re: **SB589 – OPPOSE**

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Establishes an organized research unit for cancer research within the
University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Society of Clinical Oncology (HSCO) is a local community of oncologists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and other allied health professionals who provide a voice for multidisciplinary cancer care teams and the patients they serve. Founded in 1996, HSCO is the largest oncology professional organization in the state.

We respectfully oppose SB 589.

The UH Cancer Center has a critical role in serving the needs of our community. The UHCC is one of only 71 National Cancer Institute (NCI) designated cancer centers in the nation. Achieving, and maintaining, NCI designation reflects all of the hard work and research excellence that is required to obtain this recognition.

It is our understanding that passage of this measure would gravely threaten the P30 grant from the NCI of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Moreover, our concern with moving UHCC within the John A. Burns School of Medicine for organizational and cost reduction purposes, is that this could unintentionally affect the UHCC's designation as an NCI. This also would create confusion and difficulties in determining who has the authority required for NIH grant funding under the P30 core grants, the UHCC Director or the dean of the medical school.

Should the UHCC lose its designation as an NCI designated cancer center it would no longer remain eligible for NIH grant funding and support grants. As the only NCI designated cancer center in the pacific region, the UHCC works with partners such as the University of Guam to address cancer issues specific to the Asian and Pacific Islander populations. While cancer mortality has fallen nationally, specific populations in Hawaii continue to face a higher burden of cancer and benefit from the research conducted at the UHCC on these specific racial and ethnic groups.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

Written Testimony in STRONG OPPOSITION to HB 2564

By: Lynne Wooddell

Director of Philanthropy, UH Foundation

Chairs Woodson and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Hashem, Quinlan, and Kobayashi, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong opposition to HB 2564, which proposes to legislate the internal structure and management of the University of Hawai'i (UH) by moving the UH Cancer Center under the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM). This bill would replace the judgment and decision of the Board of Regents, which established the Cancer Center in 1981 as a freestanding Organized Research Unit (ORU) of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, by imposing a structure suggested by the Legislature without regard for the potentially devastating impacts of such a change.

I **oppose** this bill for several reasons:

First, passage of this measure would gravely threaten the formal designation of the UH Cancer Center as one of only 71 NCI-designated cancer centers in the nation. This is a *critical designation* which allows us to apply for competitive multi-million dollar research grants (\$44.24M last year). Without the NCI-designation, not only will we lose out on these grants—solid revenue for Hawaii's economy that is NOT-tourism related-- but we will also lose out on the ability to recruit the top scientists and oncologists to come work in Hawaii.

When I talk with community oncologists, most say that the UH Cancer Center, as an NCI-designated Cancer Research Center is a 'jewel' for Hawaii's people and most people take it for granted. The positive community health impact is enormous and under-appreciated. Impact such as cancer screenings and participation in clinical trials ALL contribute to a healthier community, which means less cost to the State. With our physician shortage, and especially with several long-time oncologists retiring recently, this bill would put into jeopardy our ability to recruit young practicing oncologists who also want to be able to conduct research.

As the Development Director for the Cancer Center, I have spoken with hundreds of community leaders, cancer survivors and philanthropists. If this legislation goes through, regular people who can't afford to fly to the mainland for care will have reduced access to state-of-the-art cancer treatment. This bill will have devastating effects on local families who are dealing with cancer, mostly impacting the middle class and poor.

Finally, NOW is the time that we should be pivoting and INVESTING in our grant-producing research institutions not making it more difficult for them to succeed. The UH Cancer Center and its Director deserve the respect and support of the community and as a critical future economic driver for our State. Please vote NO on HB 2564.

Respectfully submitted, Lynne Wooddell



American Cancer Society
Cancer Action Network
2370 Nuʻuanu Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96817
808.432.9139
www.fightcancer.org

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

SB 589 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Cynthia Au, Grassroots Manager – Hawaii Pacific
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on SB 589: RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII which would establish an organized research unit for cancer research within the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society. We support evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem.

The University of Hawaii (UH) Cancer Center is one of 71 research organizations in the U.S. designated by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the only one in the Hawaii Pacific region.¹ The creation of the cancer research unit for cancer research at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) would result with UH Cancer Center's inability to meet the guidelines of the Cancer Center Support Grant funding announcement from the National Cancer Institute (NCI). NCI Cancer Centers Program was created as part of the National Cancer Act of 1971 and is one of the anchors of the nation's cancer research effort. Through this program, NCI recognizes centers around the country that meet rigorous standards for transdisciplinary, state-of-the-art research focused on developing new and better approaches to preventing, diagnosing, and treating cancer.²

We are seriously concerned that without NCI designation, the UH Cancer Center may lose between \$15 and \$20 million in extramural funding of the P30 Cancer Center Support Grant. This outside funding is needed to support research for more treatments and improve cancer patients' quality of life.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

¹ University of Hawaii Cancer Center <https://www.uhcancercenter.org/50years>

² NCI <https://www.cancer.gov/research/infrastructure/cancer-centers>

LATE



The Committee on Higher Education
February 11, 2021
3:05 pm, Videoconference, Room 229

RE: **SB 589 Relating to the University of Hawaii**

Attention: Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and Members of the Committee

The University of Hawaii Professional Assembly (UHPA) **strongly opposes the passage of SB 589.**

SB 589 is an intrusion into the authority of the UH regents and faculty. It would statutorily mandate a reorganization of UH-Mānoa's lines of reporting and supervision of the UH Cancer Center. This would subject the University's internal structure and management -- properly a purely academic matter -- to statutory law.

Successful universities operate under a principle of shared governance, pursuant to which professionals in the affected field have significant input into matters that may be regarded as managerial. This bill not only tramples on the regents' managerial prerogatives, but those of the faculty, who, pursuant to tradition, constitution, statute, and contract, have a role in defining such items as academic organization.

To make matters worse, the unintended consequence of such a bill, should it be enacted, would threaten the federal funding that supports the UH Cancer Center. The NCI-designation (P30 grant) that has been strengthened under the current director, Dr. Randy Holcombe.

UHPA **strongly opposes** the passage of SB 589.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Fern'.

Christian L. Fern
Executive Director
University of Hawaii Professional Assembly

SB-589

Submitted on: 2/5/2021 10:14:35 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/11/2021 3:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Song Yi Park	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill SB589, because such groundless re-organization will jeopardize the National Cancer Institute designation and the existence of the UH Cancer Center.

Dear Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees:

I am writing as a Professor in the UH Cancer Center to voice my strong **OPPOSITION to SB589** which would place the UH Cancer Center into the John A. Burns School of Medicine.

I want to personally thank you for the work you do on behalf of the citizens of Hawai'i especially in this very difficult time. Like you, we, the faculty of the UH Cancer Center, are working tirelessly to help the people of Hawaii. Our goals are to reduce the burden of cancer on the people in the state by improving cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and education. While I am sure the motivation behind this bill was to help the UH Cancer Center it will rather have the opposite effect and will devastate the Cancer Center and irretrievably weaken it.

I have been at the UH Cancer Center for over 16 years and came here from another National Cancer Institute (NCI) Designated Cancer Center. My comments derive from my experience serving the UH Cancer Center first as Leader of the Cancer Biology Program, then as interim Associate Director for 2 years (first with Interim Director Dean Jerris Hedges then with current Director Dr. Randall Holcombe) and currently as Chief Scientific Officer and Deputy Director. I also have a secondary appointment in JABSOM and teach in the Cell and Molecular Biology program there in addition to my undergraduate teaching in the lab through several UH Cancer Center training programs. I know the finances and faculty of the UH Cancer Center in great detail. I have written large sections of our last two UH Cancer Center NCI Designation renewals, attend the annual National Cancer Center Meetings, sit on site visit teams to review other Cancer Centers for the NCI Designation, and review biomedical research and training grants at every level for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). I therefore know the requirements of the NCI Designation thoroughly. The following bullet points explain why moving the Cancer Center ORU into the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) will irretrievably damage it and undermine its mission to serve Hawaii:

- 1) **The proposed change will jeopardize our NCI Designation.** The current organization with our Director reporting to the Provost and having flexibility to control space, faculty hires, and budget is essential to preserve our National Cancer Center Designation. A central criterion by which we are evaluated every five years to renew our designation and the associated funding is the "Authority of the Director". We have received top scores on this measure in each of our renewals. The demotion of our Director to reporting to the Dean rather than the Provost will be viewed as weakening the Cancer Center by our external reviewers and will take away one of our great differentiators. Recovering the NCI designation once lost would be tremendously challenging and expensive.
- 2) **There will be no financial savings** from changing the organizational structure. We have previously investigated in great detail whether moving the Cancer Center into JABSOM would provide any financial benefit. No significant savings was identified that could not be gained more easily and affordably through collaboration and coordination of activities. This is recorded in a Whitepaper produced by faculty and staff at that time. Where we saw benefit, we have already enacted agreements with the medical school. We share a phone system, vivarium, and maintain joint research cores (Genetics and Bioinformatics) and instrumentation. UH provides the campus with a single security team. Finally, we coordinate parking, groundskeeping, and other overlapping Kaka'ako campus activities. There is no savings gained from merging fiscal or grants management because the amount of work requires a specific number of personnel and is not reduced

by combining. Having our own personnel on site and trained in the areas we require expedites management and quality of these activities and keeps costs in check. To be sure we do not miss opportunities at finding savings, our Associate Director of Administration (who is himself an MBA and expert in NCI Designation requirements) meets regularly to coordinate where possible with the Executive Director for Administration at JABSOM.

- 3) **There will be major financial losses from reorganizing the Cancer Center.** This will come as we lose our NCI Designation and the grant funding and high caliber faculty that come with that. It will come as we waste time and effort on organizational restructuring and training instead of getting grants and doing research, education and outreach. We will lose all the financial investment the state, university, hospitals, and faculty have put into getting and maintaining the NCI Designation and all the significant benefits it brings to cancer care in the islands over the last 25 years.
- 4) The current organization has allowed **Dr. Holcombe, who is an MBA as well as an MD**, to have the freedom to carefully and thoughtfully re-budget to reduce costs and set in place a structure going forward that is financially sustainable. Because of his knowledge and expertise in NCI Designated Cancer Centers, he has been able to do this without weakening the core strengths of the Cancer Center. Indeed, by balancing the budget the last three years he has improved our competitiveness and we renewed our NCI designation under his leadership.
- 5) **There is no advantage for faculty, staff, or students.** Faculty already move freely between the two organizations. We have faculty that teach in JABSOM and serve on many JABSOM committees already. Indeed, we provide funding for first year Graduate Students in the Cell and Molecular Biology Program in JABSOM – more than JABSOM itself provides. I teach in three courses there, have a secondary appointment and professorship, and serve on the curriculum committee. Importantly faculty of the Cancer Center teach in programs on the main campus as well. Our undergraduate and graduate students come from throughout related programs across UH. I also have the pleasure of working jointly with many great JABSOM faculty on grants and have federal grants with some of them. The Cancer Center is by its very nature a UH-wide and Statewide Center - it thrives on knocking down silos and has the greatest flexibility to do this as an independent ORU in the current organizational structure.
- 6) **The mission of the Cancer Center is different than that of the Medical School.** The Medical School's primary mission is to educate medical students. Our Central mission is cancer research that will directly benefit the people of Hawaii. We need to keep our focus on this and build on our recent accomplishments without getting subsumed into a new organization with different goals and a different culture.
- 7) **Dr. Randall Holcombe MD, MBA is an OUTSTANDING Director** and is recognized for his expertise across all the 71 NCI Cancer Centers. Please see our recent external advisory report that was shared with you for a sample. Since his arrival the Center has renewed its designation (in just ONE year after his arrival!), stabilized its finances, started increasing by leaps and bounds its donor support, and initiated several new programs aimed at helping the people of Hawaii. Putting the Cancer Center into JABSOM is a demotion for him and will wipe out these hard-won gains in a single move. It will destroy the fantastic positive and collegial culture we currently enjoy that has

enabled wonderful new research, millions in new grants, and new Hawai'i and Pacific focused initiatives for the health of the people of Hawai'i.

For the reasons above I am strongly **OPPOSED SB589**. It is an attempt to solve a problem that doesn't exist and will instead cause many negative unintended consequences and increased costs.

Thank you for this opportunity to share this information.

Joe W. Ramos, PhD
Professor, Cancer Biology
UH Cancer Center &
B.H. and Alice C. Beams Endowed Professor in Cancer Research
John A. Burns School of Medicine

SB-589

Submitted on: 2/7/2021 5:26:08 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/11/2021 3:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Shepherd	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for SB 589. I am writing to express my strong and unreserved **OPPOSITION** to this bill. This bill is not in the interest of the continued success of the cancer center.

I was recruited to the Cancer Center from the University of California San Francisco (UCSSF). I have seen firsthand how effective an independent NCI-designated cancer center, like the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, can be in terms of supporting the mission of reducing the burden of cancer through world-class research and clinical trials. Knowing that the UH Cancer Center was also an NCI-designated center, and the standards this implies, I was enthusiastic to join the efforts here. All my expectations have been correct. I am confident of my continued research success under the current organizational structure.

With the passing of this bill, the cancer center's NCI-designation would be in peril. It has been made clear in the new NCI guidelines that cancer center directors should have the authority of a Dean. We are one of the smallest centers and under more scrutiny than larger centers. The ability to recruit both aspiring junior faculty and research leaders will be weakened. Losing our NCI designation and the associated funding provided by the NCI will negate any state cost savings gained from the combination.

There is already extensive synergy with the Medical School. In summary, the bill, SB 589, does not accomplish its intended purpose of true cost saving, additional synergy with the medical school, or serving the people of Hawaii through more effective reduction of the burden of cancer in the Pacific. I strongly oppose this measure and urge that it should be deferred.

Mahalo,

John Shepherd PhD

SB-589

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 7:08:00 AM

Testimony for HRE on 2/11/2021 3:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Spencer Dung	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Testimony Presented Before the

Senate Committee on Higher Education

By

Spencer Dung

SB589 - Relating to the University of Hawai'i

Dear Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and Members of the Committee,

I am writing as the sibling of a sister who lost her battle to cancer to voice my strong **OPPOSITION to SB589** which would establish an organized research unit for cancer research within the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine.

- While I support cancer research in all forms, creating this "organized research unit" will actually hamper the ability for our talented researchers to do their work. It will also cause our community here in Hawaii to lose the opportunity to receive the current Best-in-Class trials they are getting under the care of an NCI-designated cancer center. Not only is this designation prestigious, it is significantly meaningful to the ability for Hawaii to continue to attract talented individuals home to work. Of course, keeping our talented students home and providing them these type of high level employment opportunities, (or bring in mainland/international talent) has a tremendously positive effect on our economy and State's overall well-being.

- Passage of this bill would threaten UHCC's designation as one of only 71 NCI-designated cancer centers in the nation. If this bill is passed, it would likely lead to loss of UHCC's NCI designation, which would lead to a loss of between \$15 and \$20 million in funding.

- The legislature has approved significant funds to create UHCC's Early Phase Clinical Trials Center, which will be the only such facility in Hawai'i, providing access to clinical research for patients here at home, and expanding the research capabilities of the only

research university in the state. If this bill passes, the consequences of the loss of NCI designation to this project are unknown and possibly disastrous.

- Collaboration with JABSOM and with many other parts of UH is thriving under the leadership of Dr. Randall Holcombe, Cancer Center director, hence this restructuring is not necessary.
- The Legislature should not substitute its opinions for those of the experts and stakeholders at UH and UHCC, who have achieved significant successes and progress with the current management structure.

For the reasons above I cannot overstate how strongly I **OPPOSE SB589**.

Thank you for your consideration,

Spencer Dung

Managing Director | Wealth Management Advisor

February 2, 2021

Dear Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice-Chairs Kidani and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the HRE and WAM committees,

I herein submit my individual testimony **AGAINST** Bill **SB589** to reorganize the UH cancer Center (UHCC) under the JABSOM Medical School.

My name is Loic Le Marchand. I have been a faculty member at UHCC since 1987. I currently am a Professor and serve as the Center's Associate Director for Ethnic Diversity Research. I have been the Principal Investigator of multiple large grants, including the Multiethnic Cohort Cohort that has been following 215,000 Hawaii and California residents for cancer since 1993. This unique scientific resource, shared with many UH researchers and students, including at JABSOM, has brought over \$150M to the University in federal grants. I have served on multiple expert panels for the National Cancer Institute and have reviewed programs at mainland cancer centers. I believe I am well familiar with the requirements for maintaining a NCI-designated cancer center in Hawaii and what it brings in terms of health and economic benefits to our community.

I am testifying **AGAINST** Bill SB589 as I strongly believe it would be disastrous for our efforts to decrease the burden of cancer and other chronic diseases (e.g., diabetes, heart disease, etc.) in our community and would not achieve any savings in state funds.

- 1) The UHCC Director would lose most of his/her authority on budget, space and positions. This would make the renewal of our NCI designation close to impossible at a time when these P30 cancer center grants remain extremely competitive. The authority of the director is an important "essential characteristics" on which NCI-designated cancer center are evaluated. NCI has already indicated the reason they originally renewed our current P30 grant for 3 years instead of the usual five was the multiple changes in cancer center directors, including a previous leader with no cancer research experience. Because of the very significant progress we have made under Dr. Holcombe, we have been awarded 2 additional years (the regular 5 year grant duration). It is clear to me that we will not be able to renew the grant next year if the Center is moved under the medical school. As this would substantially weaken the authority of the UHCC director. This would translate into the loss of several tens of millions of dollars in grants for which we would not be eligible if we do not have a P30 grant.
- 2) We have made substantial progress under our current director in strengthening our research programs through recruitment. Losing the P30 will make recruitment of top-notch researchers much more difficult and would make current UHCC members much less competitive for getting NIH grants and conducting their research. Many of them would leave or retire.
- 3) The justification for the change seems to be the illusion that money would be saved by merging administrative structures. We have already lived through this illusion in 2016 when Dean Hedges was acting UHCC director and moved to consolidate some services between UHCC and JABSOM. The UHCC Faculty and staff completed a comprehensive review of the functions of each UHCC office and program. We documented with ample data in a white-paper that only a few of them could be merged with JABSOM. Since that time we have assiduously worked to

integrate what could be integrated between the two units. We continue to assess opportunities for integration and improved efficiency on the Kapa`ako campus.

- 4) The mission of the two units are so different that it does not make programmatic sense to merge them. One (JABSOM) is almost exclusively organized and oriented toward the critical mission of teaching and training medical students for our state. UHCC is primarily organized to facilitate research and bring in federal funding to conduct the research that will solve cancer issues specific to our population. UHCC is set up and managed to conduct research that uniquely serves our state needs, in addition to contributing to the national cancer research agenda. Under JABSOM we would lose this organizational edge which is in great part why we have been able to successfully compete nationally for grants. I have had a first-hand devastating experience from an attempt to fold the Center's fiscal office under JABSOM operations when Dean Hedges was acting UHCC Director, this instead of replacing UHCC fiscal officers who had left. Because we were unable to get reconciliations in a timely manner on our grant accounts and, as the result, carried a substantial unobligated balance, NCI refused to award me several large grant supplements that had been competitively reviewed. In contrast, I was able to obtain \$800K in NIH grant supplements in the past two years while our fiscal office has been well run under the current administration.
- 5) As he has publically announced, Randy Holcombe, our current director, would leave. Since his arrival five years ago, he has turned around the Center, solved its \$4.5M annual operational deficit, and has been remarkably successful in renewing our P30 grant and launching new initiatives that will very significantly benefit Hawaii, including extending the Hawaii Cancer Consortium and obtaining \$14M (half state/half federal) to build an early phase clinical trials research unit at the Center. Working more closely with the hospitals and making available the newest cancer treatments to the islands will transform cancer care in Hawaii.

In my many years at the Center, it is the first time I see it poised to fully realize its potential for the people of Hawaii. Please do not change the administrative reporting of the Cancer Center at UH. You would jeopardize not only the great progress we have made in the past four years but also its very existence.

Thank you.

Loic Le Marchand , MD, PhD

Aloha mai kakou,

I am an RCUH employee with over 25 years of experience at the UH Cancer Center. I have worked under 3 directors, 1 interim director, and our current director Dr. Randal Holcombe. Without a doubt, **I AM OPPOSED TO SB589**. Since the last attempt to combine the Center with the School in 2020, the UH Cancer Center has solidified funding to begin construction of the new clinic for Phase 1 Clinical Trials to begin Summer 2021. Dr. Holcombe's vision for a premiere Cancer Center could not progress at this rate if he was not afforded his independent authority over all decisions for the betterment of the Center which includes monies, space and faculty recruitments for a viable Cancer Center. Even during the COVID pandemic, his ability to continue to raise funds, encourage faculty collaborations, and increase Center visibility beyond Hawaii can only be accomplished with his direct line of communication with UH administration and direct access to system's resources to further his vision for a Center that cares for their community. This bill introduces unfounded allegations that we are running inefficiently and that there is a "statewide concern to ensure that the management of public resources provided to JABSOM (School) and UH cancer center (CENTER) be integrated, coordinated, and focused on common priorities to avoid unnecessary duplication of administrative expenses or conflicting priorities". On what basis is this assumption being made? Until there are numbers that support the 'saving' of resources, this bill has no grounds to stand on to place the Center as an ORU in the School. Please reconsider what you are proposing and I ask that you vote **AGAINST SB589** to place the UH Cancer Center in JABSOM as an ORU in "hope" of 'reducing unnecessary duplication of administrative expenses and conflicting priorities'.

Thank you for your consideration.

Annette Jones, BA. (University of Hawaii-Manoa)
Research Lab Analyst, Genomics and BioInformatics Shared Resource (GBSR)
University of Hawaii Cancer Center

The House Committee on Lower and Higher Education & Committee on Health

Individual Testimony AGAINST SB 589

Establishes an organized research unit for cancer research within the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine

Dear Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees:

I herein submit my individual testimony **AGAINST** the bill **SB 589** to reorganize the UH Cancer Center within the UH JABSOM Medical School.

The faculty of the UH Cancer Center, are working tirelessly to help the people of Hawaii. Our goals are to reduce the burden of cancer on the people in the state by improving cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and education. The current organization with our Director reporting to the Provost and having flexibility to control space, faculty hires, and budget is essential to preserve our National Cancer Center Designation. The NCI designation is critical for researchers like us to maximize the possibility to secure research funding. The NCI designation is also very important to attract and keep high caliber faculty colleagues to maintain our research competitiveness. Our current director, Dr. Randall Holcombe MD, MBA, is clearly an excellent Director with outstanding leadership abilities and achievements.

For the reasons above, I am strongly **AGAINST SB 589**.

Thank you,

Lang Wu, PhD
Assistant Professor
UH Cancer Center

February 8, 2021

Dear Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees:

I am writing to express my **STRONG OPPOSITION to SB589** which would place the UH Cancer Center into the John A. Burns School of Medicine for the following reasons:

- **Potential loss of National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation** would mean loss of millions of dollars to the State of Hawai‘i economy. Being an NCI designated cancer center means the cancer center has met stringent standards for cancer prevention, clinical service or research – in other words a very prestigious designation. It also brings in grant money, and attracts talented, top-notch research faculties. UH Cancer Center is only one of 71 Cancer Centers to receive this outstanding designation and has done so for the past 25 years! There are over 1,500 cancer centers in the United States. It would be a shame to lose this designation for the State of Hawai‘i.
- Losing NCI designation would also mean **loss of funding for research to study our unique racial/ethnic population**. This would be detrimental to the people of Hawai‘i and the Pacific, as we are the only cancer center studying these unique population. Last year over 75% of our clinical trials accruals were attributed to individuals from racial/ethnic minorities and Native Hawaiians made up roughly 20% of all accruals.
- Despite what the Bill states, there is **no financial advantage** in combining the Cancer Center with the School of Medicine. Procedures to cut financial burden, such as the use of joint research cores or combined maintenance operations, are already in place and do not require the merger of Cancer Center into the School of Medicine.
- The current Cancer Center leadership, in particular the Cancer Center **Director Dr. Randall Holcombe, have made a remarkable turnaround** of the previously struggling Cancer Center in recent years. These days, the Cancer Center is a thriving research unit on a solid financial footing, a fact that has been recognized and praised by the Center’s External Advisory Committee. Limiting or undermining the authority of the Cancer Center Director would do a great disservice to the Cancer Center, its mission, and to research in Hawai‘i in general.
- The proposed bill would necessitate **wasting a lot of people’s time and precious resources** (that the State does not have) to do an unnecessary and unjustified reorganization, instead of focusing on productive work.

For these reasons and others, I **STRONGLY OPPOSE SB589**.

I thank you for your dedicated time and service to the people of Hawai‘i, however, I don’t feel Legislators should intervene in the operations of the University.

Mahalo,
Elizabeth Kuiuoka
Development and Outreach Coordinator
University of Hawai‘i Cancer Center

2-9-2021

SB589 - Relating to the University of Hawai'i

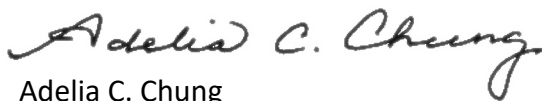
Dear Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and Members of the Committee,

I am in **OPPOSITION to SB589** which would establish an organized research unit for cancer research within the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine.

- Passage of this bill would threaten UHCC's designation as one of only 71 NCI-designated cancer centers in the nation. If this bill is passed, it would likely lead to loss of UHCC's NCI designation, which would lead to a loss of between \$15 and \$20 million in funding.
- The legislature has approved significant funds to create UHCC's Early Phase Clinical Trials Center, which will be the only such facility in Hawai'i, providing access to clinical research for patients here at home, and expanding the research capabilities of the only research university in the state. If this bill passes, the consequences of the loss of NCI designation to this project are unknown and possibly disastrous.
- Collaboration with JABSOM and with many other parts of UH is thriving under the leadership of Dr. Randall Holcombe, Cancer Center director, hence this restructuring is not necessary.
- The Legislature should not substitute its opinions for those of the experts and stakeholders at UH and UHCC, who have achieved significant successes and progress with the current management structure.

For the reasons above I strongly **OPPOSE SB589**.

Thank you,



Adelia C. Chung
Concerned Citizen

The Senate Committee on Higher Education

February 11, 2021

3:05 pm, Conference Room 229

RE: SB 589 Relating to the University of Hawai'i

Attention: Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Michelle N. Kidani and members of the Committees

I write to express my opposition to SB 589, defining the University of Hawai'i (UH) Cancer Center as an Organized Research Unit (ORU) within the administrative and management purview of John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM).

I joined the UH Cancer Center as Associate Director for Administration in July, 2017, after having worked in cancer center administration for the previous 20 years, at the NCI-designated University of Virginia Cancer Center and more recently at the West Virginia University Cancer Institute, a center which is often referred to as an "emerging" cancer center with aspirations of becoming NCI-designated. Though I am acutely aware of the past history during some trying and tumultuous years for UH Cancer Center, I feel as though my perspective on the issue of reorganization, as proposed in this proposed bill, may be valuable to you as legislators.

Working together with JABSOM: First, the introduction of this bill seems to be in response to issues long since put to rest regarding the UH Cancer Center and JABSOM working together toward a common goal of research (encompassing basic sciences, population sciences and clinical research), education, community outreach. From an administrator's point of view, the school and the center have a good working relationship, employing synergistic oversight of many of the functions necessary for the day-to-day operations of the Kaka'ako campus. Examples include combined strategies on parking, cooperating on campus security, sharing major purchases (e.g., land lease, utilities, telephone infrastructure, etc.), practice plan operations (together through University Health Partners), high level human resources collaboration, etc. The JABSOM CFO (Ms. Foster) and I have an excellent working relationship and meet regularly to maintain administrative cooperation and tackle common topics among our units. Appended to this testimony is a White Paper report to the Board of Regents in 2016 which concluded that reorganization would be detrimental to the Cancer Center and would not result in significant cost savings.

Reorganization effect on NCI-designation: As mentioned in many forums, NCI-designation is coveted honor conferred upon the university and the state. There are currently a total of 71 NCI-designated cancer centers, one of which is the UH Cancer Center. There are fourteen states in which there is no NCI-designated cancer center, yet each of those states have universities with cancer centers aspiring to become NCI-designated. It is a testament to UH and the state for supporting NCI-designation of cancer center for the past 25 years as a resource for discovery and dissemination, given the ethnic diversity of Hawai'i's population, found at no other cancer center in the US. Loss of this designation would be a setback to the progress made in cancer research that applies directly to the people of Hawai'i.

Among the guidelines utilized in determining the eligibility for NCI-designation are what is termed "The Six Essential Characteristics of an NCI-designated Cancer Center." These include: Physical Space,

Organizational Capabilities, Transdisciplinary Collaboration and Coordination, Cancer Focus, Institutional Commitment, and Center Director. A reorganization of the cancer center would create particular concerns regarding several of these Essential Characteristics.

Physical Space: The cancer center building is an excellent resource for the transdisciplinary research which occurs within the building and provides a launching point for the many collaborations that exist among cancer center members whose homes are with many schools and departments within the UH system, including JABSOM, as well as external to UH, including Hawai'i Pacific University and The Queen's Medical Center. A reorganization will be seen as dilution of the focus for cancer research within the physical space.

Organizational Capabilities: From the review of the competitive renewal of NCI designation in 2017: "Dr. Holcombe as Center director, occupies leadership positions within the University of Hawaii equivalent to a dean thus enhancing integration of the Center, and facilitating a stronger impact of the Center priorities on university initiatives." A reorganization would demote the Director to a level similar to that of a department chair, which would be seen as a loss in this Essential Element.

Cancer Focus: A reorganization would dilute the effect of the current focus on cancer related topics among the cancer center members. While there are many cancer center members within JABSOM, the majority of JABSOM faculty do not perform cancer related research. As a matrix center the current organization allows for cancer focus to be achieved through collaborations with individuals in many schools and departments across the University. This collaboration may be in jeopardy if a reorganization restricts collaboration through a silo-type organizational structure under a single school.

Institutional Commitment: This element will likely be one of the most affected of the Six Essential Elements, due to the significant structural changes that will occur. Rated as "Outstanding" in the 2017 competitive renewal review, commitment from the state, university and clinical partners was received well by the reviewers. A reorganization will be seen as lack of commitment, especially from the state, but also from the university, should the reorganization be allowed to take place.

Center Director: This is the most important element within the "Six" which will be affected by this proposed reorganization. The following is quoted from the aforementioned NCI review:

The Center Director is rated outstanding. Dr. Holcombe has complete authority over all resources at the Center, which includes research space, faculty recruitment and appointment of members, and all Cancer Center revenue and all financial matters. His direct control and authority over the entire cancer programs at the Center and shared resources as well as clinical trials infrastructure ensures that the Center remains mission focused. The impact of the new center director is palpable and there is confidence that under his leadership the Center will continue to address its challenges and create opportunities to reach its strategic goals. Dr. Holcombe is highly qualified for this position.

Guidelines on the Center Director have recently changed to emphasize importance of the authority of the director. Authority must be seen as "superior to that of department chairs." A reorganization will be seen as a demotion of the current director authority, which is equivalent to that of a Dean at UH.

Overall, the review of the Six Essential Elements will suffer in the next renewal, as a result of this reorganization, putting NCI-designation in jeopardy. There has been only one NCI-designated Cancer

Center to lose its designation in the last 20 years, and that was University of Vermont. Their loss of NCI-designation was based precisely on the same issues the legislature is proposing—a reorganization that is not befitting to the established guidelines used for consideration of NCI-designation. NCI-designation brings with it the ability to apply for grants not available to other institutions. Moreover, this designation also lends credibility to the institutional resources necessary for research grants awarded by NCI, and more broadly, by NIH and other federal agencies. It is well known that 85% of all NCI extramural funding is awarded to the 71 NCI-designated Cancer Centers. The remaining ~1,000 cancer centers in the US seek the remaining 15% to support cancer research programs at their institutions. A reorganization and loss of NCI-designation will result in the UH Cancer Center being among the lower 15%.

Appended to this testimony is the summary report from the 2020 review by our External Advisory Committee, which includes leaders at other NCI-designated Cancer Centers. This review from this esteemed group of leaders in the Cancer Center Community is evidence of the positive trajectory the Cancer Center is on, as well as touting the structure of UHCC as “key to the Cancer Center’s success.”

Cancer Center Administrative Leadership: Cancer Center Administration, which I am privileged to lead over the past three and a half years, has made huge improvements to operations and management of the facility over the past years. In recognition of these efforts, this team, consisting of leaders in the areas of fiscal, communication, grants management, human resources, community outreach, facilities, information technology, compliance, clinical research operations, and philanthropy, was awarded the Governor’s 2019 State Team of the Year. The award declaration stated:

Your team, comprised of various administrative offices, invested valuable time and your combined talents to improve the efficiency and operational productivity of your individual units. This resulted in employee work satisfaction, cost savings, and achievement of key mission-based objectives. Your team helped revitalize the Cancer Center with robust community outreach to educate the public about cancer prevention, renewed an active collaboration with community organizations, and reinforced the need for cancer research. In addition, by employing a rigorous budget review process, your team reduced annual expenditures by over \$2 million.

A critical and defining moment occurred when the National Cancer Institute (NCI) recognized the unique contributions of the UH Cancer Center and rewarded your efforts by continuing the NCI-designation. For Hawai’i, this means that family and friends will have access to cutting-edge cancer treatments and the highest quality of cancer care. Due to your extraordinary teamwork and tireless dedication, the UH Cancer Center has flourished as an academic unit and service organization.

A reorganization, frankly, belies this achievement and offers little incentive for a continued upward trajectory already in place.

In summary, SB 589 will be detrimental to the UH Cancer Center and to the people of Hawai’i. I therefore request that the legislature cancel such measures that may be before you.

Sincerely,

Clifford C. Martin, MBA

Associate Director for Administration at the University of Hawai’i Cancer Center

January 31, 2020

Randall F. Holcombe, MD, MBA
Director, University of Hawaii Cancer Center
701 Ilalo Street
Suite 600
Honolulu, HI 96813
rholcombe@cc.hawaii.edu



Dear Dr. Holcombe

Thank you for hosting the External Advisory Board during our recent visit to the University of Hawaii Cancer Center (UHCC). It was exciting to see the continued progress taking place at UHCC under your leadership. We will be sending you a detailed report on our recommendations concerning the various aspects of your center with a focus on performance and compliance with the NCI P30 guidelines. This letter is an executive summary that focuses on the larger issues that go beyond the details of NCI guidelines. Feel free to share this summary with others as you see fit.

First, and most importantly, we would like to comment on the remarkable progress that you, your colleagues, and University and community leaders have made over the past year. The morale and esprit de corps of UHCC members and staff are stronger than they have been for a very long time. The new faculty you have recruited to the University of Hawaii over the past two years are top tier and are already making significant contributions including obtaining funding, publishing and assuming leadership roles within the UHCC. The presentations they gave during our visit were dynamic and scientifically exciting. Bringing such quality new talent to the UHCC is key to your continued scientific success, will strengthen the base of your research programs, and will contribute economic and educational value to the University, Hawaii, and the people of Hawaii in general.

The development of an early phase clinical trial capability in Hawaii has been a topic of discussion during EAB meetings for over a decade. It is exciting to see the progress you have made over the past year including obtaining a construction grant from the NIH, securing state support, and moving forward with plans for both building the unit physically, and recruiting the talent needed to make it work. In addition, the work that you have done to secure the collaboration of your clinical partners in the Hawaii Cancer Consortium for this endeavor is exceptional. This effort should remain a top priority as it will provide the people of Hawaii with access to Phase 1 clinical trials, that is the newest cancer treatments, at a time when cancer care is advancing at a remarkable rate. It also has great potential to serve as a hub for "medical tourism" for the entire Pacific rim. Given the diversity of your patient population, we are confident big pharma and small biotech will seek out your participation in their most promising early phase trials; the resultant enhanced reputation for clinical research will benefit both the Cancer Center and all of the HCC clinical partners.

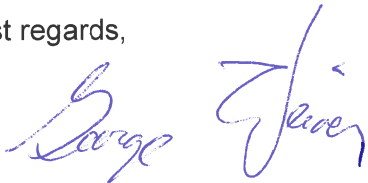
Equally impressive is the progress you and your colleagues have made in strengthening the Hawai'i Cancer Consortium. UHCC's leadership in this consortium will help the participating health systems recruit top flight oncology clinicians who see the value of clinical trials and the research that underpins them. UHCC's oversight over all oncology clinical research activity within the HCC, and the broader clinical trials network, is an outstanding example of the value-added of an NCI-designated cancer center to its home state and the benefits that can accrue to affiliated clinical partners.

UHCC is a national leader in population-based research. Particular strengths include the Multiethnic Cohort (MEC) that has led the way in helping the cancer research community explore the relationship across race and ethnicity of genetics and environment in cancer risk and the NCORP that enrolls patients from across Hawaii on NCI trials. Your basic research scientists are also making major contributions and bringing external research funding to Hawaii at a time when getting such funding at the national level is incredibly competitive.

The unique structure of UHCC, in essence a hybrid of a "matrix" center within a University and a "free-standing" center with defined authority, has been a key to the Cancer Center's success. This has enabled you as Director to expand membership in the HCC, forge new community alliances, and strategically recruit faculty researchers who support your efforts to conduct cancer research with particular relevance to your unique population. This type of authority speaks directly to NCI's expectations of a cancer center director. The structure your institution has put in place, with you reporting to the Provost and working closely with the University President, is vital for your continued success and continued NCI designation.

Once again, congratulations on your ongoing success. We look forward to seeing the future contributions being made by the UHCC to the health and welfare of the people of Hawaii.

Best regards,



George Weiner, MD, Chair
Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Iowa
On behalf of the External Advisory Board Members



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I

CANCER CENTER

**University of Hawaii Cancer Center
Administrative Organization
Kakaako Campus**

**UHCC Task Force Report
October 2016**



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I

CANCER CENTER

Cancer Center Task Force Committee

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Alan Lau (co-Chair)
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Task Force Report on the University of Hawaii Cancer Center Administrative Organization within the Kakaako Campus

Summary and Conclusions

In mid-June 2016, the University of Hawaii Cancer Center (UHCC) faculty was charged by the Interim Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor for Research with reviewing the proposed re-organization of the Cancer Center with the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) and making recommendations about organizational changes that would increase administrative and reporting efficiency. A task force was assembled consisting of various leaders of Cancer Center Programs and diverse Center activities and services. The task force met multiple times during the summer, sought input from UHCC faculty and staff and provided this report to the incoming UHCC director, Dr. Randall Holcombe, on October 17, 2016.

The Task Force concluded that there are a number of activities on the Kakaako campus that can be shared between the Cancer Center and JABSOM, potentially resulting in cost savings. However, the merging of these activities can be accomplished without a full-fledge reorganization. The Task Force also found that there is a preponderance of Cancer Center activities that are mission-critical or mission-specific that cannot be shared with JABSOM. Integrating these activities in a full-scale re-organization, including a change in the UHCC director's reporting line, as proposed by the Dean of the Medical School, would weaken the ability of the Center to conduct its cancer research efforts, hinder the management of its operations and budget in a timely and efficient manner, and directly conflict with some requirements imposed by NCI on NCI-designated cancer centers. In addition, any reorganization at this juncture would be extremely untimely, as it would distract from the highly demanding task of renewing the Cancer Center's NCI core grant in the Fall of 2017. The activities that can potentially be shared and those that cannot are summarized below.

Activities Deemed Sharable

The Task Force identified a number of activities on the Kakaako campus that could be integrated or combined in a cooperative manner and possibly result in cost-savings. Indeed several of these activities currently share duties (e.g.-mailroom, vivarium, and communications) or are undergoing active efforts to merge their services (e.g., Genomics Shared Resource, Microscopy and Imaging Shared Resource, phone system, and data security). Grounds keeping, security, parking, compliance, and management of grant and fiscal records are additional activities that could be examined in the near future to determine if integration between UHCC and JABSOM could result in cost-savings and higher efficiency. Sharing these activities and services on the Kakaako campus can potentially conserve resources and improve efficiencies. This can be accomplished without the need for a major re-organization effort.

UHCC-Specific Activities That Could Not Be Shared

The Task Force identified multiple essential Cancer Center activities that cannot be integrated with JABSOM. The most important of these activities relates to the authority of the Cancer Center Director who must control and approve the Center budget, all revenues, and bond management. The Director must also control all permanent and temporary faculty lines, Cancer Center laboratory and office space, and shared (core) resources, and provide the primary leadership of the Cancer Center matrix partners and its activities. The Clinical Trial Office is

organized to support clinical oncology research and, thus, must remain within the purview of the Center Director. The Center Director must also be able to evaluate all grant proposals initiated by Center faculty to determine if they meet the mission of the Center and goals of the P30, and provide support to these applications. The Center Director is also the Principal Investigator of the NCI Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG), which supports the senior management and core activities of the Center. The Center Director is the only scientist administrator holding decision-making authority over all aspects of the CCSG and supporting activities. The preservation of the director's authority is critical to the Center's ability to remain a NCI-designated cancer center and, more generally, to be successful in conducting cutting-edge innovative cancer research aimed at decreasing the cancer burden in our community.

The Cancer Center Shared Resources (currently: Analytical Biochemistry, Biostatistics/Bioinformatics, Metabolomics, Genomics, Microscopy Nutrition and Pathology), provide essential support of the faculty's diverse areas of cancer research. Because these Resources are unique to the Center with no similar counterparts in JABSOM (except Genomics and Microscopy, see above) they cannot be shared.

Similarly, the Operations and Fiscal Services, Human Resources, and Facilities Management of the Center cannot be shared with JABSOM because they provide essential supportive services that are critical to the Center's mission. Other units/Centers at UH Manoa that are part of a larger School/College typically maintain independent operations, fiscal, HR, facilities management activities. Operations Services provides direct support to the Director, Associate Directors, and Center administrative departments in fiscal and procurement matters related to Center operations and administration. The Fiscal office services unique accounts at the Center, such as the CCSG, Center Special Fund, and philanthropic revenues and supports Center faculty activities related to the preparation of grant budgets, monitoring expenditures and reporting. Human Resources supports the Center Director and Associate Directors in all matters related to Center faculty and staff, including hiring, tenure and promotion, and confidential disciplinary actions and grievances. Facilities Management maintains an advanced physical plant that is 6 years newer than JABSOM's with unique systems in HVAC, security, and automation. The Center also houses a high capacity liquid nitrogen storage system with an associated liquid nitrogen supply system. It also maintains an on-site 24/7 wireless freezer monitoring system. These systems are not replicated in JABSOM.

Several additional services were also identified as unlikely to be sharable with JABSOM. These include: Information Technology, Human Subjects Research Compliance, Research Education and Training, Community Partnership, and Events/Information/Communications coordination. These activities were either too specific to cancer research or UHCC's stakeholders, or present technical incompatibilities which would prevent close integration with JABSOM.

Given that the majority of the essential activities of the Cancer Center must remain within the exclusive control of the Center and its Director, there is insufficient rationale for a major re-organization that would place the Center under the administrative oversight of the JABSOM Dean. The inability to demonstrate clear benefits with minimal impairment to both units makes approval of the re-organization currently proposed by Dr. Hedges by the relevant reviewing groups (UH Manoa administration, UH Manoa Faculty Senate, UHPA, and HGEA) highly

unlikely. Unencumbered by the substantial task of preparing a complex re-organization proposal, the Director, faculty and staff of the Center would be able to focus their full attention on the upcoming major effort aimed at renewing its CCSG.

The Task Force does recognizes the value of longer-term efforts aimed at a major re-organization of the activities on the Kakaako campus which would place the Cancer Center and JABSOM, and possibly other health-related schools, on equal footing, with the respective Director and Dean(s) reporting to a new, higher level administrator in the context of a new Health Sciences campus.

Background

Creation and Charge of the Task Force

Following a meeting of the Cancer Center Faculty Senate and the meeting between the Center faculty and staff and the Interim Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor for Research on June 1, the Task Force was assembled consisting of various leaders of Cancer Center Programs and diverse Center activities and services. At its first meeting, on June 15, 2016, the Task Force was charged with the task of providing faculty and staff input on the potential reorganization of the Cancer Center

Composition

Erin Bantum, Namrata Gurung, Michelle Kau, Alan Lau (co-Chair), Loic Le Marchand (co-Chair), Annette Lum, Joe Ramos, Ioannis Stasinopoulos, James Turkson, and Lynne Wilkens

Process

The Task Force met as often as possible during the summer of 2016 to discuss the issues of the re-organization and to prepare this document. Since the meeting with the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor for Research on June 1, the Task Force has met seven times. On Friday August 12, it met with the incoming Center Director, Dr. Randall Holcombe, to inform him of the Task Force's charge, process and preliminary findings. The Task Force also met separately with the Center faculty and staff, on September 14 and 23, respectively, when a near complete draft of the report was available. The Task Force co-Chairs will meet with Dr. Holcombe on October 17 to present its findings in the final report.

Deliverable and Organization of the Report

Based upon input from the Cancer Center leadership, faculty and staff, the Task Force decided at its first meeting to prepare a report for Dr. Holcombe that would detail the activities and services that may potentially be shared between the Cancer Center and JABSOM and may result in cost-savings. Most importantly, the document would also describe various aspects that are specific to the Center and should remain separate from JABSOM. The activities that can potentially be shared and those that cannot are described in the following Sections I and II, respectively, with additional supporting information provided in the Appendix.

I. Potentially Shared UHCC Activities that May Create Cost-Savings

The task-force identified some areas of activity/responsibility which could be shared at the level of the Kakaako campus. Some have recently been integrated between UHCC and JABSOM (e.g., Vivarium, Microscopy and Imaging), some have started to be the topic of discussion between the two entities (i.e., phone system and Genomics Shared Resource), and others have not yet been considered for increased integration, as discussed below.

A. Activities Deemed Sharable

Grounds Keeping

The Kakaako campus includes 9.9 acres where the UHCC is responsible for 27% of the total area. The UHCC currently has 2 FTE employees (1 dedicated, plus 1 back up) to maintain 2.6 acres of ground covering and landscaping. The water sprinkler systems between JABSOM and the UHCC are independent, but share one main water source line. Currently, each unit is responsible for its garden lawn equipment and the grounds keeping responsibilities are split 73% JABSOM and 23% UHCC.

Security

Both JABSOM and UHCC share security personnel assigned from the UH Manoa (UHM) Department of Public Safety (DPS). All security operations are carried out and overseen by the DPS Administration. Further integration would require the upgrade of the JABSOM system to make it compatible with the more modern UHCC security system.

Parking

Parking is managed by JABSOM and UHCC separately because the parking allotment distribution (parking stalls assigned to each unit) are paid upfront and reimbursed to the respective employees who buy parking on a quarterly basis. However, UHCC employee parking payments are coordinated with JABSOM, so one combined check is provided to the parking vendor for Lot C employee parking. All Lot B parking is coordinated independently by each unit through UHM Commuter Services and paid through employee payroll deduction. Lot A parking needs to be controlled by UHCC to support its study participants and visiting guests.

Mailroom

Currently both JABSOM and the UHCC operate their mail room distribution independently within their own buildings. The sharing of mail services between JABSOM and the UHCC currently applies to mail pick up runs to UHM campus or whenever either unit is short-staffed and/or crossover support is deemed necessary. The UHCC designated courier provides limited mail runs based on three hours a day, Monday through Friday from 8:30-11:30 am. The mail runs involve travel between the Kakaako campus, UHM, and Queens Medical Center campus. Given the limited amount of resources (mail courier FTE's) that both the UHCC and JABSOM have at the present time, both units appear to be providing essential integrated mail operations support for the entire Kakaako campus efficiently.

Vivarium

Vivarium operations are solely managed by the UH Animal Veterinary Services (AVS), and not by the UHCC or JABSOM. The AVS charges investigators animal per-diem fees to maintain animal welfare (food, water, bedding changes). Moreover, JABSOM annually charges the UHCC (\$300,000) to lease 1/3 of the space in the Vivarium Suite 1. The UHCC has also invested in the Vivarium by providing over \$1 million for individual ventilated cages, changing stations, and water bottles to support dedicated infrastructure for its own animal research. These cages are shared with JABSOM and managed by AVS. The UHCC also pays a proportionate share for the disposal and hauling of animal

waste bedding which has a cost distribution of 1/3 UHCC and 2/3 JABSOM. It does not appear that the Vivarium could be further integrated.

Communications

JABSOM is in the process of hiring a Media Design and Production (MDP) FTE employee to join its communications team. One of the main functions of this employee will be to film various events using a broadcast-style digital camera, audio equipment and lights; to edit and upload digital images and footage. The Center's communications team has used the services of JABSOM's casual hire. The employee's duties included filming and he has filmed various Center interviews and events. The MDP full time employee position services could be shared between JABSOM and the Center. Filming does not require extensive knowledge of JABSOM or Center missions. It could save the Center a future FTE position.

Genomics Shared Resource

At the moment there are up to four entities providing or planning to provide Genomic analysis services (sequencing related) at the Kakaako campus:

- 1) UHCC GSR (Directed by Maarit Tiirikainen) provides a broad range of genomic analysis services, from nucleic acid extractions to genomic data analysis (using commercial software). Specialized targeted sequencing services offered on the PyroMark pyrosequencer.
- 2) JABSOM Genomics Core (Directed by Ralph Shohet). Upon losing the manager a few years ago, the only service left is Sanger Sequencing on an AB capillary sequencer. All other equipment is either not in use or is already or soon to be obsolete. The use of the high-throughput Sanger sequencer is heavily subsidized by the COBRE grant that supports the core (but is ending soon). GSR is already providing services to the JABSOM users, except for Sanger sequencing. Dr. Shohet has been willing to merge his core with GSR for some time now and has written a shared real-time PCR instrument into a COBRE supplement application.
- 3) JABSOM Epigenomics Core (Directed by Alikea Maunakea). The core has a benchtop NGS sequencer (IonTorrent PGM), but it has not been widely used, mostly due to the lack of manpower needed for offering actual campus-wide core service. This core is not being considered for any joint efforts at the moment.
- 4) Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) core/service is being planned and will be connected to JABSOM's recent hire of a Bioinformatician, Yuoping Deng (starting date September 5th). Dr. Deng has requested an Illumina NGS system as part of his start-up package. He will be hired into the Department of Tropical Medicine, under John Chen (JABSOM Biostatistics Director) and Vivek Nerurkar (Department Chair). UHCC representatives plan to meet with Dr. Deng soon after he has arrived.

Negotiations are on-going on the following issues:

- Which NGS system should be purchased, Illumina or some other?

- Where to locate the system (JABSOM or UHCC GSR)?
- Will a new Kakaako core be established providing NGS and related services, or will there be a campus-wide joint genomics core for all services?
- If the NGS services will be provided by a joint core, will there be one director (from which unit?) or co-directors (one from each unit)?

There are several pros and cons to consider as a final decision on establishing a joint Genomics Core (including the NGS services) is being contemplated:

Pros

- Would remove any overlap in equipment and services (consolidate for efficiency and remove competition).
- Possibility of shared financial support for the personnel and maintenance contracts.
- Would provide high-quality discounted genomic services for the whole campus with experienced personnel from the GSR (and from a person Dr. Deng might hire).
- Would introduce full-service NGS starting from biological sample extraction to expert data analysis (by Dr. Deng).

Cons

- Separate book-keeping and/or accounts would possibly be needed for JABSOM vs UHCC customers; or P-30 members vs non-members; or NGS vs other services.
- Separate rate schedules would possibly apply to UHCC (members, non-members) and JABSOM? The extent of discounted rates would depend on the extent of support provided to the core by the two entities.
- Oversight would be provided by both institutions, one concentrating on cancer research, the other with various specialties and interests. Will the needs be similar?
- Expectation of priority access to services by one of the entities could be an issue (e.g. priority to NGS for JABSOM, all/other services for P-30 members?).

Microscopy and Imaging Shared Resource

The Microscopy and Imaging Shared Resource of the UHCC and the Microscopy Core of the JABSOM have been in the process of merging since August of 2015. The merger of the two cores was to take place in three phases, as follows:

- 1) Merge on the Kakaako Campus
 - a. Create common user agreement form
 - b. Create common reservation system
 - c. Create common fee schedule
 - d. Share personnel
- 2) Merge publically
 - a. Create a merged core website
 - b. Become a resource to access to other instrumentation in Manoa
 - c. Create workshops/seminars to offer at Kakaako and Manoa
- 3) Merge fiscally
 - a. Share budget & expenses
 - b. Share billing account
 - c. Create & share funding mechanisms

So far, Phases 1 and 2 are nearly complete. Phase 3 is on hold until the RCMI grant funding for the JABSOM core has completed its cycle. The merged core leadership intends to apply for an S10 grant in 2017.

In the case of a joint Microscopy and Imaging Core, the potential pros and cons are as follows:

Pros

A recent NIH study (*Chang, et al., J Biomol Tech. 2015 Apr; 26(1): 1-3*) has shown core consolidation improves:

- 1) capability to purchase more advanced instrumentation
- 2) access to career instrumentation expertise
- 3) access to management expertise
- 4) integration of information management
- 5) cost recovery to support core operations
- 6) efficiency in billing, purchasing, scheduling, and tracking

Cons

- 1) complications in terms of how usage of the core will be reported for CCSG grant requirements
- 2) complications in terms of how much financial support and FTE will be provided by each institute
- 3) complications in terms of flow cytometry services also offered through the MISR
- 4) complications in terms of access to the buildings and the lack of an "building access protocol" at UHCC

Summary: The main benefit for combining cores is to improve the capacity to purchase more advanced instrumentation. Having access to a greater number of PI's and their projects increases the chances of obtaining funding for new instrumentation (such as through the S10 grant mechanism). This benefit would outweigh any of the potential complications.

Phone System

Currently, the UHCC and JABSOM have separate VoIP phone systems. Both sites use the Cisco Unified Call Manager (CUCM) and use the same type of hardware, software and licensing. Merging the two IP phone systems is expected to be logical and cost effective for both the UHCC and JABSOM. Once merged, the CUCM will reside in one location reducing the hardware and software costs. Licensing costs may be reduced somewhat, but is expected to remain similar since the total number of users will not change. Collaboration and work efficiency between the UHCC and JABSOM will improve once the IP phone system is merged as a combined phone directory, which will display phone numbers for all UHCC and JABSOM listings.

IT Data Security and AV Services

Currently, the UHCC and JABSOM IT teams work together to ensure that their respective network meets data security benchmarks. Both units recognize the need for data security but neither unit has a full-time technician dedicated to data/network security. However, the sharing of such a position has been discussed. This capability is

becoming increasingly important with the rise in researchers using sensitive data and increased collaboration in the Consortium.

JABSOM has a dedicated AV technician who has been willing to help at the UHCC. While the IT staff at the UHCC is fully trained on its AV system, it is helpful to have a person with the knowledge that can provide back-up assistance when necessary. Both units have similar equipment running on the same basic core software (Crestron and BSS).

Regulatory, Financial and Administrative Compliance

There are specific Federal, State and private funding regulations, sponsor and donor financial and administrative policies, and UH/RCUH/UHF fiscal administrative policies and procedures that are consistent among all University departments, programs and units. Thus, it makes sense that compliance activities in these areas could be provided as shared services. Compliance activities may include developing adequate tracking mechanisms to ensure timely processing of documents, verifying and processing effort certifications to comply with annual and grant reporting, responding to internal audit issues, generating and processing payroll and general expense adjustments to comply with funding authorizations, and managing and ensuring purchasing mechanisms utilized comply with procurement requirements, fund appropriateness, allowability, reasonableness, and availability. Integrating these activities could be explored.

Management of Grant/Fiscal Records per State and Federal Regulations

The UHM and the RCUH view the fiscal office as the gate keeper of all "official/original" financial records that support all funding sources for record-keeping and audit purposes. Thus, activities including, managing files through tracking systems, archiving and destroying files in accordance with Federal, State, and sponsor-driven fiscal retention schedules and the maintenance of a record of physical inventory are universal services which could be shared between the UHCC and JABSOM.

B Potential Savings and efficiency gain

The Task Force's charge did not include detailed cost analysis of any savings that could be achieved by the combining of services between UHCC and JABSOM. This will require a much more in-depth analysis and access to cost information that was not available to the Task Force. However, a cursory examination of the activities listed above suggests, as it has already been stated by the leaders at both institutions, that any savings resulting from combining some or all of these services would be minimal. Of note, is that the merging of some of these activities (e.g., GSR, IT security) would require some immediate investment to meet the needs of both institutions. Another important observation from the list of sharable activities above is that none of these potential changes would require a major administrative re-organization to be implemented. Indeed, as stated above, some of these changes have already been implemented (e.g., Vivarium) or are being negotiated (e.g., phone system, GSR, Microscopy and Imaging).

II. UHCC-Specific Activities That Could Not Be Shared

A. Director's Authority

Fiscal Controls:

Revenues (cigarette tax, G funds, tuitions, RTRF, philanthropy (UHF, Friends) clinical revenue, institutional grants, Hawaii Cancer Consortium)

Budget

Bond management

Revenue streams (cigarette tax, G funds, tuitions, RTRF, philanthropy, any clinical revenue, grants, Hawaii Cancer Consortium), budget design and implementation, and bond management should be controlled by the UHCC Director to ensure that the intent on the use of funds is fulfilled and is purposely being utilized to support Cancer-relevant activities, as well as to support the sustainability of the Center as a successful NCI-designated Cancer Center. The Director has a background in cancer research and, therefore, is best placed to make these determinations. The Cancer Center receives unique revenue streams, such as the legislatively appropriated Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund (304A-2168, HRS), nonprofit support from the Friends of the UH Cancer Center, and private funding from the Hawaii Cancer Consortium, which all have specific use requirements that support cancer research, clinical trials, and Cancer Center operations so independent budget controls are imperative. In addition, the Cancer Center receives bonds for the purpose of financing or refinancing the costs of the construction and maintenance of the Center specifically. The UHCC bond series are uniquely secured by the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund established pursuant to 304A-2168, HRS, to pay for debt service and the current and capital expenditures of the UHCC.

Permanent and Temporary Faculty Lines

(Faculty Recruitment/Retention, Tenure/Promotion Decisions)

Cancer Center Laboratory/Office/Common Space, Laboratory equipment

Oversight of Shared Resources

Leadership/Coordination of Cancer Center Matrix Partners and Activities

Philanthropic activities

The Director must control all Cancer Center permanent and temporary faculty lines; laboratory, office, and common space; and shared resources (Analytical Biochemistry, Biostatistics/Bioinformatics, Metabolomics, Nutrition, and Pathology). The Director must also provide the primary leadership of the Cancer Center matrix partners and its activities, which are focused primarily on cancer-related issues. Preservation of the Director's authority is an essential requirement of NCI-designated cancer centers as stipulated by the NCI. The inability to demonstrate this essential characteristic would seriously jeopardize the successful renewal of the CCSG.

B. *Clinical Trials Office*

Currently, the CTO purely supports oncology research as defined by its mission within the UHCC. As JABSOM is part of the Hawaii Cancer Consortium, the CTO already functions as a resource for them in regards to oncology clinical trials. The feasibility of expanding CTOs clinical research scope beyond this could be examined but CTO would then need considerable support as they are currently understaffed.

Two CTO resources that could be discussed for merging with JABSOM are Regulatory and OnCore. The CTO's regulatory department is in the process of expanding to support protocols throughout the UHCC and currently provides support to cancer protocols within the consortium. While the Western IRB costs associated with this are covered and agreed upon by the consortium, we would need to consider how protocols that are not part of the consortium/UHCC mission would be covered (in other words, any non-cancer related protocols). Any expansion of the regulatory department to include other types of trials would require significant additional manpower.

Some institutions (UAB and Stanford, for example) have expanded the use of their informatic clinical research management system (OnCore) beyond their oncology research programs. This enterprise-wide implementation could be considered as part of a re-organization but would incur significant costs not currently covered by the consortium agreement for oncology clinical trial use. However, these programs also have robust OnCore departments managing education, data integrity, IT/coding specialists, security, etc. while the CTO currently has 1.0 FTE serving the UHCC and HCC.

Because merging the regulatory and Oncore activities would require considerable additional financial resources, they are currently not under discussion and have a low priority.

B. Grant Applications and Pre- and Post-Award CCSG Activities

Institutional Approval of Grant applications

As a Level 5 unit within the UHM, the UHCC Director maintains Center-level approval authority for all extramural funding applications. The Director evaluates whether a grant application would benefit the Center and support its mission. The Center Director, in consultation with the Faculty, delineates the research priorities of the Center and encourages the development of specific research areas. He also commits resources (space, administrative support, etc.) under his control in support of the submitted grant application when funded. He approves such applications or recommends modifications. Approval of all extramural proposals must reflect UHCC research priorities and can only be made by the UHCC Director and his designees.

Pre and Post Award CCSG-related Activities

The National Cancer Institute Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG) supports the administrative leadership, shared resources, the clinical trials office, and developmental research activities of the UHCC. The UHCC Director is the Principal Investigator (PI) of the CCSG. The CCSG coordinates and supports all cancer-related research activities at the University. The Director/CCSG PI holds the ultimate decision-making authority over all aspects of the CCSG and delegates organizational and oversight responsibility concerning the execution of the CCSG's Specific Aims to Center researchers and administrators. At each of the 69 NCI-designated Cancer Centers, the Center Director PI maintains ultimate authority over pre- and post-award CCSG activities. Sharing final decision-making and the control and execution of these activities with another UH entity would dilute the Center's competitiveness in the eyes of the NCI both in terms of the Director's authority and the implementation and execution of cancer-focused administrative activities. The Director's decision-making authority and the Center's cancer focus are two "*essential characteristics*" that are independent merit descriptors as detailed in the CCSG Guidelines.

C. Shared Resources (Analytical Biochemistry, Biostatistics/Bioinformatics, Metabolomics, Nutrition, Pathology)

For most Shared Resources, no equivalent entities exist at JABSOM that could be the basis for a merger with these UHCC shared resources. JABSOM investigators can access the services provided by the UHCC shared resources, through non-member rates. The Biostatistics and Informatics Shared Resource (BISR) is an exception in that a biostatistics function exists at JABSOM (Office of Biostatistics and Quantitative Health Sciences). UHCC has some bioinformatics functionality and JABSOM has recruited a bioinformatician. The need for bioinformatics is growing in both units, so it may be useful to explore collaboration on this aspect in the future. There is a possibility for the Biostatistics units to cover for each other and collaborate more; however, the structures, priorities, and funding mechanisms for the two cores are very different (CCSG for UHCC with subsidized rates for members and RMATRIX and COBRE for JABSOM), so combining these groups would be difficult, and is not a present priority.

D. Administrative/Operations Services

The Operations team supports the Center Administration departments with fiscal related transactions, managing the Sullivan Conference Center account, and provides procurement support. This team will continue to function at the highest efficiency under the direction of the UHCC Operations Coordinator in the Director's Office.

E. Fiscal Services

The Cancer Center's Central Fiscal Services include (details in Appendix): budget development and management; financial reporting; contract and grant financial administration, procurement; accounts payable and receivable processing; shared resources fiscal support services (including rate development and chargeback services); philanthropic account coordination and management support service; bond fund management support service; Hawaii Cancer Consortium account management services; and administrative support services (including interpretation, advice, and training to Administration and Program Support Staff on fiscal-related regulations, policies and procedures for the Cancer Center and assists with the Cancer Center's planning process).

These services must be maintained under the UHCC as the sole authority in order to ensure that fiscal services support cancer-relevant activities to benefit the UHCC's mission and the CCSG. In addition, dedicated fiscal services ensure that funds are utilized in accordance with funding authorizations (e.g. 304A-2168, HRS for the Hawaii Cancer Research Center Special Fund) to support cancer research and operations. The Cancer Center has specific priorities under the leadership of the UHCC Director. The UHCC fiscal support services support these priorities, which includes the management of financial details that are essential to the determination of the proper usage of funds.

F. Human Resources

Overseeing the faculty and staff recruitment, faculty tenure and promotion, disciplinary issues and grievances, maintaining personal records of approximately 350 employees are some of the main elements of the UHCC Human Resources Office. The UHCC HR office is in charge of drafting contract language for each employee hired at the UHCC. These functions are the exclusive privilege of the Director in conjunction with various offices at UHM. All issues discussed with the UHCC Director and Associate Directors are confidential. These elements are mission critical and must remain exclusively under the authority of the UHCC Director. Blurring reporting lines with another administrative entity would compromise the UHCC personnel-related functions at this critical juncture for the successful renewal of the CCSG.

G. Research Education and Training

Currently, this program is organized and coordinated by a single full-time employee who is dedicated to the UHCC sponsored scientific conferences, seminars, and symposia. These activities include, among others, making travel arrangements, communicating directly with speakers and guests, and reproducing educational materials for distribution. These many tasks are efficiently and effectively fulfilled by enlisting the cooperation of over 10 staff members from the Epidemiology, Cancer Biology/Natural Products, and Prevention and Control Programs, and the UHCC administration and Clinical Trials Office. This activity also oversees the UHCC CME program and coordinates faculty and the Hawaii

Consortium for Continuing Medical Education (HCCME) for the planning and execution of the CME activities at the UHCC. These activities could potentially be shared with the Medical School, and especially for the CME program, which has already been working with the Medical School.

For the renewal of the CCSG, this program is also responsible for scheduling and coordinating the External Scientific Advisory Committee site visits and the NCI site reviews. In addition, this program oversees and supervises the CURE Internship Program, fulfills reporting requirements for the P30 CURE supplement, coordination of other research education and training events, and appearances by candidates for faculty recruitment. These activities are strictly cancer-research related and regulated by CCSG guidelines and must remain within the UHCC.

H. Information Technology

The UHCC network provides the Center faculty and staff with a secure network environment for internet access, data storage, file sharing, email and IP phone system. Secure, local access to shared files is imperative to the daily work of the faculty and staff. The UHCC network infrastructure and organization is very different from JABSOM and it would require a large investment to merge the two into a true single network infrastructure. Given the need for local servers at both CC and JABSOM and the different levels of support provided at each site, a true single network infrastructure would not provide a return on the investment.

However, there could be an underlying shared network infrastructure that would allow for some shared services, but not within a shared IT department. Creating one campus network infrastructure with one IT department that would manage a single network is doable, but it is not currently under discussion because it will take a large investment and many labor hours to accomplish. Moreover, as the UHCC and JABSOM have separate missions, there is a vital need for two IT departments which provide separate service.

I. Human Subjects Research Compliance

The laws and regulations related to human subject protections, grant and trial accounting, effort reporting, scientific misconduct, privacy and security and clinical trial billing are highly complex and always evolving. Clinical research compliance has rightfully become a major focus area of the Hawaii Cancer Consortium partners, External Advisory Board, other regulatory bodies, funding agencies and research participants in recent years. The risks are both human and financial and the trend is expected to continue to grow. Clinical research is highly regulated, and as such, the role of compliance is vital to ensuring continuation of clinical research at the UHCC. Of note, in the clinical community, compliance functions between research and other departments is not shared due to the specific mission of the compliance function. Research compliance focuses heavily on

audits, monitoring, safety and reporting. Human subjects research compliance activities at the UHCC are specific to oncology drug clinical trials and related research (e.g., intervention studies). The separate missions and visions of the UHCC and JABSOM do not enable or support compliance as a shared resource.

Furthermore, compliance often deals with highly confidential information about research subjects, financials, individual actions/behaviors and proprietary information. This information is very much programmatically and individually held in confidence and is rarely openly shared. Internal operations at the UHCC have recently faced stability difficulties in managing and performing operations, activities, growth and compliance. These challenges will continue for the foreseeable future. A cross-functional unit may inadvertently lead to human subjects research compliance being compromised or perceived as an afterthought, a way to conserve resources, or a way to diminish the needs and complexities and uniqueness of each organization, and not a core value of either entity.

J. Community Partnership Coordination

This activity aims to engage community partners and collaborate with community organizations to initiate and coordinate external partnership programs and educational activities to address the mission of the UHCC. Projects include: 1) Hawai'i Comprehensive Cancer Coalition to plan, implement, and evaluate the Hawai'i Cancer Plan; 2) No Ke Ola Pono o Nā Kāne, the Kāne Initiative, a statewide project to improve the health and well-being of Native Hawaiian men; 3) Clinical Trials Shadowing Program introduces JABSOM first-year students to clinical trials research by working with oncologists; and, 4) Outreach at Hawai'i Seniors' Fair and other educational events. These duties require specific knowledge of the UHCC and its mission.

K. Events/Information/Communications Coordination

The Center's events, information, and communications coordination is a part of the Center's Communications department's duties. Communications develops news articles, publications, press releases, correspondences and other forms of social media to share with external and internal audiences. Creating these documents requires full knowledge of the Center's mission, research scope, and details of the Center's departments. Additionally, the department creates and implements comprehensive communication plans for both internal and external audiences, which includes highlighting the scientific achievements of the researchers. Communications also provides leadership to Center's senior level administrators and managers in managing crisis communication, along with plans of how to manage external affairs, which includes communication, community relations, government relations, development support, and education and partnerships. Communication employees can only provide this leadership with knowledge of the Center's history and goals based on its mission. The Center's

website content that is handled by communications also needs to follow guidelines that follow the mission of the Center.

Communications also coordinates bookings and events held in the Sullivan Conference Center as well as non-faculty/administration-driven events. Duties from bookings, producing quarterly newsletters sponsored by the Friends of the UH Cancer Center, creating and updating faculty profiles, coordinating educational and informational events for the public and summer interns requires knowledge of the Center's mission in order to remain on course with the overall vision and mission of the Center. Communications also acts as the liaison between the Center and the Friends of the Center, the nonprofit organization whose mission is to support and promote the Center. A Center specific employee needs to coordinate with the Friends since their mission is to support the Center specifically. Other duties that require extensive knowledge of the Center's mission and history includes providing tours for intermediate through college level students, prospective and current donors, faculty recruits, and visitors. Cancer specific knowledge is required to fulfill other duties such as developing outreach education opportunities for rural Oahu and neighbor island communities. Field telephone and email inquiries of general and specific natures regarding cancer also needs cancer specific knowledge.

L. Facilities Management and Planning (details in Appendix)

Built in 2012, the UHCC is an advanced building that incorporates energy efficient features such as variable frequency drives and unique building infrastructure platforms in HVAC, security, and building automated systems that require specialized training in order to provide uninterrupted service for the specific research needs of its researchers. The UHCC facilities personnel have obtained the necessary training to operate and maintain its HVAC system, building management system (with current software upgrades), security surveillance systems and equipment which are specific to the UHCC facility. The UHCC has very specific research needs that are required to meet the mission of the Center. The UHCC freezer monitoring system was recently upgraded, which required the training of UHCC facilities and lab personnel. This unique system offers wireless monitoring and remote web-browsing to all end users on a 24 hours, 7 days a week schedule. The UHCC also provides liquid nitrogen to its investigators. The UHCC facilities personnel also monitors, services, and maintains its own building chiller plant.

The JABSOM's facility was built in 2006 with a building automated software (BAS) system that is several versions behind the current UHCC's version. JABSOM does not maintain a freezer monitoring system similar to UHCC but utilizes security personnel performing a daily physical walk-thru monitoring of its freezers every 4 hours 24/7. JABSOM also does not provide liquid nitrogen to their researchers. Its chiller plant operations are exclusively maintained and serviced by the Board of Water Supply, which aims to save financial resources

but means that there is no one to support potential shared service activities with the UHCC. Moreover, the JABSOM security system would require significant fiscal resources to upgrade to the operating platform currently being used by UHCC. Such an upgrade at JABSOM would be required to create a shared resource activity in all aspects covering HVAC, security, freezer monitoring, and 24/7 BAS monitoring.

III. Relationship with Instructional Departments at UH Manoa

The UH Cancer Center was created over 35 years ago to bring together researchers from various disciplines to conduct research on a public health issue of great importance to the state. The Center has greatly benefited from the UHM Organized Research Unit model as it allowed for a horizontal organizational structure which facilitates integration among research groups (versus a silo model with departments). It also provided clear authority to the Director on budget, faculty lines, administrative support staff and space. These two attributes, interactions across research programs and Director's authority, match very tightly the requirements for NCI- designated cancer centers.

Because UHCC is a multidisciplinary research center, its faculty members are affiliated with a variety of instructional departments on the Manoa campus. Teaching by UHCC faculty, either as classroom teaching or student supervision, takes place in multiple departments, schools and colleges at UHM, such as Public Health (School for Social Work), Human Nutrition (CTHAR), Cell and Molecular Biology (JABSOM), Chemistry (College of Natural Sciences), Psychology (College of Social Sciences), and Medicine (JABSOM). Thus, there is not a single natural affiliation with a particular school that could be proposed for the whole Cancer Center.

IV. Organizational Models of NCI Designated Cancer Centers

There are currently 69 NCI-designated cancer centers in the U.S. (<http://www.cancer.gov/research/nci-role/cancer-centers>). There are 3 categories of designation: basic science cancer centers (N=7), clinical cancer centers (N=17), and comprehensive cancer centers (N=45). The organizational models of the designated cancer centers were analyzed by viewing their websites. A summary is given in the Appendix. There are 44 clinical or comprehensive cancer centers within universities, of which 40 operate as a medical center or are part of a health care system. There are 4 common organizational models for the 44 with a clinical program: 45.4% operate within health science campuses headed by a VP or CEO for health, 27.3% operate as independent organizations, 15.9% operate within university hospitals, and 11.4% operate under medical schools. The UHCC is a clinical cancer center that has operated since its inception in 1977 as an independent organization (Organized Research Unit) within the University. UHCC cannot adopt an organization model that is followed by most of the NCI-designated cancer centers since UH does not operate its own hospital or as part of

a health care system. Although there is not one accepted organizational model for NCI-designated cancer centers that ensures success, the NCI requirements related to the director's authority are more straightforwardly met in an independent center. UHCC is also unique in that its research is largely based on population sciences, with >60% of funding from this research area, rather than basic or clinical science. UHCC was described by the former director of the NCI Cancer Centers program (www.....) as "*a population science research center*", even though this is not an official category. Population sciences researchers generally are aligned with Schools of Public Health rather than Schools of Medicine. UHCC has been able to succeed by creating an original path and organizational model that capitalizes on the unique resources that Hawaii offers, namely its multiethnic population and natural environment. Any reorganization of UHCC that does not recognize this history will likely lead to failure to retain the NCI designation.

More generally, research centers without clinical revenues or large endowments such as UHCC depend almost completely on federal grants for their success. Grants have become much more competitive and less funding is available for investigator-initiated research which now competes directly with large government initiatives. To be able to seize funding opportunities and change priorities quickly, it is essential that administrative structure and reporting lines be kept simple and direct to maximize efficiency.

APPENDIX

Organizational Models of NCI-Designated Cancer Centers

Number	Cancer center environment	Name	Type of Center*	Matrix Center?	Does U have School of Public Health?	Does U have Medical School (MED)?	Does U have Health Sciences** (HS) Campus?	Does U have Health Care System / Hospital (HP)?	Within MED, HS, HP?
1	Centers within Hospitals, Not attached to Universities	City of Hope Cancer Center	P						
2		Dana-Farber Cancer Center	P						
3		Fox Chase Cancer Center	P						
4		Mayo Clinic Cancer Center	P						
5		Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center	P						
6		Roswell Park Cancer Center	P						
7		St. Jude Children's Research Hospital	P						
8		The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai	C						
9	Standalone Research Centers	Cold Spring Harbor	B						
10		Jackson Laboratory	B						
11		Salk Institute	B						
12		Sanford Burnham Medical Discovery Institute	B						
13		The Wistar Institute Cancer Center	B						
14	Standalone Medical Universities (Not academic campuses)	Dan L. Duncan Cancer Center, Baylor College of Medicine	P						
15		Cancer Therapy & Research Center, University of Texas Health Science Center	C						
16		Harold C. Simmons Cancer Center, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	P						
17		Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina	C						
18		Knight Cancer Center, Oregon Health and Sciences University	C						
19		Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Thomas Jefferson University	C						
20		University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center	P						
21		UCSF Helen Diller Cancer Center	C						
22	Independent Cancer Centers affiliated to universities	Fred Hutchison Cancer Center (affiliated with University of Washington)	P						
23		Moffitt Cancer Center (affiliated with USF and FSU)	P						
24	Cancer Centers within Universities	Abramson Cancer Center, University of Pennsylvania	P	X		X		X	MED
25		Siteman Cancer Center, Washington University	P	X	X (PHI)	X		X	
26		Einstein Cancer Center, Yeshiva University	C	X		X		X	MED
27		Arizona Cancer Center, University of Arizona	P	X	X	X	X	X	HS
28		Karmanos Cancer Center, Wayne State University	P			X			
29		Cancer Institute of New Jersey, Rutgers University	P	X	X	X	X		
30		Chao Cancer Center, UC-Irvine	P	X		X	X	X	HP

31	Case Cancer Center, Case Western University	P	X		X		X	
32	Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, MIT	B						
33	Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University	P			X	X	X	HS
34	Buffett Cancer Center, University of Nebraska	C	X	X	X	X	X	HS
35	Lombardi Cancer Center, Georgetown University	P			X	X	X	
36	Irving Cancer Center, Columbia University	P	X	X	X	X	X	HS
37	Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah	P			X		X	
38	Holden Cancer Center, University of Iowa	P	X	X	X	X	X	HS/MED***
39	Indiana University Simon Cancer Center	C	X	X	X	X	X	
40	Jonsson Cancer Center, UCLA	P	X	X	X	X	X	
41	Perlmutter Cancer Center, NYU	C			X	X	X	HS/MED
42	Markey Cancer Center, University of Kentucky	C	X	X	X	X	X	HS
43	Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota	P	X	X	X		X	
44	Massey Cancer Center, Virginia Commonwealth University	C			X	X	X	HS
45	Norris Cotton Cancer Center at Dartmouth	P			X	X	X	HS
46	The Ohio State University Cancer Center	P	X	X	X	X	X	HS
47	Purdue University Center for Cancer Research	B						
48	Lurie Cancer Center, Northwestern University	P			X		X	
49	Kimmel Cancer Center, Johns Hopkins University	P	X	X	X	X	X	HS
50	Stanford Cancer Institute, Stanford University	C			X		X	MED
51	The University of Kansas Cancer Center	C			X		X	HP
52	UAB Cancer Center, University of Alabama – Birmingham	P	X	X	X		X	
53	University of Maryland Greenebaum Cancer Center	P	X	X	X		X	HP
54	UC Davis Cancer Center	P			X	X	X	HS
55	University of Michigan Cancer Center	P	X	X	X	X		HS/MED
56	UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center	P	X		X	X	X	HS
57	University of New Mexico Cancer Center	P			X	X	X	HS/MED
58	University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute	P	X	X	X	X	X	HS+HP
59	Lineberger Cancer Center, University of North Carolina	P	X	X	X		X	MED
60	University of Virginia Cancer Center	C			X	X	X	HS
61	University of Chicago Cancer Center	P	X	X	X		X	HP
62	University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center	P			X	X	X	HS
63	University of Colorado Cancer Center	P	X	X	X	X	X	HS
64	USC Norris Cancer Center	P			X	X	X	HS
65	University of Hawaii Cancer Center	C			X			
66	Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center	P			X	X	X	HS
67	Wake Forest Cancer Center	P			X		X	HP
68	Winship Cancer Institute, Emory University	C	X	X	X		X	HP
69	Yale Cancer Center	P	X	X	X		X	MED

* C = Cancer Center, P = Comprehensive Cancer Center, Basic Laboratory

**** Health Sciences campuses include several schools and institutions, such as medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and public health, and have an overall administrative structure, generally governed by a VP for Health Sciences or CEO for Health. Universities with VP for Health Sciences that included only one school/institution, they are not included as Health Sciences campuses (e.g., University of Minnesota).**

***** H/M indicates that the Cancer Center is under the Health Sciences campus where the VP is also the Medical School Dean.**

CC Type	Institutional academic official of highest rank		Total
	# reporting to Dean, Medical School	# reporting to academic official above Dean*	
NCI designated Comprehensive Cancer Center	8	12	20
NCI designated Cancer Center	4	10	14
Totals NCI only	12	22	34
	35.3%	64.7%	
Non-NCI designated Cancer Center	4	8	12
Totals all Cancer Centers	16	30	46
	34.8%	65.2%	

* examples include VC for research, VC Health Affairs, President, Chancellor, CEO, Board of Trustees
 * hospital presidents, medical center CEO not included

Source: 2013 AACI Cancer Centers survey

APPENDIX I

Clinical Trials Office

APPENDIX I

UHCC Clinical Trials Office

I. Major Functions of CTO Staff

- a. Provide infrastructure and operational support for cancer clinical trials at UHCC
- b. Operationalizing approximately 150 clinical trials at any given time
- c. Assist investigators and sponsors throughout the entire lifecycle of a protocol from inception to study closure
- d. Central point of contact for investigational pharmacy, laboratory (specimen processing, storage, and shipping/receiving), nursing, NCI, investigational sites and other collaborating academic institutions.
- e. Study Coordination
 - i. Regulatory services
 - ii. IRB submissions, continuing reviews, amendments
 - iii. Processing of Safety Reports
 - iv. ClinicalTrials.gov reporting
 - v. Enrolling, registering, and following clinical trial patients per protocol
 - vi. Central Drug storage
 - vii. Specimen processing/shipping
- f. Fiscal Services
 - i. Developing and negotiating budgets and amendments for trials with cooperative group and industry sponsorship
 - ii. Post award support to research staff
- g. Education and Training of Clinical Trial Staff
 - i. Regular educational meetings for research staff in oncology and research management
 - ii. Orientation for new hires
 - iii. Clinical research newsletter and email communications
- h. Clinical Research Group Support
 - i. Oversee clinical research group flowcharts and webpages
 - ii. Post trial listing to UHCC website, clinicaltrial.gov and NCT CTRP reporting
- i. OnCore Clinical Trial Management System (CTMS)
 - i. Set up user-specific OnCore access and training
 - ii. Develop study-specific calendars
 - iii. Facilitate data collection and reporting of clinical cancer research per NCI requirements
- j. Investigator Initiated Trial Pipeline
 - i. Coordinate protocol writing, IND submissions, and NCT reporting
 - ii. Feasibility and Scientific reviews and approvals
 - iii. Ongoing study management throughout life of protocol

Potential for Shared Resources with SoM

Currently, the CTO purely supports oncology research as defined by its mission within the UHCC. As JABSOM is part of the Hawaii Cancer Consortium, we already function as a

APPENDIX I

resource for them in regards to oncology clinical trials. We could examine the feasibility of expanding our clinical research scope beyond this but would need considerable support as we are currently understaffed.

Two resources that could be discussed within the CTO are Regulatory and OnCore. Our regulatory department is in the process of expanding to support protocols throughout the UHCC and currently provides support to cancer protocols within the consortium. While the WIRB costs associated with this are covered and agreed upon by the consortium, we would need to consider how protocols that are not part of the consortium/UHCC mission would be covered (in other words, any non-cancer related protocols). If the reorg would want to expand the regulatory department to include other types of trials, we would have significant manpower hurdles to jump.

For OnCore, some institutions (UAB and Stanford, for example) have expanded OnCore use beyond their oncology research programs. This enterprise-wide implementation could be considered for the reorganization but would incur significant costs not currently covered by the consortium agreement for oncology clinical trial use. However, these programs also have robust OnCore departments managing education, data integrity, IT/coding specialists, security, etc. The CTO currently has 1.0 FTE serving the UHCC and HCC.

APPENDIX II

Communications

APPENDIX II

Communications
October, 2016

COMMUNICATIONS

Total FTE: 3.0

Community Partnership Coordinator
Events and Information Coordinator
Communications and External Affairs Director

COST SAVINGS

In September 2015, Communications lost its Communications Director. For about a year the Public Information Officer was fulfilling both duties. Since then, the new Communications Director fulfills both duties. To cut costs, it was decided not to replace the Public Information Officer position.

Major Functions:

1. Center Communications

Information about the Center

Create the Center's news articles/publications, press releases, correspondences and social media. Communications also includes oversight of Center's website content. As well as being a media relations coach to administrators and faculty, and provide Cancer Center specific talking points. The department works with the media to communicate research, news and events to the public.

Manage external affairs

This includes communication, community relations, government relations, development support, education and partnerships. This also includes responding to public inquiries: address call/walk-ins requesting cancer information, and providing tours of the UH Cancer Center.

Events

Work collaboratively with the UHCC Research, Education, and Training Program Director to orchestrate various major UHCC events that includes, the Melanoma Symposium, Global Liver Cancer Conference, EAC visits. The department organizes and executes events that focus on increasing public awareness, education or fundraising on the Center's behalf. We also coordinate Sullivan Conference Center Events.

2. Community Partnership: Identify and collaborate with community organizations to address the mission of the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center.

Hawai'i Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition (HCCCC): Statewide Coalition of approximately 80 cancer control stakeholders addressing the objectives identified in the Hawai'i Cancer Plan which are based on the data in the Hawai'i Cancer Facts and Figures.

- a. Plan, implement, and evaluate the Hawaii Cancer Plan.
- b. Address specific areas of the Cancer Plan.

APPENDIX II

No Ke Ola Pono o Nā Kāne: (for the good health of Hawaiian men), **Kāne Initiative:** since 2002, this statewide project seeks to improve the health and well-being of Native Hawaiian men by conducting community discussion groups. Partners include Ke Ola Mamo (Oahu Native Hawaiian Health Care System), American Cancer Society, Queen Lili`uokalani Children's Center, Aha Hui o na Kauka (Association of Native Hawaiian Physicians), Native Hawaiian Civic Clubs, and neighbor island Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems.

Clinical Trials: Support a research project, in collaboration with JABSOM, to introduce clinical trials to first year medical students. This includes problem-based scenarios, training, NCI materials, and community clinical mentoring program.

3. Community Outreach

Educational sessions

- a. **New Frontiers:** outreach event on outer islands (Maui and Kauai) to reach medically underserved area (MUA/MUP)
- b. **Melanoma and Weinman Symposium**
- c. **Global Liver Cancer Conference**
- d. **HERO honoring clinical trials**
- e. **Run for Hope on the Big Island**
- f. **Quest for a Cure**
- g. **Cancer Moonshot Summit**

Hawai'i Senior's Fair: annual 3-day event in September at NBC Exhibition Hall, reaches over 20,000 people. Booth sponsored by Star Advertiser (member of the Friends).

Provide Cancer Center Information Material: Community Health Fairs (i.e., Bank of Hawai'i, HMSA): provide NCI and other health education materials

- a. **The Melanoma Symposium, Global Liver Cancer Conference, P30 visit, Weinman Symposium, HERO event, Run for Hope on the Big Island, Quest for a Cure.**

APPENDIX III

Research, Education & Training

APPENDIX III

Research, Education, and Training Program

Major Functions

1. Organize center-sponsored national and international scientific symposium, seminars, and conferences. Responsible for travel and local arrangements for visitors. Identifies and produces materials for researchers attending symposium.

This activity could be very time demanding and labor intensive, and at times we could need help from the Medical School, since we are short-staffed here at the center for big center-wide conferences and events.

2. Coordinate review visits by UH Cancer Center External Advisory Committee and other National Cancer Institute site visits under the supervision of the Associate Director of Administration.

This activity should stay within the center faculty and staff to avoid communication disruptions, and to ensure successful EAC and NCI site visits, as the center faculty and staff are more experienced with EAC reviewers and P30 guidelines and requirements.

3. Oversees the center CME program and coordinates with faculty and the HCCME for planning, executions, and CME accreditation of events at the center.

We are already working with SoM HCCME board for the planning and implementation of CME activities at the center.

4. Coordinates internal training program for faculty, staff, and students, such as CURE summer and year-round internship program, and NCI research training. Be responsible for intern student hire, weekly journal club training, management, and final presentation.

We tried to work with SoM native Hawaiian education summer program and combine their summer program with CURE intern program. However, CURE program is regulated by P30, and the two programs have different goals and systems, funding sources, and target students, so it is hard to merge.

5. Assists in the development of the center by organizing the logistics of recruitment of new research faculty and specialists, arranging interviews with search committee chairs, Consortium members, scheduling and managing interview visits.

APPENDIX III

Research, Education, and Training Program

We have a clearer sense of the UHCC programs, faculty, and staff members at the center.

Currently, even though this is a one-person program, I have spent a better part of my role to leverage resources, maximize and prioritize my own focus so that every major function was fulfilled successfully without being labeled as a one-person show. I would say I can count on a team of over 10 staff members supporting my efforts in the center, and I tapped resources from each program, having supports from administration supports of each program, and the center administration. There are 3 or 4 staff members at SoM doing for the Medical School what I do for the Cancer Center. I think it is much more efficient and cost effective to have me assigned 100% at UHCC where depending on needs, I can count on a well-established network of supporting staff that is familiar with UHCC and thus could get things done more efficiently.

APPENDIX IV

Fiscal Office

APPENDIX IV

UH Cancer Center Fiscal Office

MAJOR FUNCTIONS--

1) Budgets:

- a. Develop and control institutional (General, Tuition, Special-Cig Tax, and Revolving-RTRF) budget for submittal to the Manoa Budget Office (MBO).
- b. Review and approve budgets for myGrant proposals.
- c. Assist with budget development to support the Shared Resources annual service order renewal through RCUH.

2) Financial Reporting:

- a. Reconcile all institutional and extramural (Approx.: Revolving-13, State/Institutional-76, Federal- 65, Private-111, UHF-94) accounts monthly and record all in transit and projected expenditures as provided by program personnel.
- b. Assist with the preparation of sponsor-related financial reports for all sources of funds.
- c. Assist with the preparation of financial data in response to UH, UHF, RCUH and Cancer Center program requested reports.
- d. Fiscal Director provides quarterly financial reports to the MBO on all General, Tuition, RTRF, and Cigarette Tax expenditures and provides semi-annual financial reports on the Cigarette Tax Fund to the State Legislature.

3) Procurement, Accounts Payable (A/P), and Accounts Receivable (A/R)

Processing:

- a. Resolve account and transactional issues that arise daily from vendors, sponsors, program, and other UH, RCUH, and UHF offices. (e.g., outstanding payment issues, grant compliance matters, etc.)
- b. Review and approve all procurement documents (e.g., sole source verification, price cost reasonableness, competitive bids, terms and conditions compliance, etc.), including ensuring fund availability and assigning proper object codes.
- c. Review and process all UH, RCUH, and UHF purchasing, reimbursement, and payment documents, as it relates to the delivery of goods and

services. (e.g., mileage reimbursements, domestic and foreign travel documents, interdepartmental orders (IDO), purchase orders (PO), deposit of wire transfers, parking collections, and payments for project billables, etc.)

- d. Coordinate, maintain, and manage the Cancer Center's petty cash accounts.
- e. Complete annual financial closing activities, including but not limited to, A/P and A/R recording, reclassing expenses from RCUH to UH systems, cash transfers, institutional account service order extensions, etc.)

4) Shared Resources Revolving Account Fiscal Support Services:

- a. Assist with rate development through the provision of actual historical cost data.
- b. Assist with shared resources usage data compilation to support viability of shared resource.
- c. Coordinate with the Vice Chancellor of Research's Office and RCUH on all revolving accounts service ordered to the RCUH for management.
- d. Maintain and process invoicing/billing of all shared resources services.
- e. Monitor income and expenses for shared resources revolving accounts.
- f. Fiscal Director assists the P.I.s in locating, testing, purchasing and implementing a Shared Resource Management Software

5) University of Hawaii Foundation (UHF) Fiscal Coordination and Management:

- a. Manage, maintain, and process all UHF accounts and documents by reviewing account balances and transactions for compliance, allowability and funds availability.
- b. Coordinate with the UHF Development and Fiscal personnel to ensure appropriateness of fund usage.

6) Bond Management:

- a. Process monthly payments for the Cancer Center building improvements, which requires close coordination with the UH System Bond Office, Office of the Vice President of Administration, UH Manoa Facilities Management Office (Design Branch), OPRPM, and Disbursing.
- b. Fiscal Director manages the Cancer Center's bond use through processing transfers (e.g., debt service payments, bond administration and management fees, depreciation reserve compliance, etc.) and ensures

compliance with bond requirements by working with the UH System Bond Office (e.g., Cancer Center Sullivan Center use).

7) Hawaii Cancer Consortium Support Services:

- a. Manage and maintain Hawaii Cancer Consortium funded accounts through coordination with ORS and UH System Offices, includes personnel and operating expense management.

8) Administrative Support Services:

- a. Review and approve UH and RCUH human resource actions for allow ability and funding availability (includes hiring, terminations, employee changes, current or retroactive account distribution changes, and vacation payout verification and transfers).
- b. Maintain UH, RCUH, and UHF financial system access records for Cancer Center personnel. Manages access for administrative personnel.
- c. Attend trainings and regular meetings to keep a breast of the latest research administration and fiscal developments at the UH to provide administration and support staff assistance as needed.
- d. Fiscal Director coordinates relocation reimbursements with the Cancer Center's executive and HR personnel to ensure that all new employees are properly informed of reimbursement requirements and to facilitate a smooth transition for the selected candidate.
- e. Fiscal Director provides interpretation, advice, and training to Administration and Program Support staff to ensure compliance with the UH Administrative Procedure Manual and RCUH Regulations. In addition, the Fiscal Director develops fiscal-related policies and procedures for the Cancer Center.
- f. Fiscal Director assists with the Cancer Center's planning process.

Current FTE--

Currently, the fiscal office has the following personnel-

-APT A's – 6 total

2 for Center (Admin, Communications, Facilities, HR & IT), UHF, and P30

2 for EPI, SEER, P&C, U54, and Shared Resources

2 for Cancer Biology, Thoracic Oncology, NPET, and CTO (includes consortium support)

-APT B's – 4 total

Currently, there aren't enough APT Bs, so overlap of program coverage is required to

meet program support needs. Therefore:

3 overlap coverage for Center, UHF, P30, EPI, SEER, P&C, U54

1 for NPET and CTO (includes consortium support)

Note: 1 (APT A in Interim TA position for APT B so doing dual coverage) for Cancer
Biology and Thoracic Oncology

Shared resources fiscal responsibilities are currently being covered by 3 JABSOM
personnel (Coco Seymour, Cheryl Yasunaga, and Keenan Lee)

APPENDIX V

Grants Office

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UHCC Grants Office (2.0 RCUH FTE)

1. CCSG (NCI designation grant) Functions To:

A.1. CCSG NCI and EAC Annual Progress Reports.

- Manage the submission of written reports from ~15 individuals associated with NCI and EAC progress reports
 - Program Leaders (3)
 - SR Leaders (7)
 - Admin – Dev Funds – Senior Leadership – Planning & Evaluation (Fiscal x2, AD, Dir)
 - AD for Clinical (1)
 - EAC site visit organizations (1)
- Communicate timetables, ensure timely submission, devise templates, ensure uniformity of all components and contents, update participants of changes in rules, proofread, and compile submission (~400 pages for the NCI and ~200 pages for the EAC).
- Assemble DT 1-2 (Membership, Leadership & Grants)
- Ensure DTs 3-4 (Accruals) are correctly assembled
- Compare DTs with prior submissions and tracks research program performance
- Communicate with Program and SR Leaders for Cancer Relevance of ~120 publications
- Ensure compliance of publications with federal open access laws
- Verify SR operating budgets and usage
- Orchestrate Annual Budget Request with the CCSG PI and ADRI

A.2. CCSG EAC annual site visit.

- Manage the submission of presentations to the EAC (~135 slides) prior to site visit
- Prepare test runs for all speakers
- Ensure that EAC site visit paper submission match presentations

B. Manages CCSG Budget.

- Ensure compliance of 20-component CCSG budget with all special NCI guidelines.
- Monitor expenditure projections
- Ensure expenditure report for parent and supplement grants

C. Supplements.

- Distribute CCSG supplement opportunities, devises nomination process for funding announcement, and distributes to eligible cancer center members
- Monitors expenditures and collects interim and annual progress reports

D. Meetings.

Attend national meetings relevant to the CCSG grant and updates the parties regarding the upcoming changes in the CCSG submission

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- E. Assist Director /AD on CCSG communications with UH, BOR, community stakeholders & the NCI.
- F. Discuss CCSG with new faculty recruits & interact with administrators on all related matters.

2. Non-CCSG Functions To:

- A. Final Review of all CC Grant Proposals to Sponsors.
 - Oversee all CC Faculty proposals annually submit ~130 proposals requesting \$120 M mostly from NIH
 - Review SF424/PHS398/ASSIST documents prior to submission ensuring application compliance with University and sponsor requirements
 - Work with program staff and fiscal to fix proposal budgets
 - Coordinate the timely processing of every proposal through the University record system (myGRANT) with all parties and the University AOR (ORS)
 - Maintain director-level signature for all proposals and recommends Director's approval or requests changes from the PI
- B. *Offer coordination of grant preparation when requested.*
- C. *Grant writing and editing of scientific components.*
- D. *Assist PIs on drafting letters of support from the Director.*
- E. *Communicate cost-sharing and other commitments to the executives.*
- F. *Track proposal submission metrics.*
- G. *Assist PIs with RPPRs and Just-in-Time as needed.*
- H. *Communicate funding announcements weekly, while highlighting most relevant announcements to faculty members.*
- I. *Prepare Comprehensive Facility Resource Documents.*
- J. *Communicate award and proposal details to other UH departments as requested.*
- K. *Update UHCC Faculty for changes in grant requirements from the federal government.*

3. Model for Re-org with JABSOM

- A. CCSG Functions

The CCSG is the grant award provides the UH Cancer Center its NCI-designation since 1996. The grant of the PI is the Cancer Center Director. All CCSG reporting and execution should by definition stay under the control of the UHCC Director as it has been for the last 20 years. This direct reporting line ensures immediate access and accountability for the performance of the grant for which the Director, Cancer Center Faculty and administration are responsible. No examples exist in which designated Cancer Centers share the CCSG administration with Medical schools or other units. Merging these functions with another administrative units would result in

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co-governance of the grant and would dilute the authority of the director to the staff executing the grant terms and conditions. Blurring the CCSG administration reporting lines will introduce an unnecessary and unprecedented challenge to the upcoming CCSG application. One FTE is responsible for all aforementioned CCSG functions.

B. Non-CCSG functions.

The major source of income of the UH Cancer Center are funds that are federally funded peer-reviewed applications. The major non-CCSG function of the UH Cancer Center Grants office is the approval of all proposals by the UHCC Director is a require University procedure. Following the Director's policies regarding the interest of the cancer center the grants office signs for all Cancer Center proposals. While similar policies exist at the School of Medicine significant differences remain reflecting policies and philosophies that can be changed, though at this stage we do not see how this will improve the submission of JABSOM or Cancer Center proposals.

Personnel: One FTE is charged with the approval of all Cancer Center proposals, while the second FTE complements this proposal. In the three years of the tenure in the Grants office the Cancer Center has never had a proposal administratively rejected by any sponsor. We do not see how this can become more efficient.

Objective: The Director's approval in the University electronic route log represents the director's signature for every proposal. As such the approving delegate needs to represent the exclusive interests of the Director and as such report directly to Cancer Center executives.

Policies that ensure minimum authority for a level-5 UH unit

Cancer Center Proposal Policies after re-org with JABSOM

Stated policies cover UH Manoa unit-level proposal development procedure changes in the proposed re-org with JABSOM. They do not propose or reflect any changes in the way the Cancer Center interacts with the fiscally responsible institution (University of Hawaii), its Office of Research Services, or sponsor agencies.

Policies below are intended to cover proposals submitted to units MA1423, MA1424, MA1425, MA1426, and MA1427 and Cancer Center units that may result from the re-organization under consideration:

Cancer Center Proposal approval tree remains the exclusive privilege of the Cancer Center Director, or his/her designated delegate. The proposal approval tree for JABSOM units and Cancer Center units remains separate, while proposal approvals are delegated to a dedicate Cancer Center Only staff member whose approval represents the Center's interests as viewed by Director.

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The merged grant proposal development (pre-award) office approves or requests changes to proposals solely in response to the recommendation of the Cancer Center Director, or his/her designated delegate.

The merged grant proposal development (pre-award) office enforces cost-sharing (and other monetary commitments) at the proposal level and NIH grant policies solely in response to the recommendation and policies of the Cancer Center Director, or his/her designated delegate.

The merged grant proposal development (pre-award) office follows the approvals of the Center Director as shown in all COI declarations of all Cancer Center faculty by virtue of his/her responsibility as the supervising signatory. The Director's signature in annual COI forms cannot be delegated.

The merged grant proposal development (pre-award) office follows the direction of the Center Director, or his/her designated delegate, regarding the allocation of Cancer Center RTRF during proposal development.

Hiring of staff for the merged proposal development (pre-award) office involves an equal number of interviewers from the Cancer Center and JABSOM. Applicant information is co-reviewed by the Center Director, or his/her designated delegate. All new staffing and offers of employment for the ASK proposal development (pre-award) office must be approved by the Cancer Center Director, or his/her designated delegate.

The JABSOM executive leaders exclude themselves from approvals recommended by the Director, or his/her designated delegate(s). The Kakaako executive team maintains no authority over the recommendations of the Cancer Center Director for Cancer Center proposals.

Materiality: Given that i) no cancer center proposal has ever been administratively rejected from a sponsor since the current UH Cancer Center Grants Office personnel have been in charge, ii) all level 5 unit directors' authorities need to be maintained as described above, and iii) all non-CCSG functions are overseen by a single staff member, these proposed changes appear burdensome and without any material benefit to the Cancer Center or JABSOM.

APPENDIX VI

Operations and Human Resources

APPENDIX VI

OPERATIONS

Summary:

The Cancer Center Operations team is a part of the Cancer Center Directors' office and the primary duties are to support the Admin Departments (IT, Facilities, Events/Outreach, Media, etc.) and the Center Administration with preparing fiscal related documents such as requests for purchase orders and payments on facility utility bills, invoices, etc. The team also provides such services as working with the parking vendor, coordinating distribution of parking passes and maintaining internal records of vehicles for Center faculty/staff, procuring office supplies, and managing the Sullivan Conference center account. During long term absences of program staff, this team provides back-up assistance with fiscal matters and coordinates coverage with other program support staff.

It is in the best interest of the Center Director to keep the Operations team within his office and to maintain the current reporting structure. The major services provided by this team directly serve the Center faculty and staff. Sharing these services with JABSOM will not result in cost savings because the workload will not change. The volume of tasks involved in supporting the various departments under center-wide administration will still require a minimum of two people. Cost savings have already been realized in the reduction of one staff, from three 1.0 FTEs to two 1.0 FTEs. (One position was not filled in December 2014 to cut costs.) The workload of the third person was distributed between the two remaining Operations staff members.

Justification:

The major functions listed below detail the work done by the Operations team and highlights the importance of keeping those services separate and solely with the Center.

1. Provide admin support to all Center Admin Departments:

Individual admin departments such as IT, Facilities, Communications, Grants, Fiscal, HR do not have dedicated admin support and these departments depend on the Operations team to take care of the procurement duties for them.

The Operations team also provide assistance to the Center programs when needed. For example, Shared Resources (SR) did not have their admin/fiscal support staff for almost a year. One FTE was temporarily assigned to assist the SR faculty/staff in processing various administrative, fiscal, and personnel related documents. Similarly, another FTE was temporarily assigned to assist the P&C department last year. This temporary assignment is in addition to their regular duties. The intent of this service is to minimize disruptions in processing admin/fiscal documents at the program level if their support staff is on an extended leave or if the position is vacant.

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2. Parking

- a. LOT C: Since JABSOM parking coordinator is the primary contact for Kakaako, Operations already works very closely with JABSOM to coordinate parking with HCDA (State of Hawaii Hawaii Community Development Authority) LOT C contractor for the Center faculty/staff.
- b. UH Manoa Parking placards should be handled in house since these are passes ordered based on needs of the Center.

3. Sullivan Conference Center (SCC)

SCC is very unique to the Center. In June 24, 2011, Mrs. Joanna Sullivan signed a pledge agreement for \$3 million to UH Foundation to: a) designate and recognize the new conference center at the Center; and b) to primarily support the maintenance and furnishing of the SCC, and secondarily for equipping and furnishing other components of the Center facility.

According to the current SCC guidelines, SCC can be booked or rented by programs/external organizations related to cancer education and research benefitting the Center faculty, staff, and other researchers or the community, or other support functions relating to the Center or JABSOM operations. Therefore, special events at the SCC should be managed by the Center. Also, billing the users should be managed by the center. The money raised by renting the SCC, which is minimal, should go towards paying the IT/Custodial staff who provides assistance. Sharon Shigemasa, SCC Coordinator, works with the Operations team to bill SCC users.

4. Center bill payment and creating requisitions could be shared with JABSOM.

HUMAN RESOURCES

There are about 350 faculty and staff at the Center supported by two 1.0 FTEs. The HR office is responsible for advising and providing guidance to faculty and staff on various HR matters including recruitment, selection, staff development, compensations, benefits, and retention. A few of the major functions of the HR Office are:

1. Responsibility for Faculty and Staff Recruitment (UH and RCUH)
 - a. Developing position descriptions;
 - b. Posting positions and tracking applications;
 - c. Drafting offer letters in consultation with the Director/ADA;
 - d. Preparing and reviewing new hire documents ensuring completion of required forms and compliance with laws, policies, and procedures;
 - e. Assembling and processing onboarding documents.
2. Maintenance of various HR databases and PeopleSoft records containing personal information of employees, position control and leave documentation.

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- a. Ensuring accuracy and appropriateness of appointments (i.e. salary, title, tenure);
 - b. Monitoring contract renewal and non-renewals;
 - c. Processing termination of employment;
 - d. Maintaining confidentiality agreements and ensuring Conflict of Interest declarations are current.
3. Serving as the official custodian of the UH personal records for all UH employees; serv as the Center Departmental Personal Officer for Employee Health Trust Fund and Employers Retirement Fund; and also serves as the Center Equal Employment Opportunity personnel.
 4. Handling disciplinary issues and grievances by observing the steps on progressive discipline, assisting in fact-finding procedures and investigations, and drafting responses. HR is responsible for communicating with Manoa and Systems HR, the various unions, Academic Affairs, and the Office of the Title IX, if needed.
 5. Coordination the tenure and promotion process, providing administrative and professional support to the DPC in charge of reviewing faculty actions related to promotion, tenure, & evaluation.
 6. Preparing technical reports and responses to inquiries from various offices such as the Board of Regents, Office of the President, Office of the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor's Offices and EEO Office. Preparing HR and admin related action memos for approval from the VCR, Chancellor, and the President.
 7. Assisting the ADA in drafting MOUs with the Hawaii Cancer Consortium and UH Foundation in regards to funding and coordination with ORS, and RCUH (if needed) to execute the MOUs.

APPENDIX VII

Human Subjects Research Compliance

APPENDIX VII

UH Cancer Center Human Subjects Research Compliance Director

Summary

Human subjects research compliance at the UH Cancer Center is currently staffed by a single individual and is responsible for assuring compliance with all human subjects related federal and local regulations and grant/contract obligations including reporting requirements pertaining to the conduct of human subjects' research. Reports to the Director of the UH Cancer Center. The goals of the program are to ensure human subject safety in the research process, fulfill contractual obligations, promote adherence and compliance with local and federal regulatory requirements, and quality data reporting. Primary focus of the program has been on oncology clinical trial operations. Major functions include:

- Monitors, educates and ensures compliance with legal and local requirements for human subjects including HIPAA, Privacy and Security/Common Rule, Stark, CCSG, etc.
- Serve as knowledge expert collaborator on cross departmental issues – tumor registry/bio specimen banking, security, privacy, FDA, ICH Good Clinical Practice, information technology, safety, risk assessment, subject medical care, institutional process etc.
- Identifies potential areas of compliance vulnerability and risks, and reporting issues, developing and implementing corrective action plans for resolution of problematic issues, and providing general guidance on how to avoid or deal with similar situations in the future.
 - Conducts audits and reviews and reports findings through data collection and analysis – requires medical, research, regulatory and contractual knowledge set
 - Collaborates on development/review/implement/oversight of standard operating procedures
 - Develops and conducts training and education
- Develop and manage Quality Assurance Program – includes internal and external auditing and performance improvement and metrics
- Administrator for Data Safety Monitoring Committee
- Administrator for UH Cancer Center Privacy Board
- Administrator Research Resonance Benchmarking
- WIRB Administrative Approval Official
- Conflict of Interest Committee
- Required Regulatory Reporting
- Registered Nurse Member Protocol Review and Monitoring Committee
- Registered Nurse Member Community Research Advocacy Board
- Completes/Compiles required reporting including:
 - Data Tables 3 and 4 (CCSG)
 - Community Trials Reporting Program (NCI Required CTRP)
 - Ceded research reporting to UH IRB
 - Institutional Metrics for benchmarks and resource reporting
- Conducts random internal audits on institutionally generated trials that are monitored by DSMC – 10% of institutionally generated and 5 % of the Cooperative group trials reviewed by PRMC. Audits at the Cancer Center and at Consortium sites as available/required:
 - Includes subject medical records
 - Case Report Forms

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- Adverse Events
- IRB Documentation (regulatory compliance)
- Informed Consent
- Drug Accountability
- Liaison for external regulatory and review boards (UH, IRBs, OHRP, OIG, etc.) to address issues
- Acquires information on all external audits performed by NCI sponsored cooperative research bases and other research sponsors and consults on corrective action plans as needed (translates new information)
- Maintains a Master File of all contracts executed for research supported by CTO and monitors compliance with deliverables
- Consortium Support (From MOA)
 - Tracks Cancer Trials, ensures review by PRMS, coordinates DSMC, NCI CTRP Reporting for trials, audits for quality/compliance, develop/maintains SOPs, WIRB Account Manager

In order to complete tasks, compliance must collaborate with all areas of the UH Cancer Center, University of Hawaii and Consortium members and affiliates. Examples of activities include: working with IT to provide secure computer files/data storage; training across departments to improve reporting of research/trials in support of P30 requirements and maximum use of available resources, compliance education in support of human subject research protections, support for HSRP accreditation for UH IRB, cross training such as eProtocol system, etc.

Review of proposed Cancer Center Organization and Description

In order to achieve financial and operational stability a new proposal to share functions when feasible and complimentary to achieve administrative efficiencies and promote collaborative work that serves the community of Hawai'i between the UH Cancer Center and JABSOM is in development.

The UH Cancer Center offers a compliance function as previously described. JABSOM currently provides an office of one in The Office of Risk and Clinical Affairs (ORCA) that is responsible for developing, managing, and monitoring contracts and relationships with The John A. Burns School of Medicine's affiliated community hospitals, affiliated non-profit organizations, State agencies and business partners. As described by the current ORCA Director, the office does not engage in an audit function, but does conduct cross collaborative efforts (HIPAA training, regulatory awareness education, annual compliance week) within various areas of the medical school, serves as a knowledge expert for the Dean and manages special projects. This is not a comprehensive summary of the office and is produced solely on recall of meetings and discussions with the current Director.

Other areas in JABSOM also support compliance functions such as HIPAA training, IT security, regulatory education etc. specific to the needs of the school of medicine.

UH Cancer Center Compliance and JABSOM Risk and Clinical affairs have worked collaboratively in the past and regularly consult one another on topics of mutual interest or engagement. This is key – specific knowledge of research methods and procedures, program needs and areas of focus, systems used and

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regulatory/legal requirements require unique knowledge sets and collaboration with individual experts. Joint engagement supports service to dual, complimentary missions.

Clinical research compliance has become a major focus area of compliance professionals, regulatory bodies and research participants in recent years. The risks are both human and financial. The trend is expected to continue to grow and evolve. Clinical research is highly regulated and as such, the role of a compliance professional is vital to maintaining compliance with NIH, FDA, ORI and OMB requirements. The laws and regulations related to human subject protections, grant and trial accounting, effort reporting, scientific misconduct, privacy and security and clinical trial billing are highly complex and always evolving. Multiple cross functional roles are needed and require continued development to support quality, maximize efficiencies and use of resources, and require a very specific skill set.

Recommendations

The current materials (July 2015 organizational chart and supporting descriptive document) do not directly or specifically indicate a compliance function. Compliance as an administrative function is not clearly defined or focused at UH Cancer Center or JABSOM. The hallmark of compliance reporting is an independent, direct reporting function to ultimate decision makers. The reason for this is to preserve the integrity of the review while providing confidential, fair, accurate and reliable information with recommendations that are not influenced or biased by a competing value or need. Compliance is not a decision making authority body, compliance is reviewing or consulting on specific needs and providing recommendations and guidance as a function for decision making. The UH Cancer Center Director is responsible for 'program review and evaluation'. Compliance is a part of the internal evaluation and growth process as it brings education and awareness to areas that could remain dark or at risk; but the compliance function also provides untapped opportunities for quality and excellence promotion.

Noted previously, Clinical Research Compliance has become a major focus of regulatory bodies. Because of the size and scope of the funding received both at the cancer center and the school of medicine, compliance, risk management and quality are areas of high visibility with an increasing focus externally (ongoing local focus) and thus must be developed internally in anticipation of ongoing review (UH/ORS/CCSG/EAC/NIH/Accrediting bodies/FDA/OHRP etc.) and potential new reviews and audits. The potential benefits of achieving, promoting and continually demonstrating compliance are currently an untapped resource in showcasing the achievements of both organizations.

The scope and oversight of the compliance role is highly defined and controlled by senior leaderships' assessment of need and the risks and benefits to defined mission and vision. Compliance often deals with highly confidential information about research subjects, financials, individual actions/behaviors and proprietary information. This information is very much programmatically and individually held in confidence and is rarely openly shared. Compliance is data and fact driven, but also requires independence, strong relationships, and networks to promote fulfillment of obligations, collaboration, accountability and information sharing. Compliance is also frequently seen as punitive and controlling if not championed as a quality function or maybe seen as non-essential if not utilized by senior leaders.

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Internal operations at the UH Cancer Center have faced stability difficulties in managing and performing operations, activities, growth and compliance. These challenges will continue for the foreseeable future across the center.

A strong, potentially cross functional administrative compliance unit in partnership with JABSOM may support the potential attraction of additional stakeholders, demonstrate a commitment to quality in a joint mission to serve the community, promote collaboration across functional areas or may offer efficiencies in hard resources; but will be almost impossible to support with soft resources, appropriate skill sets and limited funding. Current functions could be more effective and productive in producing quality deliverables internally and externally for both organizations if appropriate support and buy in is established. Alternatively, a hastily instituted cross functional unit may be perceived as an afterthought, a way to conserve resources, a way to diminish the needs and complexities and uniqueness of each organization and not a core value of either entity.

A shared, cross functional Compliance Program with specific definitions, mission and vision development, risk assessment, confidentiality of mission and operations and resource allocation must be carefully considered before instituting major changes in administrative functions between the UH Cancer Center and JABSOM in our current environment. Collaboration is currently ongoing. Sharing, growth and change in function will require strong process development, comprehensive education and awareness, time to implement, intra-department growth and most importantly buy in from a large number of individuals with complete collaboration between the senior leaders of both organizations.

APPENDIX VIII

Information Technology

APPENDIX VIII

UH Cancer Center Information Technology (Center IT)

Summary

While serving as the Interim Director of OIT at JABSOM, I was able to see how the Center IT office and the JABSOM OIT were similar, different and which services could possibly be merged for efficiency. It is my opinion that the merge is not necessary and the two IT offices should remain as two separate offices - each serving their respective organization, as merging the two offices would not yield significant cost savings for the Cancer Center or add efficiency.

From a financial and user support viewpoint, the two IT offices support their users very differently in that, unlike JABSOM, Center IT offers services at the Unit and the Department level. While there could be potential savings for the Center by changing the way services are provided at the Unit and Department level, we can accomplish this without merging the two IT offices. The change could occur internally within the Center but would directly impact Center faculty by way of their budgets.

The only reasonable merge that would provide an eventual true cost savings would be to merge the two phone systems. Also, continued collaboration between the two IT offices for data security and audio visual would be beneficial to the campus as a whole.

Justification

While it seems logical that the two IT offices could be merged and share services across the campus, the reality is that it wouldn't be any more efficient or cost-saving. Some shared services could produce a small cost saving but merging the staff would not.. The IT staff have specific roles to support the Centers' technology needs – we have no real overlap other than to cover for each other in absence.

The Center network is managed differently than the JABSOM network. There would be a significant investment of time and money to redesign the overall network. It would not be favorable to force one network to change to the others' design. This would also have an impact on users in both organizations. There would also be no reduction in the network equipment that would support the two organizations. While the idea of sharing resources is logical, the physical separation of the two buildings would require us to keep the servers holding the shared drives local to each building for performance reasons. The Center personnel managing this equipment would remain.

If the helpdesk staff were merged, the actual work load would increase for the two sides due to the wider scope of coverage and the perception of a larger IT office for both sides would cause unrealistic expectations of increased support.

The similarities for the two IT offices are that the two generally provide the same basic services: a secure, local network, shared drives, phone system, AV and user support. However, the two IT offices support their respective users so differently that merging the two IT offices would either decrease customer service for the Cancer Center users or increase the cost of support for the SoM administration.

A major difference between the two is how software and services are provided to their users. Center IT provides basic and specialized software that is needed for everyday tasks performed by Cancer Center faculty and staff. Video and web-conferencing are made available as needed for all Center faculty and staff.

Other services such as poster printing and specific AV needs are also made available at no cost.

At the SoM, software/software licenses, video and web-conferencing, poster printing are not provided as a basic service to all users/departments. I am not certain, but I believe these services are charged directly to the departments and ultimately the faculty and staff.

Due to the size of the SoM and the large number of on-campus and off-campus departments that are supported by OIT, it is understandable that they cannot provide the same type of support that is provided to the Cancer Center faculty and staff. It also would not be reasonable to change how they provide such services. Likewise, reducing the services to Center faculty and staff and increasing their program expenses would not be viewed as favorable by the Center faculty and staff.

The one service that could be shared would be to continue with the plan of merging the two phone systems. From a campus standpoint, it would be both feasible and cost-efficient if the Cancer Center and SoM were on the same phone system. Collaboration would be much easier if the two organizations were seen as one unit when trying to make a phone call. This is possible if we merge the phone system. Cost savings would be seen through the years as hardware and license fees can be merged and cost shared.

Although the phone system itself could be merged, the management and administration of the respective phones would be kept separate. It would not be feasible or desirable to change the phone numbers for Cancer Center faculty and staff. There are many studies and programs that have established phone numbers.

The Center IT staff currently consists of 6 positions, 5 filled and 1 vacant. Below is a listing of each position (by working title), staff name, type of position and a brief description of that position.

1. Director of Information Technology, Wendy Richards (APT)
The Director of Information Technology directs, oversees and maintains all the administration and operation of the Center IT office. The primary responsibility is to ensure the continuous delivery of IT services for the Center which includes the local network and data infrastructure, VoIP phone system and voicemail, external and internal website programming and management, audio visual systems and video conferencing systems. Ensures network and data security. Also provides vision and strategic planning to offer technology solutions to improve services. Manages and directs major projects and upgrades relating to areas of oversight. Each Center IT staff member manages a different IT service with overlap each other to provide coverage and support. The Director provides guidance and support to the IT staff.
2. HelpDesk Coordinator, Hazel Rems (APT)
The HelpDesk Coordinator manages the Center helpdesk ticket system which provides users the ability to submit trouble tickets to the Center IT staff. The HelpDesk Coordinator receives all incoming requests and assigns the request to the IT staff member who can best resolve the issue. The HelpDesk Coordinator is also responsible for managing and maintaining the server and software for the HelpDesk system ensuring that the software is up-to-date and functioning correctly. The HelpDesk Coordinator is a layer 2 respondent to issues. This position handles the more complex issues and consults with the IT Director when necessary. This position also manages the equipment inventory for the Center via an internal inventory system. This includes coordinating eWaste events for the Center. The HelpDesk Coordinator serves as the interim IT Director when the IT Director is not available.
3. Infrastructure/Server Management, G. Grant Gathagan (RCUH)
This position currently manages both the network infrastructure and data management for the Center. The Server Management position is currently vacant. The primary responsibility is to ensure that the internal Center network, which consists of servers, switches, routers, wireless access points and all other networking equipment are fully functional and connectivity is maintained. Equally important is the

responsibility to keep all software applications such as Center email, VoIP phone system and data infrastructure fully functional and connectivity is maintained. Manages network security by monitoring activity and performing hardware and software patches.

4. IT Specialist, Phillip Lau (APT)

The IT Specialist is the first level responder to the helpdesk requests received from Center users. This position responds to both simple and complex issues and escalates the request as necessary to the HelpDesk Coordinator. This position is supervised by the HelpDesk Coordinator (Hazel Rems).

5. Web Developer, Harry Sonson (APT)

The primary responsibility of the Web Developer is to manage and maintain the Centers' external and internal websites. The Web Developer works closely with the Communications team to post content on the external website in a timely manner. This position also works closely with various groups in the Center to develop, manage and improve study web pages.

APPENDIX IX

UHCC Facilities Management & Planning

APPENDIX IX

UH Cancer Center Specific Services/Activities – *Administrative Operational Services* Director's Authority and Control to Support Research Mission Activities

UHCC Facilities Management and Planning (i.e., Physical Plant Management, Custodial and Grounds, Mail Operations, Environmental Health and Safety, Lab Refrigeration Support and Remote Monitoring – 15 FTE's)

- Custodial and Grounds-keeping specifically within UHCC Facilities
- Contract Administration for Security Equipment Preventative
- Internal mail room operations and UHM scheduled pick ups
- Maintenance Contracts (servers, cctv's, access readers, access card programming, software updates, parking gates, door hardware interfacing)
- Contract administration for all autoclaves and cold room services
- Contract administration for lab coat services
- ASSA key duplicates for all access doors
- 24/7 Emergency on call with HECO and first responders
- 24/7 Daily monitoring of lab freezers, refrigerators and cold rooms
- 24/7 monitoring support for UHCC Freezer Farm Facility at UH Mānoa Campus and stand-by emergency power for HVAC System
- Stand-by emergency generator annual servicing and testing
- Annual contract administration for automatic transfer switches for stand-by emergency power mode
- Internal lab freezers/lab equipment repair support
- Office furniture reconfigurations with outside contractors
- LN2 (Liquid Nitrogen) annual renewal services for lab research
- Daily oversight of Building Management System (support A/C controls, lighting, oversight and monitoring of daily alarms, chillers, pumps, cooling towers, variable frequency drives, motors, etc.)
- Daily oversight of building maintenance (HVAC System, chillers electrical, mechanical plumbing, filters, belts, UV lighting)
- Space allocation, infrastructure support to PI's and their Research Mission Activities
- Oversight of Elevator program maintenance with manufacturer
- Building Maintenance Support Staff – Additional FTE required to hire state classified positions to minimize solicitation of outside contractors per UH (System) HR mandates.
- Project Management Oversight for all UHCC Capital Improvements Projects and Bond Fund Management of Series 2010 A-1 and Series 2010 A-2 Expenditures
- Interface with UH Mānoa Facilities Management Office – Design Section for all Architectural/Engineering, Project Management/Construction Management Services Contracts and Coordination of Award of Contracts

with UH System Office of Procurement and Real Property Management
APM Policies and Procedures

- UH Cancer Center Laboratory Infrastructure Operations
- Cancer Center Offices/Common Areas, Laboratory Equipment Support
- UHCC Nutritional Kitchen Support (i.e. walk-in freezer, refrigerator, coolers, gas stoves) and State of Hawai'i Department of Health Permits
- UH Cancer Center Sullivan Center Infrastructure Support
- UH Cancer Center Fiscal interface to process requisitions, purchase orders, sole source, cost price reasonableness unique to UH Cancer Center operations

**Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
By
Carl Chun**

SB589 - Relating to the University of Hawai'i

Dear Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and Members of the Committee,

I am writing as community leader to voice my strong **OPPOSITION to SB589** which would establish an organized research unit for cancer research within the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine.

- Passage of this bill would threaten UHCC's designation as one of only 71 NCI-designated cancer centers in the nation. If this bill is passed, it would likely lead to loss of UHCC's NCI designation, which would lead to a loss of between \$15 and \$20 million in funding.
- The legislature has approved significant funds to create UHCC's Early Phase Clinical Trials Center, which will be the only such facility in Hawai'i, providing access to clinical research for patients here at home, and expanding the research capabilities of the only research university in the state. If this bill passes, the consequences of the loss of NCI designation to this project are unknown and possibly disastrous.
- Collaboration with JABSOM and with many other parts of UH is thriving under the leadership of Dr. Randall Holcombe, Cancer Center director, hence this restructuring is not necessary.
- The Legislature should not substitute its opinions for those of the experts and stakeholders at UH and UHCC, who have achieved significant successes and progress with the current management structure.

For the reasons above I strongly **OPPOSE SB589**.

Thank you,

Carl Chun

February 9, 2021

RE: Individual Testimony OPPOSING SB 589

Dear Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees:

I herein submit my individual testimony **AGAINST** bill **SB 589** to reorganize the University of Hawaii Cancer Center (“UHCC”) within the UH JABSOM Medical School.

My name is Dr. S. Lani Park. I am an Associate Professor at UHCC, appointed in January 2020. Prior to this appointment I was an Associate Professor at the University of Southern California (2013-2019) and before that a Postdoctoral Fellow at UHCC (2010-2013). Currently, I am the contact-Principal Investigator and Project Leader of two large grants that focus on the study of lung cancer risk disparities in multiethnic populations.

I am against Bill SB589 because it jeopardizes the last 4 years of progress made by the UHCC’s current leadership. When I decided to return to UHCC from the University of Southern California, one of my primary considerations was Dr. Randall Holcombe’s ongoing leadership of UHCC.

Since leaving my postdoctoral fellowship at UHCC in 2013, I have maintained close collaborations with several UHCC investigators and staff. The growth of UHCC, renewal of the NCI-designation (P30 grant), and the overall faculty and staff morale under Dr. Holcombe’s administration is astounding. I believe that a reorganized ‘unified leadership’ of the UHCC within JABSOM would undermine all the progress made and jeopardize the upcoming P30 renewal. UHCC serves as a unique resource to Hawaii as well as the greater Pacific community. It is the only Cancer Center in the US that addresses cancer health disparities for many unique underserved Pacific Islander populations. UHCC’s ongoing successes should not be weakened with an unjustified structural reorganization. I have not seen any evidence or reasonable argument that the Cancer Center would improve if integrated and instead greater evidence of the exact opposite.

Please keep the current administrative structure at UHCC. Thank you very much for your time.

S. Lani Park, PhD, MPH

Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Population sciences in the Pacific Program



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I
CANCER CENTER

Honolulu, February 9 2021

To: Higher Education (HRE) and
Ways and Means (WAM)
Committees
Senate State of Hawai'i

Re: Testimony to OPPOSE SB 589

Dear Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees,

I am writing to **OPPOSE SB 589**.

I am Associate Researcher, and Leader of the Cancer Biology Program at the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center.

As you know, the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center is one of the 71 designated Cancer Centers in the US by the National Institutes of Health. This designation status requires periodic assessments by external reviewers sent by the NIH. Receiving and maintaining such designation is no trivial task, but is a consequence of diligent work and outstanding leadership.

I joined the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center in 2018, and one of the driving factors for me to move here was the P30 designation which I firmly believe will be threatened by SB 589. Merging the UH Cancer Center and JABSOM will undermine the leadership of Dr. Randall Holcombe, an internationally renowned leader in Medical Oncology and a deservedly appreciated Director for our Cancer Center, despite the extra scrutiny he received due to the small size of our Cancer Center and the previous challenges that it received over the past decade. Therefore, I am convinced that SB 589 will create significant risk for the NCI designation of the UH Cancer Center with grave consequence to our ability to reduce the burden of cancer on the people of Hawai'i. Additionally, this Bill will reduce our ability to attract and retain Faculty at our Cancer Center, reducing the funding for the University of Hawai'i, the number of high impact scientific publications and the number and quality of teachers.

You have a choice to make: either you keep believing and supporting cancer research in this State or you will be sending out a concerning message that you, the Legislators of the State of Hawai'i, do not believe in science and education. Your Constituency is listening to this choice and you will be held accountable for it by the people of Hawai'i.

Initiatives like this one, under the misleading label of the "COVID 19 emergency", certainly have other motivations, since they periodically re-appear despite the strong and unanimous opposition by essentially all of us. It's not my interest to know what these motivations are, but I'd like to point out that having constantly to write letters to address issues like this one over and over again, pretty

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www.uhcancercenter.org

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much every year or every few months, is not only frustrating but also distracting us from our everyday mission, which is finding a cure against cancer and making sure that this cure is discovered here, in the State that you represent, for the good of the people of Hawai'i and of the entire world.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Muller Fabbri".

Muller Fabbri, M.D., Ph.D.
Leader Cancer Biology Program
Scientific Lead, Micro- and Nano-Scale Cancer Therapeutics Initiative
University of Hawai'i Cancer Center
University of Hawai'i at Manoa

February 8, 2021

Dear Members of the Committee:

I am an Associate Researcher in the UH Cancer Center and I am writing to express my **strong opposition to HB2564**. This bill proposes to establish an organized research unit for cancer research within the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine.

The UH Cancer Center has a critical role in serving the needs of our community and catchment area. The UH Cancer Center is one of only 71 NCI designated cancer centers in the nation. Achieving, and maintaining, this NCI designation reflects all of the hard work and research excellence that is required to obtain this recognition. As a very accomplished medical oncologist and visionary leader, Dr. Holcombe, as the Director of the UH Cancer Center, has been a key component of this accomplishment. Reorganizing the research unit, and having the UH Cancer Center within UH JABSOM would jeopardize the NCI designation and important research and clinical advancements that have been accomplished under Dr. Holcombe's leadership. Furthermore, as the mission of the UH Cancer Center is very different from JABSOM, it requires leadership autonomy to best fulfill their independent missions. Dr. Hedges, as the Dean of JABSOM, has limited experience with cancer research and clinical oncology, thus it would not be ideal for him to hold a leadership position overseeing the fulfillment of the UH Cancer Center's mission. Whereas, Dr. Holcombe is a medical oncologist with extensive experience in cancer care and research, has the credentials and expertise to best lead the UH Cancer Center. This proposed reorganization would jeopardize Dr. Holcombe's retention and the future success of the UH Cancer Center. Moreover, the proposed reorganization would detract from the future success of both JABSOM and UH Cancer Center.

The committee members should consider the negative consequences and minimal benefit of the proposed reorganization and oppose HB2564.

Sincerely,

Lenora WM Loo, PhD
Associate Researcher

Dear Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani, and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees:

I am an Associate Professor at the UH Cancer Center. I'm writing to express my strong **opposition to SB589**; a proposal which would place the UH Cancer Center with the structure of the John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Although the bill is well-intentioned, I believe it would have a detrimental effect on the UH Cancer Center, and would hamper our efforts to reduce the burden of cancer on the people in the state by improving cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and education. Further, I believe the bill (if passed) could actually increase costs, and decrease our ability to acquire large research grants from the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

The UH Cancer Center has made great strides in recent years under the outstanding leadership of our Director Dr. Randall Holcombe. Moving the UH Cancer Center into the School of Medicine would create the appearance that Dr. Holcombe is being demoted. This could seriously undermine UH's standing with the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and could jeopardize our status as a designated NCI Cancer Center. This, in turn, would reduce our eligibility to obtain various large research grants.

For these reasons and others, I **oppose SB589**.

Thank you for your consideration,

Thaddeus Herzog, PhD
Associate Professor
UH Cancer Center

SB-589

Submitted on: 2/9/2021 6:23:28 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/11/2021 3:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brenda Hernandez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am writing in opposition to SB589, which would place the University of Hawaii Cancer Center within the John A. Burns School of Medicine. I serve as Principal Investigator of the Hawaii Tumor Registry, which is responsible for the public health surveillance of all cancers diagnosed in the state. The HTR has successfully operated under the UH Cancer Center since 1973 when it became a funded registry of the National Cancer Institute Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program. As one of eighteen SEER registries in the U.S., the HTR serves as a critical resource for cancer research and cancer control activities in the state and nationally. The HTR's operations are closely aligned to the current mission of the UH Cancer Center, which is to reduce the burden of cancer in Hawaii through research, education, patient care, and community outreach. The HTR has greatly benefited by operating within a self-standing, NCI-designated Cancer Center and has consistently received national and international recognition for its excellent performance. UHCC Director, Dr. Randall Holcombe, has provided tremendous support to the HTR through his visionary leadership.

Mahalo,

Brenda Hernandez, PhD, MPH

Associate Researcher

Principal Investigator, Hawaii Tumor Registry

University of Hawaii Cancer Center

Dear Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees:

I am writing as a private individual, a resident of the state of Hawai'i and Cancer Center donor, to voice my **STRONG OPPOSITION to SB589**, which would reclassify the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center as an organized research unit within the John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Although the views in this testimony are mine alone and have been neither solicited nor endorsed by my employer, I would like to qualify my remarks by stating that I have been a member of the research staff of the UH Cancer Center for 21 years. I have spent half of my life committed to the mission of reducing the burden of cancer on the people of Hawai'i through evidence-based research and community outreach. Most of my time at the Cancer Center has been and is still spent managing both the big picture and the day-to-day operations of National Institutes of Health-funded human subjects research, from assisting principal investigators in assembling competitive proposals to submit to the NIH, through preparing regulatory documents, through participant recruitment and retention, all the way through to co-authoring manuscripts with principal investigators for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

But even with all that inside knowledge, with the ability I've gained in understanding the scientific process so I can translate scientific journal manuscripts into plain English for friends and family, with private text message exchanges with the best oncologists in the state – who, by the way, I am honored to have as colleagues and friends at the Cancer Center . . . well, to be honest with you, none of that could save my dad. In November of 2017, Dad told the doctor that he was experiencing some shortness of breath. By the end of that month, we had a diagnosis: Non small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). On the morning of January 13, 2018, I was stressing over whether to take Dad to the ER, since he was having some trouble breathing. To be honest, when “BALLISTIC MISSILE THREAT INBOUND TO HAWAII” came screaming over our phones, my initial surprise gave way to the almost soothing thought that maybe we it would be over for all of us in a matter of minutes – though of course that isn't how things worked out. Nonetheless, despite multiple approaches to treatment, including consenting to participate in a Phase 2 clinical trial being facilitated through the Cancer Center, there was nothing anyone could do to that would make his lungs function again at sufficient capacity, and by the end of June, he was dead.

Do I have an ax to grind with cancer? Absolutely I do. I'm sure you do, too – and that's why I am asking you to let the researchers at the Cancer Center concentrate their efforts on actually fighting cancer. A reorganization that would take this free-standing organized research unit (ORU) and make it a sub-unit of the medical school – which has a completely legitimate but *completely different* mission – would jeopardize the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center's status as a National Cancer Institute-designated Cancer Center. This designation is highly dependent on the autonomy of the Cancer Center director, including the level of administration to whom he reports, as well as on resounding support for the success of the Cancer Center and its mission by the State of Hawai'i, including the executive branch and legislators like yourselves.

There is so much work left to do in understanding, preventing, and treating cancer. My family and I have made substantial donations to the Cancer Center because we know – we don't simply believe, we *know* – that research done here in Hawai'i can truly make a difference in how the people of Hawai'i will be represented in the science that will, in turn, contribute to better outcomes for them – for *us*. **Let the UH Cancer Center be the institution that gets this work done, by preserving its status as an independent research unit.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Crissy Terawaki Kawamoto
Honolulu, HI

SB-589

Submitted on: 2/9/2021 8:46:46 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/11/2021 3:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am writing as a member of the Hawaii Skin Cancer Coalition to voice my **Strong Opposition** to SB 589 which would place the UH Cancer Center as a research unit into the John A. Burns School of Medicine.

The mission of the UH Cancer Center (UHCC) is to "reduce the burden of cancer through research, education, patient and community outreach with an emphasis on the unique ethnic, cultural, and environmental characteristics of Hawai'i and the Pacific." The UHCC is celebrating its 50th year and designated formally as an Organized Reserach Unit within the University since 1981. It is in its 25th year of continuous designation by the National Cancer Institute and has been led ably by Director Randall Holcombe since 2016.

This proposed bill will irretrievably damage it and undermine its mission to serve Hawaii:

1. The proposed change will jeopardize our NCI designation.
- 2.. There will be major financial losses from reorganizing the Cancer Center. This will come as we lose our NCI Designation and the grant funding and high caliber faculty that come with it.
3. Director Dr. Holcombe has credentials of an MBA as well as an MD and brought his experience in re-budgeting the costs and past declining tobacco tax revenue to a current organization that is financially sustainable. His transparency and excellent communication skills with his faculty, stakeholders and community groups such as our Coalition, has helped all of us join as contributors to the sustainability of CCH's research, education, and outreach to residents and communities in Hawaii.
4. The mission of the Cancer Center is different than that of the Medical School. The Medical School's primary mission is to educate medical students. CCH's mission is cancer research that will directly benefit the people of Hawai'i,

In simple local words, "If it's not broken, don't tamper or touch." There is no problem with UH Cancer Center and this bill will cause many negative unintended consequences. **I strongly oppose this measure and urge that it be deferred.**

Individual Testimony

Date: February 11, 2021

Re: Against SB 589 (re-organization of the University of Hawaii Cancer Center within the medical school)

To: Hawaii State Senate Committee on Higher Education

From: Unhee Lim

I am an Associate Professor at the UH Cancer Center. I have been at UH for 12 years, investigating the basis and modifiable means of racial/ethnic cancer disparities and mentoring local students on research projects. In both capacities, I perceive these contributions from researchers like myself are extremely under-valued by some state legislators who tend to count only the proportion covering faculty salaries out of the hundreds of thousands of dollars in research funds we each bring to Hawaii annually and who tend to acknowledge only classroom teaching and not how essential student research experience is for their biomedical training advancement and how effort-intensive such individualized advisory is.

I oppose this bill SB 589 that is proposing to basically demolish the Cancer Center as it is today.

Last year, in response to an almost identical bill (SB 2575), a large number of Cancer Center faculty, staff, students, UH/UHM administration, external scientific advisors on behalf of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), clinical partners, and community members at large provided testimony in support of the Cancer Center on strongest possible terms. The collective testimony and data provided made it clear how important the Cancer Center is to the local, national and international communities and that, **without retaining Cancer Center Director's independent authority** over the Center's finance and personnel, as well as scientific, management in a direct reporting line to UHM Provost, **UH Cancer Center will lose the prestigious NCI designation** (see President Lassner's testimony) because that independence, and what it represents in terms of the institutional and community support, is an absolute requirement for the federal designation.

Without NCI designation, Hawaii will lose the cancer research excellence supported by that, research that has been primarily focused on understanding and advocating our uniquely diverse populations, not addressed by mainland institutions. Hawaii will also lose experimental and other state-of-the-art treatment opportunities available to cancer patients only through NCI-designated Cancer Centers and millions of dollars in federal research funding every year that Cancer Center researchers are eligible to compete for based on NCI designation. Not only Hawaii but also the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands will lose the critical cancer surveillance and prevention infrastructure that has been established over many years with federal grants (e.g., U54 grants) that UH Cancer Center has obtained through NCI designation.

Therefore, I suggest that Senator Kim and co-sponsors of this bill **provide concrete cost-benefit data, along with transparent citation of information sources, and the community backing that Hawaii will be better without the NCI designation for UH Cancer Center**. Not doing so and recycling the bill year after year with baseless claims of "statewide concerns" can only be construed as flexing the power of the public office in a futile, irresponsible and prejudiced manner. What are the dollar amounts you estimate in savings – and how do you calculate the value of human lives and patient support in that estimation? What are the "duplication of administrative expenses" beyond the shared functions that have been already streamlined between the Cancer Center and the medical school within the limits of preserving each unit's core mission activities (see White paper)? What do you mean by "conflicting priorities" between the two units? Who do you suppose possesses the "unified leadership" quality fit for both units and according to whom?

Facing this unfounded and unsubstantiated scrutiny again, amid the unprecedented burden from the year-long and ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, I wish we had more state legislators like **Representative Luke and Speaker Saiki**, as I believe they deliberated like leaders with bigger perspectives and lasting impact in mind when they opposed a furlough of public employees, and in turn made wiser economic sense as well. I urge senators to think like leaders, not as number crunchers, and not imitate the likes of short-sighted Scott Walker who pulled the rug out from under public R1 universities and left them to deal with the lasting consequences, the least of which was millions of dollars spent to stop a brain drain. I urge senators to appreciate the value of higher education, specifically higher education of high quality and those at UH who strive to deliver it, against the pressure of mass production of degrees in these times of abundant conspiracy theories and denialism of facts and science. Most of all, I urge senators to take pride in the excellence UH Cancer Center, and UH, achieve with the state investment and take ownership of that priority for the good of this community.

Testimony to the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 3:05 pm

Dear Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sharon Shigemasa, and I'm writing to voice my strong **OPPOSITION to SB #589** as a concerned citizen, who has worked for the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center for over 35 years. I have had the privilege of working with all our previous Cancer Center Directors Drs. Lawrence Piette, Brian Issell, Carl-Wilhelm Vogel, and Michele Carbone, and with our current Director, Dr. Randall Holcombe, who I regard to be especially gifted as a leader, administrator, fiscal manager, teacher, collaborator, and visionary.

I was privileged to serve on the UH Cancer Center Director Search Advisory Committee in 2015 when we faced the monumental task of recruiting a highly qualified, progressive, and strong leader amidst the negativity that surrounded the Cancer Center at the time. We were extremely fortunate to recruit Dr. Holcombe as our Director in 2016, but I often wondered why he was willing to leave Mount Sinai in New York for the UH Cancer Center, one of the smallest NCI-designated cancer centers in the nation, fully aware and accepting of the challenges that awaited him in Hawai'i. At times Dr. Holcombe has referred to the UH Cancer Center as a gem in the Pacific, and I believe that he had recognized the Cancer Center as a diamond in the rough, waiting for capable hands to shape and polish it to its maximum potential. Since his arrival, Dr. Holcombe has fully invested in our institution with his extensive cancer clinical and research knowledge and expertise, his academic, leadership and business acumen, and his energy, enthusiasm, and appreciation for Hawai'i's diversity and potential. Dr. Holcombe hit the ground running from Day 1 and has never stopped.

Some of his notable achievements to date include:

- Successful submission and renewal of our NCI P30 grant and continued NCI designation within two years of his tenure, followed by positive yearly evaluations from the NCI External Advisory Committee;
- Reduction of costs and balancing of our budget within 3 years with continued stringent fiscal oversight;
- Establishment of strong working relationships with UH administration, the John A. Burns School of Medicine, members of the legislature, and leaders of the community medical centers, community clinicians, cancer- and health-related organizations, and community advocacy organizations.
- Fostering an environment of collaboration and cohesiveness among Cancer Center researchers and staff, and establishing and supporting new relationships with other UH Manoa programs;

- Continuing to be a visionary with a laser-focus on making the UH Cancer Center one of the most successful and outstanding NCI-designated cancer centers in the nation and a successful national and international partner in cancer research;
- Soon to begin construction of the Early Phase Clinical Research Center (EPCRC) to provide access to Phase I clinical trials for Hawai'i's cancer patients and the Organoid Generation Facility in partnership with Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory as an invaluable resource to study cancer in minority populations with significant cancer disparities.

Under Dr. Holcombe's leadership the UH Cancer Center has regained organizational stability as an ORU and NCI-designated cancer center, made significant strides in its research endeavors through hiring seasoned and highly qualified young researchers, and gained the respect and appreciation of faculty and staff for his diligence and hard work. He could not have been as strong and independent a leader as he has successfully demonstrated over the past four years if he did not have the authority to lead the UH Cancer Center as our Director in his own right. It would be an egregious insult to Dr. Holcombe to demote him to a position unequal to a Dean for all the responsibilities his position at the UH Cancer Center demands. Therefore, **I strongly oppose SB #589** that proposes to move the UH Cancer Center into the John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Dear Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees:

I am writing to express my **STRONG OPPOSITION to SB589** for the following reasons:

- (1) Despite what the Bill states, there is no financial advantage in combining the Cancer Center with the School of Medicine. Procedures to cut financial burden, such as the use of joint research cores or combined maintenance operations, are already in place and do not require the merger of Cancer Center into the School of Medicine.
- (2) The current organizational structure, with the Cancer Center Director reporting directly to the Provost, ensures the necessary degree of flexibility and autonomy in managing the Cancer Center, which is essential for maintaining the NCI designation for the Cancer Center. The proposed reorganization will jeopardize the NCI designation, which would severely reduce federal funding for the Cancer Center and thus be very harmful to its mission.
- (3) The current Cancer Center leadership, in particular the Cancer Center Director Dr. Holcombe, have made a remarkable turnaround of the previously struggling Cancer Center in recent years. These days, the Cancer Center is a thriving research unit on a solid financial footing, a fact that has been recognized and praised by the Center's External Advisory Committee. Limiting or undermining the authority of the Cancer Center Director would do a great disservice to the Cancer Center, its mission, and to research in Hawaii in general.
- (4) The proposed bill would necessitate wasting a lot of people's time and precious resources to do an unnecessary and unjustified reorganization, instead of focusing on productive work.
- (5) The questions of the organizational structure of research and academic units rest with the University; any attempt by the Legislature to intervene in these questions would violate the University's internal autonomy.

For the reasons above, I **STRONGLY OPPOSE SB589**.

Thank you,

Yurii B. Shvetsov, PhD
Assistant Professor
University of Hawaii Cancer Center

LATE

SB-589

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 3:56:03 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/11/2021 3:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa A. Merritt	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

LATE

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE Thirty First LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2021**

February 11, 2021

3:00 PM

Conference room HRE 229

**SB589: TESTIMONY Against Establishing an Organized Research Unit for Cancer
Research within the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine**

Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dr. Michelle L. Matter, and I am an Associate Professor at the University of Hawaii Cancer Center. In my work, I have identified a gene called PTRH2 that is important in human development and in cancer. It is especially important in the children's cancer neuroblastoma where high expression of this protein provides a survival signal in these cancer cells. This is an important advantage that these cancer cells use as they metastasize to new sites. My group is working to understand how this survival advantage occurs and if PTRH2 it is a therapeutic target for treating neuroblastoma and other cancers.

I am writing to express my concern and disapproval for the bill establishing an organized research unit for cancer research within the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine. At this time the UH Cancer Center is at an exciting pivotal point where we are in the position to make new discoveries and move treatments forward for the people of Hawaii. Dr. Holcombe as Director has been a tremendous asset for the UH Cancer Center. During his short tenure at the UH Cancer Center he has been able to dramatically increase faculty morale. Through his leadership the faculty has become a cohesive collaborative group that works together in research and in preparing for the UH Cancer Center NCI designation renewal. Importantly, the UH Cancer Center External Advisors Committee had their yearly review of the UH Cancer Center in January 2021 and reported to our entire UH Cancer Center faculty that our Cancer Center is doing extremely well. This committee was very positive and stressed that we were in great shape to obtain our next NCI designation renewal.

Moving the UH Cancer Center into JABSOM will negatively impact faculty morale and will bring into question whether the NCI designation can be renewed when such drastic changes are being implemented. This will have negative impact on faculty recruitment and potentially faculty retainment. As Vice-Chair of the UH Cancer Center Faculty Senate I am concerned that the faculty has not had any internal discussions or the ability to defend the UH Cancer Center against such a move into JABSOM.

The UH Cancer Center is one of only 71 institutions in the United States that hold the prestigious National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation and is the only NCI-designated center in the Pacific. The NCI designation provides cancer researchers in Hawai'i with greater access to federal funding and research opportunities. More importantly, it gives the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific region access to many innovative and potentially life-saving clinical trials without the necessity of traveling to the mainland.

I respectfully urge this Committee to block this bill and **NOT** establish an organized research unit for cancer research within the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine.

LATE

SB-589

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 6:41:54 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/11/2021 3:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peiwen Fei, MD PhD	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose SB589.

LATE

I am a Professor and Associate Director for Shared Resources at the University of Hawaii Cancer Center (UHCC) and have worked there since 1988. I am opposed to Bill SB589.

The University of Hawaii Cancer Center is one of 71 NCI designated cancer centers in the U.S. Given the small size of our center, this is a big achievement and one that UH and Hawaii can be proud of. The NCI requires that the Cancer Center director have strong authority over the decisions made at the Center, including on budgets, space and faculty/staffing. Therefore, Bill HB2564 which would reduce the authority of the UHCC director would severely hurt our competitiveness and threaten our NCI designation.

In addition to harming the UHCC generally, I want to speak about our current director Dr. Randal Holcombe. I have served under 4 cancer center directors, and Dr. Holcombe is by far the best. When he arrived, our morale was low, we were in severe deficit, our NCI designation renewal was in doubt, and few community oncologists wanted to work with us. Dr. Holcombe turned our center around in one year! He rationalized the budgets and renewed our designation, which NCI told us was due to his efforts. He has been able to gain support among the local oncologists. Dr. Holcombe is an excellent leader – organized, rational and visionary. He is the best Dean/Director at UH Manoa and it would be a tragedy to consider a reorganization that does harm to our center and does not acknowledge his accomplishments.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
CANCER CENTER

February 10, 2021

Re: **OPPOSITION** to SB 589

Dear Chairs Kim and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees,

I would like to express my strong **OPPOSITION** to SB 589. While the bill states the intention to reduce expenses, it will have the effect of significantly reducing extramural financial support to the University of Hawaii.

The University of Hawaii Cancer Center (UHCC) is one of only 71 cancer research organizations in the country designated by the National Cancer Institute (NCI). The NCI-designation distinguishes the UHCC as among the best cancer research institutions in the world. This designation greatly increases the likelihood that our extramural grant proposals are funded as it signifies a strong institutional environment to support innovative cancer research. Extramural grants are how we fund our research focused on reducing the burden of cancer in Hawaii and the Pacific region. These grants also financially support our faculty, staff, students, and infrastructure.

The proposed SB 589 will jeopardize the UHCC NCI-designation by conflicting with NCI guidelines for their designated cancer centers. In effect, this bill threatens our service to Hawaii and the Pacific that is supported by extramural grants.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to SB 589.

Sincerely,

Alexandra M. Binder, Sc.D., M.Sc.
Assistant Professor
Cancer Epidemiology Program
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