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Ocean Discoverers
David Karl and Angelique White, UH Mānoa, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology, department of oceanography

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PHOTO: DAVID CROXFORD

YOUR CAREER PATH MAY NOT BE A STRAIGHT LINE

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“We’re offering students affordable, state-of-the-art instruction, such as hands-on training on renowned Redbird flight simulators, to better prepare them for success in flight school,” says Bruce Mathews, dean of UH’s College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Management. “Prospects for rewarding careers for both kinds of commercial pilots is high.” Demand for airline pilots has been increasing, especially with major airline-affiliated regional carriers and international airlines. For future highly skilled high-end commercial drone operators in the exploding UAS field, the sky’s the limit.

Dream of becoming an airline pilot? How about a commercially licensed unmanned aviation technician operating small drones to gather crucial data and photos in remote areas, like active lava fields? A new bachelor’s degree in aeronautical sciences at Hilo—the first in the UH system—offering this opportunity starts this fall. The two different commercial aviation pathways will provide the same first three years of classroom and flight simulator learning background currently needed for commercial aviation by airline pilots and commercial UAS (unmanned aviation systems) pilots.

“UH online program caters to parents, full-time workers,” Honolulu Star-Advertiser 1/13/19; “UH to launch completely online AA degree program,” UH press release 1/13/19.

“UH Mānoa gets $10.4M grant for microbiome research,” Honolulu Star-Advertiser 1/21/19.

Newsmakers

VALUE OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH five-year grant to five UH bioscience researchers to create an Integrative Center for Environmental Microbiomes and Human Health to research how microorganisms, including bacteria, fungi and viruses, affect human health—from mosquitos to autism.

VALUE OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH $10.4 M

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“It just gave me a way to live...to not stress out so much about where my next meal was going to come from”

BERNADETTE ROSE GARRETT, 2018 Windward Community College graduate and the first college graduate in her family, of HINET (Hawaii’s Nutrition Employment and Training) workforce education and training program that helps fund food, transportation, books and other student expenses. HINET adds Maui and Honolulu campuses this fall. “HINET helps community college students to make financial ends meet,” Honolulu Star-Advertiser 2/10/19; UH press release 2/10/19

2,000 Number of participants, ages 60 to 77, in a UH Cancer Center study showing that Japanese-Americans, more than other races, tend to accrue excess liver and abdomen fat that may lead to heart disease, diabetes and many cancers. The three-year study was published in Gastroenterology. “[Japanese tend to accrue liver fat, new study finds]” Honolulu Star-Advertiser 12/19/18

“You don’t just see a spike in graduation rates; there’s an overall spike in Native Hawaiian student enrollment...”

WILLY KAUA, Native Hawaiian Student Services director, of the record four-year graduation rate (from 10.3 to 32.3 percent) for Native Hawaiian students since 2010. At 37.7 percent (from 17.7 in 2010), Filipino students top the four-year overall rate of 35.2 percent for all students. “[Native Hawaiian graduation rate triples at UH Mānoa]” Honolulu Star-Advertiser 12/03/18

“I never thought I would be part of giving a heavenly body a Hawaiian name that would be globally recognized”

KAUAKEA HELEKAHI-KAIWI, a senior at Nāwahīokalani’ōpu‘u School, Hawai‘i Island, of selecting Hawaiian names for two new asteroid discoveries through A Hua He Inoa, UH Hilo’s ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center’s collaboration with Hawaiian-speaking students from Maui and Hawai‘i Island, ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i experts, educators and research scientists from the state’s astronomical observatories. Hawai‘i is the first place worldwide to involve traditional indigenous practices in the naming of astronomical discoveries. “[Hawaiian students learn, name astronomical discoveries through ‘Imiloa program]” Honolulu Star-Advertiser 1/08/19

“Landmark Anniversary” of the UH sailing team, one of only two UH sports programs to win the top team national title (the other is Wahine volleyball). Sailing has produced 61 national championship appearances, 34 All-America citations and five Olympians. “[UH sailing team celebrates milestone]” Honolulu Star-Advertiser 1/20/19

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“Japanese tend to accrue liver fat, new study finds” Honolulu Star-Advertiser 12/19/18

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Our Community, Our Responsibility.
As co-founder and managing partner of Blue Startups, a Honolulu-based venture accelerator, Chenoa Farnsworth is a rare female venture capital investor in a field in which women are deeply underrepresented. In October 2018, Blue Startups pledged to invest $1 million in women-founded companies, as part of The Billion Dollar Fund for Women, a worldwide initiative to mobilize $1 billion for female entrepreneurs. Since earning an executive MBA in 2000 from UH Mānoa Shidler College of Business, she has endeavored to strengthen the start-up ecosystem in Hawai‘i.

At Blue Startups, Farnsworth and her partners have invested $7 million in 27 start-ups. The bulk of the money has gone to early-stage companies, a trend that Farnsworth would like to change. The accelerator is collaborating with other funders to provide后期 funding.

According to the Billion Dollar Fund, women-founded companies have a greater ROI than men-founded companies. Why do you think that is? Female founders tend to be more competent and better prepared. They do their homework; they don’t show up to meetings and wing it—which is something we see with our male founders. There’s a stat that says in order for a woman to apply for a job, she needs to feel that she’s 100 percent qualified, whereas a man will apply for the same job feeling 60 percent qualified. We have a similar phenomenon in the start-up world. Female founders are very competent but lack confidence. Whereas male founders tend to be overly confident but underprepared for what’s really required to succeed. Men may gain immediate traction but, in the long run, female founders are better positioned. They tend to have a strong work ethic and, for start-ups, there’s no substitute for hard work.

In what sectors would you like to see more women entrepreneurs? Technology. It’s still a male-dominated industry. We see women go into packaged goods and retail—things that, frankly, don’t scale very well. We really want to see all of our entrepreneurs work on ideas that can scale globally. We love companies that can export with the push of a button. We’re in the middle of the Pacific, so exporting goods from here is very costly and not going to create a third leg of the stool for our economy as we need it. As an investor, I’d love to see more female founders take bigger risks and think globally.

Blue Startups hosts East Meets West, a gathering of investors and entrepreneurs from Hawai‘i, Asia and North America. How are women received internationally? It’s really interesting, actually. I think that’s changed over the years. Ten years ago, you might have heard that if you’re a woman in the room, they’re going to treat you differently or you might want to bring a male counterpart. You really don’t hear that anymore. In almost every meeting we attend in Asia, there’s a female executive or leader. I don’t have any hard data on it, but I would say there’s a lot of movement right now, especially for women in Asia. They’re getting into higher positions and taking on decision-making roles.

What’s the future of the start-up space in Hawai‘i? We currently have a very robust, early-stage entrepreneurial scene. But we have to move those companies down the road to maturity. Hopefully, in the next five years, we’ll connect the dots, so that we have later-stage funding, professional service providers, and the right talent in Hawai‘i to meet the needs of these companies. As remote work becomes more common, we’ll start to see companies keep all or part of their operations in the state.

There’s also a lot of cross-pollination between Asian and US markets. And that’s not stopping anytime soon, as Asia is a rising economy in the world, both for consumers and for innovation and tech. If Hawai‘i plays its cards right, it is well-positioned to capitalize on this trend. For Asian companies wanting to access the US market and for US companies wanting to access the Asian market, Hawai‘i is the perfect gateway. Our geographical location is a real opportunity for Hawai‘i to attract companies working in both economies.

How does Hawai‘i go about “playing its cards right”? The Hawaii Strategic Development Corporation and the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation have been critical in getting things started. They’re relatively small-dollar programs, but I think those dollars are being leveraged very well, delivering big bang for the buck. Beyond that, I think it’s about achieving critical mass. We need to have enough activity in the industry so that we have labor mobility. Once that shift happens, then it starts to snowball. It’s a slow process. I like to say: miracles will not occur, but all indications are up and to the right.
Many older adults know that they have at least two options for aging: move into a retirement community or stay at home. In the best of both worlds, kupuna would have access to a network of support while they age in the familiarity and comfort of their own homes. This third option does exist, and it’s called Continuing Care Without Walls.

“What is Continuing Care Without Walls?”
Picture a retirement community with an array of social activities, wellness amenities, and aging support that covers independent living, assisted living, and long-term (round the clock) care. Until recently, these benefits were only available to residents who moved in; however, certain Life Plan Communities (LPCs) now offer their benefits as a membership plan sans move-in. Members remain independent at home, but they also gain a network of support at the parent community. They can participate in activities, make friends with the residents, and interact with staff who know them by name. The LPC may also offer members access to its amenities, such as event rooms and a fitness center.

The most important benefits of membership are care coordination and access to a skilled nursing bed (if or when it is needed). For adults aging at home, care coordination is critical during a health incident. In an emergency, or even for planned events like surgeries, a care coordinator supports members in ways that would be difficult for a member’s spouse or family. Care coordination alleviates stress for all parties by advocating for the needs of the member and helping them navigate complex healthcare systems.

Furthermore, the member can rely on the Life Plan Community, which is standing by to provide short-term recovery or long-term care if needed.

Who Should Join? How Much Does It Cost?
Continuing Care Without Walls appeals most to adults in their early to mid-70s. Members in this age group are typically independent, in good health, and able to take advantage of an active lifestyle that includes frequent visits to the parent LPC.

Members usually pay an entrance fee between $67,000 - $97,000, which guarantees them access to long-term care. They also pay a monthly membership fee averaging $519 - $727 per month, which provides access to the parent LPC's amenities, care coordination, and aging support services.

Arcadia At Home
Arcadia At Home is the only program in Hawaii to offer Continuing Care Without Walls. Members receive guaranteed lifetime care and access to a skilled nursing bed at 15 Craigside or Arcadia (if or when this care is needed). They also have access to a menu of services that includes care coordination, home maintenance, fitness training, housekeeping, an emergency response system, and personal care.

As part of their benefits, members enjoy priority access to 15 Craigside and Arcadia. They may participate in free group activities like exercise classes, games, educational programs, and other activities that are normally exclusive to residents. Members can also take advantage of the amenities at 15 Craigside and Arcadia, including the dining rooms, gyms, pools, and event venues. Whether members choose to visit the communities regularly or occasionally, they always have the opportunity to develop friendships with residents and employees. Arcadia At Home is available to adults 62 years and older who live in Honolulu, from Salt Lake to Hawaii Kai. As part of the Arcadia Family of Companies, the program offers 52 years of experience in senior living excellence.

For more information, visit arcadia.org/AtHome or call 983-5915.
HOW PIONEERING OCEAN RESEARCH, BEGUN BY UH, CONTINUES TODAY.

BY JASON UBay
Prior to the 1980s, there were no large-scale studies on the ocean. Knowledge about the global ocean, from its increasing temperature to the microorganisms present in it, has been advanced exponentially by Mānoa’s pioneering HOT (Hawaii Ocean Time series) and Ocean Station ALOHA (A Long-term Oligotrophic Habitat Assessment). Data collected from the program has been used in more than 700 scientific publications. Joining UH in 1978, David Karl, who had never seen the ocean until age 17, has led HOT and its many spinoff programs, beginning at a critical time when interest had grown by governments and the science community about how climate change affected the global ocean. “At the time, we didn’t know much about the ocean carbon cycle,” recalls Karl, today an internationally renowned ocean researcher. Seeking long-term funding to create a quality ocean time series, Karl and colleague Roger Lukas sent funding proposals to do the research for HOT and received grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF), which has continued HOT funding for more than 30 years. (BATS [Bermuda Atlantic Time Series], an identical time series operated by the nonprofit Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences, is a sister program to HOT launched at the same time.) UH provides additional funding in the form of faculty, students and research equipment.

Located 100km/62 miles north of O’ahu, Ocean Station ALOHA launched its first cruise in October 1988 and the 312th was scheduled this April. With roughly 10 trips a year to station ALOHA, using the US Navy ship Moana Wave, and taking up to 50 measurements each time, Ocean Station ALOHA has made several important discoveries over three decades, including collecting unprecedented long-term data on the ocean’s rising temperature. HOT researchers first identified the three most abundant microorganisms found all over the world’s oceans. They also discovered new metabolic pathways and how methane was being produced in the ocean—both of which had been unknown. Looking to dive deeper into HOT’s breakthrough data, Karl parlayed HOT’s success in 2006 into C-MORE (Center for Microbial Oceanography: Research and Education), an NSF-sponsored science and technology center, and partnered with top national institutions, including Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, University of California, Santa Cruz, Oregon State University and Columbia University. For a decade at C-MORE Hale, UH Mānoa has coordinated the oceanographers and scientists in Hawai’i have access to deep ocean waters unlike anywhere else. As the world’s largest and deepest ocean, covering one-third of the Earth with more than 63 million square miles of water, the Pacific Ocean offers opportunities that have made the University of Hawai’i a great research lab for internationally known discoveries and innovations affecting the health of the ocean and how we understand the world.
partnership research to further understanding of the global ocean. Although C-MORE ended in 2016, an $80 million grant from the Simons Foundation for SCOPE (Simons Collaboration on Ocean Processes and Ecology) continues to explore HOT research.

With his retirement as head of HOT this year, Karl will be succeeded in August by Angelique White, who has had myriad experiences with HOT, including trips to Station ALOHA, using HOT data for her dissertation and working with C-MORE. Her biggest challenge—“other than filling Dave’s shoes,” she laughs—is maintaining access to the sea, which requires dedicated marine operations and personnel.

“The expense is a drop in the bucket toward a better understanding of how our oceans are actually functioning and it’s fundamentally required to have a time series to do that.”

White said. A second goal is to incorporate, logistically and financially, new technologies, such as additional autonomous vehicles and machine-learning approaches.

With HOT funded through 2023 and SCOPE through 2024, White hopes continuing to showcase the research to the community will raise awareness of its global importance. All data collected is publicly available.

The most recent National Climate Assessment in November 2018 predicted a future of increasing ocean temperatures and acidification threatening fisheries, coral reefs and the livelihoods they support to result in lower fishery yields. Ocean research has expanded into our island community through UH-educated researchers—inspired by a shared love of the ocean.

**JOIN ALOHA**

Station ALOHA cruises welcome anyone, from a variety of disciplines, with an interest in the ocean. For more information and to request a seat on an upcoming cruise, visit hahana.soest.hawaii.edu/hot.

**NE OF THE NEW AUTONOMOUS TECHNOLOGIES used by HOT is the Wave Glider, manufactured by Liquid Robotics, a Boeing company. It is essentially an unmanned drone that can rove the ocean and collect data for months at a time. Equipped with a solar panel and communications equipment, it can transmit data continuously, enabling researchers to know the exact locations of data sources at all times. A Wave Glider can be an autonomous system, or it can take commands.**

“Wave Gliders put us in a niche market. We can operate for a long time in a unique part of the ocean,” said Daniel Merritt, senior field support engineer for Liquid Robotics.

He grew up on the West Coast and says he was a “Jacques Cousteau kid,” endlessly fascinated by the ocean, and has never strayed from it. He went to undergrad and played baseball at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. He played professionally and when he retired, he enrolled at UH in the department of ocean engineering. After earning his master’s degree in 2005, he worked at National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Pacific Island Fisheries Science Center as an ocean engineer. He stayed in Hawai‘i and in 2012, made the move to Liquid Robotics.

The company was created in Hawai‘i from a desire to listen to humpback whales. In California’s Bay area, research equipment back then would become untethered during rough weather, making sound research on whales sporadic. Today, Wave Gliders can do that and have applications for research as well as defense uses.

“We can support those who need to monitor the ocean using Wave Glider’s...
capabilities,” says Merritt, explaining that the technology’s images and data collected provide higher resolution that could not be collected with a satellite. Latest iterations have increased the device’s power, speed and survivability: “It’s been out in the worst seas that exist,” says Merritt, including hurricanes at the higher latitudes.

“Surface ocean really drives hurricanes. (And) because Wave Gliders sit right on that top section of water, we can take some interesting measurements. It’s the kind of thing you wouldn’t send a boat out to, but you’d send out a Wave Glider. A big push now is to create a platform that can survive in those conditions.”

Unlike a crewed ship, Wave Glider can go into dangerous situations without putting lives at risk. In 2018, the company worked with UH Hilo to take, for the first time, measurements of the Kīlauea lava eruption as it flowed into the ocean. Merritt and the research team do testing at sea at Kawaihae on Hawai‘i Island. Governments, nonprofits and companies also use Wave Gliders to do constant monitoring and to detect vessels and other objects in the ocean. Essentially a communications gateway, it offers much more ocean research opportunities still to be explored.

JOANNE EBESU,
OCEANIT

CEAN RESEARCH CAN TAKE MANY FORMS. Perhaps you’ve eaten seafood and gotten food poisoning but it turned out much more severe than you would expect. It may have been from ciguatera, an algae-based seafood poisoning often caused by eating fish that have ingested the toxin. More than 50,000 people worldwide annually suffer from ciguatera.

The idea for a toxin test began with Joanne Ebesu, who grew up fishing every day during summers visiting her grandparents in Kona. “I grew to love the ocean,” says the Moanalua High School graduate.

There had been no way to test for the toxin until Ebesu (MS ’03, PhD ’08), a senior biomedical scientist at Oceanit, worked on developing the test while still attending UH. Earning her MS in zoology in fish endocrinology, Ebesu did her research on ciguatera toxins with Yoshitsugu Hokama of UH John A. Burns School of Medicine’s pathology department. Hokama encouraged Ebesu to pursue a doctorate in biosciences to do her own research on the toxin and help launch the product at Oceanit. The test proved successful but the company stopped manufacturing after 10 years.

Ebesu’s skills, initiated in ocean research, have led her to more than 15 years managing and participating in diverse multidisciplinary research projects at Oceanit. She is a founding member and now heads NanoPoint Technologies, the nano technology division at Oceanit and one of its commercial spin-out companies. Ebesu’s projects include a cooling vest to decrease fatigue in humans and canines, and DERT (Dispersible Emergency Response Treatment), a solution to help clot blood that was funded by the US Department of Defense. In tests, DERT stopped blood loss by a third, which would reduce the chance of infection and even death.

As the first woman and only the third person hired at Oceanit, she is proud that her department now has more than 30 people and more women. Her research experience at UH helped her write grant applications, a skill she still uses at Oceanit.
What Matters Most
FOR LOCAL COACHING ICONS JOEY ESTRELLA AND GERALD ODA,
SUCCESS IS MEASURED BY MORE THAN WINS AND LOSSES.
By LANCE TOMINAGA

HERE YOU HAVE IT! Hawai‘i wins! No ka o, Hawai‘i!
The moment pitcher Ka‘olu Holt recorded the game’s final out—Hawai‘i 3, South Korea 0—he ran to the mound. Tossing his cap and gloves toward the sky, the boys formed a tangled mass of hugs, handshakes and high-fives. Hawai‘i was the 2018 Little League Baseball World Series champion.

A few feet away, Gerald Oda embraced his assistants, bowed his head and then gazed reflectively at the celebration in front of him.

“I just felt appreciation,” Oda says. “I'd been coaching for such a long time—27 years—and right at that moment, I was thankful for the opportunity to coach all the kids that I've been able to coach over those years.”

Joey Estrella knows the feeling. His 37 seasons as the head coach of the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo’s baseball program included five NAIA district championships and three World Series appearances.

“I watched [the Little League] games, and you could see how sincere the coaches and players were in spreading aloha and representing Hawai‘i,” says Estrella. “They were humble and played together. That doesn’t come overnight. They had to work at it. The kids bought into what the coaches were selling, and just look at the results.”

Estrella and Oda share more than a love for coaching baseball. Both are also proud alumni of the University of Hawai‘i. Oda graduated in 1997 with a degree in education. Estrella has a BA in political science.

Oda recalls, “For us, baseball was an escape. It was a way we could enjoy ourselves and just be kids.”

“I wasn’t the kind of student you’d want your child to be,” admits the Kahuku High School graduate. But today, he uses his experiences to instill important life lessons in his players.

“Sometimes a kid needs a little more direction,” he adds. “I can understand what they’re going through. I can connect with them. We always stress the importance of discipline and being a good student.”

Discipline played a key role in Honolulu’s run to the 2018 Little League championship. While the team was competing in Williamsport, Pennsylvania last August, some 4,700 miles away, Hurricane Lane was threatening their families and friends back home.

“(Lane) was a Category 5 at one point, and everyone back home was bracing for impact,” recalls Oda. “Everybody on the team was getting messages from home: ‘Do your best.’ ‘We’re all cheering for you.’ Everyone told me to focus on the team and forget about the hurricane. I thought, ‘This is pretty amazing.’”

“We talked about it. I said, ‘This is our moment. This is our chance to give back to the people in Hawai‘i who are supporting us. For the next few hours, we can take their minds off the hurricane and give them a sense of pride and joy.’”

Mission accomplished. Oda was named GEICO’s 2018 Volunteer of the Year from among its 38,000 employees nationwide.

Both Oda and Estrella agree that, in the end, the joys of coaching baseball go beyond wins and losses.

“We coach the game, but we also coach life,” says Estrella. “When I see people who played for me becoming successful husbands, fathers, youth coaches on the team as a grad...
AKE A LOOK AT EARL KAWA'A’S schedule to see what matters to him: instructing 100 people on how to prep and plant kalo (taro); working with high school dropouts at Kailua’s Kinai ‘Eha Program; building a Hawaiian hale (house) in Waimānalo; and teaching a class he founded, Board & Stone, to strengthen families. The son of taro farmers in Moloka‘i’s Hālawa Valley, Kawa‘a discovered his own talents and future in the roots of his family’s livelihood.

“Farmers have a picture of their outcome: how to bring an idea to fruition to feed their families, to nourish a community,” says Kawa‘a, framing his own life-changing experiences, including as a VISTA volunteer in New Mexico’s Acoma Indian Reservation. Working with Native American youth and the Acoma Tribal Council, he helped nurture a tribal dream and muster the funding to build a baseball field and organize the first ever all-Indian Little League tournament. Coming home, he honed his skills at Queen Lili‘uokalani Children’s Center and Waimānalo Health Center, among others, and expanded his knowledge with a master’s degree in social work at Mānoa.

“I walk comfortably in both worlds,” says Kawa‘a, of being schooled professionally and in the Hawaiian culture. Currently a Hawaiian Resource Specialist at Kamehameha Schools, he is a teacher, social worker, community organizer and peacemaker (in ho‘oponopono, or conflict resolution). Through his Board & Stone classes, now in their 11th year, he has taught thousands of family members to make traditional hand-carved poi boards and stone poi pounders. In doing the work together, many re-discover and strengthen family well-being through Hawaiian values. Next year, he hopes to add the making of the usu, the Japanese mochi-pounding vessel, and the wooden kine mallet.

“I teach through stories and see eyes light up; so I know I can influence change in children, youth and parents for a better tomorrow.”—Gail Miyasaki
Milestones

Aloha ‘Oe

Vince Manuwai (1980-2018), considered one of UH football’s best offensive linemen, was a first-team All-American as a senior in 2002. Attending UH from 1999-2003, the Farrington High School graduate went on to play eight NFL seasons with the Jacksonville Jaguars and the Atlanta Falcons.

Marjorie Ziegler (1956-2018) (BA ’86 geography, Mānoa), lifelong advocate for native species, biodiversity and conservation, was considered “the matriarch” of Hawai‘i’s environmental movement, serving as executive director of the Conservation Council for Hawai‘i since 2003. The Castle High graduate attended Windward Community College, also worked for the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (now Earthjustice) and served as mentor to many conservationists in Hawai‘i.

Jackie E.H. Young (1934-2019), (BS ’69 speech pathology and audiology, Mānoa), trailblazing feminist and former Hawai‘i legislator, was a third-generation Korean American and an early advocate for abortion rights and marriage equality. Her work encompassed Title IX education equality for girls, domestic violence shelters, and the Hawai‘i Women’s Political Caucus, among others.

Victor Kobayashi (1925-2018), UH professor emeritus of educational foundations and former dean of summer session, was devoted to the field of education. The Maui native, who led the restoration of Mānoa’s historic Krauss Hall that houses the John Young Museum of Art, was also one of the founders of the Hawai‘i International Film Festival and a dedicated artist in ceramics and collages (BEd ’54, MEd ’60, Mānoa).

Herbert “Monty” Richards, Jr. (1929-2018), fifth generation missionary descendant of the Cooke family, led Kahua Ranch’s pioneering and innovative efforts (including wind farming) to modernize ranching in Hawai‘i. Dedicated to a broad range of civic and community service, he served 16 years on UH’s Board of Regents under three governors (Burns, Ariyoshi and Cayetano).

Paul Leland Breese (1922-2018) (BS ’47 biology, Mānoa), Honolulu Zoo director emeritus, developed the zoo’s first master plan, defined its physical space and created a modern educational and recreational institution during his tenure as director (1947–1965). An early conservationist, he initiated the Nēnē Restoration Project and is credited with retrieving and ensuring the survival of Hawai‘i’s State Bird.

KATHRYN INKINEN: 2019 YWCA OF O‘AHU LEADER LUNCHEON

HONORED

KATHRYN INKINEN: 2019 YWCA OF O‘AHU LEADER LUNCHEON

During her 12 years at Kahala Hilton, including as a student intern from UH Mānoa’s then fledgling TIM (travel industry management) program, Kathryn Inkinen gained skills firsthand, as she rose from pantry worker to head of personnel by age 24. When she traded the luxury resort hotel environment for City Bank’s corporate boardroom, it was to create its first human resources department as the bank’s first and only woman senior vice president. Her task: Go beyond recruiting women to promoting them into management.

“Companies grow with fresh, new ideas. Employees grow with new skills, new jobs,” Inkinen says of her decision in 1992 to start her own firm. Choosing executive search, rather than HR staffing, she sought to help Hawai‘i business leaders grow by matching them with the most qualified candidates. Inkinen became that rare catalyst: a local-born, locally experienced head-hunter. She saw that the business landscape of her youth where people spent their lifetime working at a big company had been transformed by many smaller businesses needing a matchmaker for new talent. After 27 years, in 2018, she sold her firm but remains as founder/advisor to Inkinen and Associates.

“Executive search is about finding leaders,” says Inkinen of her more than 1,000 successful placements. “It’s about developing leaders for the future: women leaders, non-profit leaders who can influence change to improve our community.”

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What's My Job?

Mehana Vaughan

CAREGIVER: BELOVED PLACES

HOMETOWN
I come from the rural Halele'a district on Kaua‘i, a community of farmers, fishermen and women—people who, whether or not they feed their families from the land, understand its rich nourishment and the need to live guided by its lessons. (It is) a community that cares for one another and our home.

EDUCATION
- BA sociology/secondary social studies teaching certificate '98, Harvard
- MEd education/curriculum studies '03, Mānoa
- PhD environment/research '12, Stanford

After 10 years as a teacher, I pursued a doctorate at Stanford's Emmett Interdisciplinary Program. Frustrated with land use decisions and science that did not engage local knowledge, I felt I needed more skills to make a difference. I’ve always loved school. Having been given opportunities and scholarships, I felt a kuleana to study and put that learning to work. I’m still in school!

WORK
Asst. Professor, department of natural resources and environmental management, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources; coastal resilience sustainability faculty, Sea Grant College Program, UH Mānoa

I am a mother, teacher, and supporter of communities caring for beloved places. I believe that communities across Hawai‘i, and Hawai‘i herself, will thrive with autonomy to make pono decisions for places that sustain us so that they may flourish for our children, those generations yet unborn and all who love Hawai‘i.

PROUDEST MOMENT
Watching fish come back to the shallowest waters and reefs of Hā’ena, Kaua‘i through community stewardship and letting the place rest and restore itself after being unmanaged and overvisited. And when people in my book, Kōlabulu: Gathering Tides, want to share it with their children!

LEARN MORE ABOUT MEHANA AND HER WORK: seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/directory-detail/?smid=33489. Also mehanavaughan.huiainamomona.org/bio

TODAY’S HAWAII NEWS

Useful summaries of important local stories, delivered twice daily to your inbox.

Legal foreign resident sues Hawaii over gun license laws
A foreign citizen living legally in Hawaii is suing the state over laws preventing him from obtaining a gun license, according to court documents. United Kingdom citizen Andrew Roberts filed the federal civil lawsuit Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Honolulu, The Garden Island reported Sunday.

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AARON AKAU (BA ’03, Mānoa), promoted to president and CEO of Belt Collins Hawai‘i, a Honolulu-based planning, engineering and landscape architecture firm. In 2012, Akau and three other Belt Collins partners bought the Honolulu office, whose work encompasses Hawai‘i, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

LEO B. ASUNCION, JR. (BA ’88, MA ’91, Mānoa), appointed to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission by Gov. David Ige, to replace Randy Iwase. A planning program administrator in the state Office of Planning, Asuncion has also worked for Hawaiian Electric Co., SISFM International Inc., Hawai‘i’s State Judiciary and the State Land Use Commission.

JOE FERRARO (BA ’83, ’84, MA ’83, Mānoa), named chief operating officer and chairman of the board of directors of The Honolulu Theatre for Youth and the USA has also volunteered at Ho‘okahi, a Native Hawaiian language immersion school for newly-admitted students. With more than 20 years’ experience in finance and accounting, she has worked at Catholic Charities Hawai‘i, Alexander & Baldwin and U.S. trusts. She is also active in pro bono work throughout the state and serves as vice chair of the Hawai‘i Access to Justice Commission.

JENNIFER LAA (BA ’92, MA ’03, Mānoa), named president of the Hawai‘i State Bar Association. A litigation attorney with Schlack & Ito in Honolulu, she is also active in pro bono work throughout the state and serves as vice chair of the Hawai‘i Access to Justice Commission.

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JACCE MIKULANEK (MA ’04, Mānoa), selected president and executive director, Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai‘i. He is also a board member of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), Honolulu, serving as its treasurer in 2014. He has worked at the Hawai‘i Medical Service Association and the Good Beginnings Alliance (now Hawai‘i Children’s Action Network).

JANKO TRINCA, aerobic and athletic director of Aloha Stadium Hawai‘i and was previously the nonprofit’s director of youth and adult programs. She has also worked at Legal Aid Hawai‘i and at the Hawai‘i State Department of Health.

LEO R. ASUNCION, JR. (BA ’87, Exec. MBA ’05, Mānoa), named senior VP of operations for the Hawai‘i State Department of Health. A litigation attorney with Schlack & Ito in Honolulu, he is also active in pro bono work throughout the state and serves as vice chair of the Hawai‘i Access to Justice Commission.

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MARIKO MIHO (BA ’94, Mānoa), named chief of operations for the Make-A-Wish Hawai‘i. Familiar to TV viewers as a reporter, weather anchor and host at KHON2 for more than 20 years. She will represent the Hawai‘i State Bar Association. A litigation attorney with Schlack & Ito in Honolulu, she is also active in pro bono work throughout the state and serves as vice chair of the Hawai‘i Access to Justice Commission.

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MARINO MIHO (BA ’80, Mānoa), named executive director La‘iakaka Pacific Foundation and vice president of La‘iakaka Pacific, the non-profit organization dedicated to building independence for people living with disabilities, including cognitively-, physically- and age-related challenges. With more than 35 years of experience, she leads its fundraising efforts. She previously coordinated fundraising campaigns for UH Foundation.

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Hikers Jerry Rauckhorst, Nanette Otani, Cheri Rauckhorst and Janice Nako-Piburn expertly descend a ridge in the Wai’anae range as part of "Adventures in Hiking for the Fit Senior," offered through the University of Hawaii’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) for adults 50+ years. Led by John B. Hall, Mānoa professor emeritus in microbiology and a 40-year veteran of Hawaii’s trails, the hiking class is one of more than 50 OLLI classes and events at Mānoa, which joins more than 120 university and college campuses offering lifelong learning programs funded by the Bernard Osher Foundation in all 50 states.

For more information: www.osher.socialsciences.hawaii.edu

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GRADUATING HAWAI‘I’S FUTURE

The goal is to expand the state’s economy beyond tourism and military spending to create high-quality, living-wage career opportunities for Hawai‘i residents. And because most of these new jobs will require some postsecondary education, UH wants to ensure that its graduates have the skills employers need.

INNOVATING FOR A NEW HAWAI‘I ECONOMY

To do this, the university has partnered with the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii to launch industry-led partnerships in the banking/finance, IT, engineering, food manufacturing, healthcare and agriculture sectors. Employers are working directly with UH leaders to address Hawai‘i’s changing workforce needs and advance economic development.

A stronger UH means a brighter future for Hawai‘i. These critical partnerships are made possible by private philanthropic support. Together, we can move Hawai‘i and its people toward a remarkable future. Together, we can Journey Beyond.

To learn more about supporting UH’s priorities, visit www.uhfoundation.org/journeybeyond.