



Board of Regents <bor@hawaii.edu>

TMT at MAUNA Kea

Kaylene Sheldon <kauwilamahina@icloud.com>

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To: "bor@hawaii.edu" <bor@hawaii.edu>

Aloha e Board Of Regents:

My name is Kaylene Kauwila Sheldon and I am an alumni of the University Of Hawai'i at Manoa. In 1999, as students we held signs for Native Hawaiians, demanding free tuition waivers for Native Hawaiians & asked the State of Hawaii to hand us over all the ceded lands, one of them being Mauna Kea. During this time there were already the Keck telescope and we knew that expansion at that time was a thought that would take action therefore we had two Native Hawaiians that sat on your board whom one of them tried to advocate for the protection of Mauna Kea. Mauna Kea belongs to the Kingdom of Hawaii not the State of Hawaii. Building on this sacred Mauna is not only wrong spiritually but it is illegal. Our Queen was overthrown illegally by an act of war. In addition to being that it is illegal, it is also in violation of protecting the endangered species. According to several scientists/specialist in the field of geology and botony, they had mentioned the ecosystems unique and precious under those Pōhaku (stones) as being something that they had never seen before.

In conclusion, I am writing to you to tell you that I am against the building, digging and desecration of Mauna Kea. My family that extends from the island of Kaua'i, O'ahu, Hawaii island(Hilo, Ka'u, Kona, Waipi'o), & Moloka'i is also in opposition to the building of these telescopes. I urge that you ask these investors to withdraw these large sums of money & spend it on the poor areas of their country, how about drawing their attention to Pāpā New Guinea, Africa, Phillipines or helping Hawai'i in other ways that does not involve desecration on sacred land & does not support illegal occupation.

A powerful statement that was said by one of our bravest warriors explains, "Do not destroy what you cannot repair." He kauwa Ke kanaka, he ali'i Ka Aina. It is all of our kuleana to mālama or take care of our sacred grounds & land please show that responsibility.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Kaylene Kauwila Sheldon, Ka'a'awa, Hawai'i

Sent from my iPhone