



Testimony for Upcoming BOR Meeting 2/16

1 message

Cheryl Miyahara <cherylmi@hawaii.edu>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, Feb 13, 2024 at 8:18 AM

Hi there,

Please see attached testimony from KCC's staff council for upcoming BOR meeting on 2/16.

Mahalo,
Cheryl

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Cheryl Miyahara
Kapi'olani Community College
Arts and Humanities Department Secretary
[4303 Diamond Head Road](#)
[Honolulu, HI, 96816](#)
Office: Kalia 101
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"The battle between two wolves is within all of us. One is evil - it is anger, jealousy, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego. The other is good - it is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith."

"Who wins?"

"The one you feed." - Cherokee



Testimony_StaffCouncil_2-12-2024-CM.pdf
57K



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February 9, 2024

University of Hawai'i Board of Regents
2444 Dole Street, Bachman Hall, Room 209
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

Testimony to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents
from the Kapi'olani Community College Staff Council
re: Staff Participation in the UH Presidential Search Advisory Committee

Special Meeting: Agenda Items IV.B., IV.C., and IV.D.
Board Approval of Presidential Search Advisory Group Members
Regent Liaisons to the Presidential Search Advisory Group
Assignment of Tasks to the Presidential Search Advisory Group

Dear Chair Nahale-a, Vice Chair Lee, Vice Chair Wilson, and Board of Regents Members,

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Board members and the Presidential Selection Process Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) for considering our request to include staff in the formal process of recruiting and vetting potential candidates to serve as the next University of Hawai'i President. We are reassured by the Regents' commitment to the University's shared governance principles by providing the opportunity for the four systemwide shared governance leaders to propose a group of individuals committed to future success of the University in this capacity.

We encourage the Regents to approve Agenda Item IV.B. pertaining to the Search Advisory Group Members, as its proposed membership includes people with strong ties to the University whose diverse expertise represent our institutional mission and values. In particular, we are pleased to see strong staff representation from **Mr. Jaret Leong**, who is co-chairing this advisory committee in his role as the leader and founder of the systemwide University of Hawai'i Staff Council.

We also support **Mr. Brandon Marc T. Higa's** nomination as an advisory committee member, as someone whose leadership in extramural fundraising and international education provides an important perspective from the community colleges, which comprise seven of the ten UH campuses serving over 24,000 (more than half) students enrolled statewide. As a former Regent who has remained active in University leadership and governance, we are confident in Brandon Marc's capacity to serve in this critical role in supporting the Regents in their search for the next leader of our University.

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Telephone: (808) 734-9365
Email: askstaff@hawaii.edu

We also encourage you to support the continued engagement of Vice Chairs Gabriel Lee and Ernest Wilson as liaisons from the Board to this Presidential Search Advisory Group. We understand the ultimate decision lies with the power and authority vested in the Board of Regents as a collective, and for this reason, feel the presence of Board liaisons will ensure the contributions of the advisory group align with the vision the Regents have for their involvement. This relationship is one built on trust, which in turn will only be stronger with close engagement between the Board and the advisory group.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cheryl Miyahara
Chair, Staff Council
Kapi'olani Community College



Graduate students should have a representative in the Presidential Search Committee

1 message

Dianne Deauna <jdeauna@hawaii.edu>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Wed, Feb 14, 2024 at 9:38 AM

To the Board of Regents:

Graduate students provide essential labor to the University - in particular a UH Representative recently declared that "UH would not run without graduate assistants". We deserve thoughtful representation on a committee that will determine who will be put into a position with great power over our working conditions and in effect, our lives.

Best,
Dianne Deauna
PhD candidate, Oceanography



Testimony for 2/16 Meeting

1 message

Shannon Hennessey <shennes@hawaii.edu>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Wed, Feb 14, 2024 at 11:04 AM

Aloha,

My name is Shannon Pōmaika'i Hennessey, I am a Political Science PhD student here at UH Mānoa, and I am writing regarding Agenda Item Special BOR - IV.D. Discussion and Potential Action on Assignment of Tasks to the Presidential Search Advisory Group. Graduate students have a unique position at the university and should have a representative who is accountable to our interests.

Mahalo,

--

Shannon Pōmaika'i Hennessey

(she/her)

MA, Pacific Islands Studies

PhD Student, Indigenous Politics

Graduate Assistant, Department of Political Science

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa



Testimony for 2/16/2023

1 message

Bronson Azama <bazama@hawaii.edu>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Wed, Feb 14, 2024 at 12:49 PM

Aloha mai kākou,

I am submitting this testimony for the Board of Regents meeting on February 16, 2023 at 12 pm, as related to the Presidential Selection Process.

My testimony is attached below.

Mahalo,
Bronson



BOR Testimony Presidential Selection.pdf



Wednesday, February 16, 2024

TO: University of Hawai'i Board of Regents

FROM: Office of the President of ASUH

Concerns Related to **Agenda Item IV. A., B, and D**

‘Ano‘ai kākou,

My name is Bronson Azama, I write in my capacity as President-elect of ASUH Mānoa.

I would first note that the Board of Regents should consider extending its self-set deadline to select the next President by June, and extend the search timeline beyond April 15, when the application period is set to close. The Regents upon deciding on the separation of the UH Mānoa Chancellorship and UH System President and following the open forums held in the respective counties should then create a position profile and conduct recruitment.

We've opened recruitment without really firming up what someone is really applying for, this would limit the candidate pool, and I would not be surprised if we do not have a lot in the “wide-net” that’s been talked about being cast.

Expediency continues to be a driving mechanism, which as I see it is impacting the quality of our decisions. This quality even filters to us students, who need to expeditiously review former processes, systemic changes in the last 10 years and further, while still being full time students. Which is something I hope you can all relate to in your jobs and careers. Therefore I continue to emphasize the importance for the Regents to recognize that the timeline/deadline to selecting the next President be extended minimally to Fall 2025, and that the Regents consider an interim for President.

I stand in support of the written testimony provided by the University of Hawai'i Student Caucus, but would reinforce and request the following:

Agenda Item IV A. Update on Presidential Search – Selection of Search Firm and Presidential Search Survey

ASUH reinforces its position on the Presidential Search Survey through Senate Resolution 06-24 that we want the next UH System President to terminate and end our status as an University Affiliated Research Center (U.A.R.C) and that the next President should not be affiliated with the DoD, nor be a Principal Investigator (PI) on DoD funded contracts.

We further reinforce that the next President demonstrates values toward shared governance and hope that the Board of Regents would take back more oversight of the University and its operations rather than delegate and relinquish decision-making to the President and his associates.

I find it concerning that the Selection of the Search Firm seems to be shrouded in secrecy, there is no regent material for us as students to review and the broader public, in what the Board is considering for this particular item. Nor was it clear in how it was agendaized in the previous Special Board meeting on January 4th. It is also not clear the role the Search Firm will have in working with the Presidential Search Advisory Group in some ways their work seems duplicative.

Agenda Item IV B. Board Approval of Presidential Search Advisory Group Members

I support both Lindsey Millerd and Dominique Bonifacio to the Board of Regents, but would request the Regents consider broadening representation beyond leeward O'ahu, as requested by my fellow Senators at UH Mānoa.

I would also reinforce the Student Caucus's position on the appointment of Brandon Marc T. Higa.

In my personal capacity I would also reinforce the point of the caucus that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs should be granted a seat as part of the Advisory Group Members

Agenda Item IV D. Discussion and Potential Action on Assignment of Tasks to the Presidential Search Advisory Group

I would request that members of the Advisory Group be required to attend all Open Forums in the respective counties, and be tasked with assisting in the development of the position profile. The Board of Regents should provide the survey results to the Presidential Search Advisory Group, to help inform the position profile. The members of the codified groups should also be tasked with planning visits of any finalists to said groups. I further request that the Advisory Group provide adequate time for respective representatives to meet with their respective codified groups prior to making decisions.

I would request the Advisory Group should it be tasked with vetting candidates and recommending finalists, be allowed to conduct interviews and evaluations only after attending open forums, and the development of a Position Profile.

Mahalo,



Bronson Azama
111th ASUH President



Testimony

Baleigh Roysdon <baleighr@hawaii.edu>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Wed, Feb 14, 2024 at 12:17 PM

Hi,

Attached below is my testimony.

Thank you,
Baleigh Roysdon



Testimony .pdf
37K

Testimony

Good morning, members of the Board of Regents. My name is Baleigh Roysdon, and I am a sophomore majoring in political science and economics at University of Hawaii at Manoa. While I may be from East Tennessee, my commitment to our university's welfare is unwavering. Today, I stand before you to advocate for meaningful student involvement in the selection process for the next university president, as well as to reinforce specific requests regarding the future direction of our institution.

Our recent survey results have indicated overwhelming support from the student body for the termination of the UARC Contract and separating the roles of regent and UH System President. It is clear that these issues are of utmost importance to students and directly affect the well-being and academic environment of our university. The UARC Contract, in particular, impacts the direction the University seeks to go in supporting the community.

I encourage the Board of Regents to think about including student viewpoints from all over our broad university community in the advisory group that will be responsible for choosing the next president of the university. Although Leeward Oahu students' opinions are important, it is essential to ensure that students from various campuses and backgrounds may participate in this critical decision-making process.

As a final request, I would like the Board of Regents to agree to extend the application period until June in order to provide a thorough search process with sufficient time. This is for the roles of Manoa regent and UH president. This extension would enable a more careful evaluation of applicants and guarantee that the most qualified people are chosen to guide our university through the years to come.

In conclusion, I firmly believe our institution's future success depends on significant student participation in the process of selecting the next president. Through emphasizing the survey results and advocating particular demands, we can guarantee that student opinions are acknowledged and respected when determining the course of our university. I urge the Board of Regents to act on behalf of the student body. Together, we can grant our university community a better future. Thank you for your time.

Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.

*****All written testimony submitted are public documents. Therefore, any testimony submitted is public information and will be posted on the board's website.***

Your Name (required)

Marguerite Butler

Your Organization (optional)

University of Hawaii Manoa

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you)

mbutler@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required)

(2/16) Special BOR - IV.B. Board Approval of Presidential Search Advisory Group Members

Your Position (required)

Oppose

Your Testimony/Comments

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TO: The Board of Regents, University of Hawai'i
FROM: Dr. Marguerite Butler, Professor, School of Life Sciences, UH Manoa
DATE: 02/14/24
RE: Recommendations for the Presidential Search Advisory Committee and Process

Dear Chair Nahale-a, Regents and President Lassner,

My name is Marguerite Butler. I am a Professor in the School of Life Sciences, a current senator on the Manoa Faculty Senate and former Chair of the Manoa Faculty Senate and Co-chair of the ACCFSC. Today I am testifying in my personal capacity as a faculty member on two items.

I want to express my appreciation for the work those tasked with proposing the names of the 12 members of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. It is not an easy task, made even more difficult on an extremely compressed timeline. Community representation is excellent. However, **Mānoa is not well-represented.**

In particular:

1) Who will represent research on the Presidential Search Committee?

The UH System includes Hawaii's only research university. Our faculty bring in more than \$500 million into the state each year. It is critical that the search committee have the informed opinion of a researcher of national renown (a "high powered" researcher). It is critical for the university, its students, and the state of Hawai'i that the research enterprise be vibrant and flourish.

Some possibilities:

Pete Mougini-Mark, former Director of HIGP
Velma Kameoka, former Director of SSRI
Steven Ward, Director of the Institute for Biogenesis Research
Patrick Kirch, Professor of Anthropology, and member of the National Academy of Sciences

2) Who will represent academics?

The core missions of a university are academics, research, and service. Scholarship is at the heart of higher education, and thus it is imperative that a scholar who is a leader at the national level be included (regardless of grant dollars). Some possibilities include:

Sai Bhatawadekar, Professor of Indo-Pacific Languages and Literatures
Ashley Maynard, Professor of Psychology, former member of the American Psychological Association Commission on Accreditation
Ty Tengan, Professor of Anthropology
Monique Chyba, Professor of Mathematics

3) Search timeline

The current search timeline is unrealistic. Even for a faculty position, starting now would mean a start date of August 2025, or at the earliest January 2025. Any candidate worth recruiting will have important prior obligations.

Why the rush? The President does not teach classes so it is unclear why an August start date is important. *It is much more important that we get high quality candidates that will be a good fit, and this takes time.*

Most Mānoa faculty have not had a chance to weigh in on the search advisory committee. A week or two is simply not enough time for consultation among the 2200 faculty.

4) Improper faculty consultation

I thank the regents for the attention to consultation through the "shared governance entities". However, the ACCFSC (All Campus Council of Faculty Senate Chairs) is NOT a recognized shared governance entity, and thus this route is improper and I must respectfully object.

As a former chair of the Manoa Faculty Senate and co-chair of the ACCFSC, I have studied the structure of shared governance at UH (RP 1.210). **The recognized shared governance organizations are at the campus-level senates:** Manoa, Hilo, West Oahu, and each of the community colleges.

The ACCFSC is a council, not unlike the Democratic (or Republican) Governor's Association. Each member, as governor, is head of their state government. Through the DGA they get together to share information, hear from the President or other leaders, etc., but the DGA makes no laws or policies, and the head of the Democratic Governor's Association does not speak for all of the people of the United States.

This is an important structural point. The ACCFSC is good for the exchange of information with and among chairs, but talking to the ACCFSC does not constitute faculty consultation.

Representation occurs at the campus level through the recognized shared governance organizations - the campus level faculty senates. Thus in order to be proper faculty consultation, *each campus senate must have an opportunity to take up issues.*

It is true that the ACCFSC co-chair is also the Manoa faculty senate chair, but if this seat is designated to represent ACCFSC as "the system", what does that mean? *In particular, who on the search advisory committee will represent Manoa?*

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Your Name (required)

Mānoa Faculty Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning

Your Organization (optional)

Mānoa Faculty Senate

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you)

amaynard@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required)

(2/16) Special BOR - IV.B. Board Approval of Presidential Search Advisory Group Members

Your Position (required)

Oppose

Your Testimony/Comments

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

CAPP testimony to BOR re presidential search, February 2024.pdf (151.0 kB)



February 14, 2024

TO: University of Hawai'i Board of Regents

FROM: Mānoa Faculty Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning (CAPP)

RE: Faculty Inclusion in the University of Hawai'i (UH) Presidential Search Process

Transparency is imperative to decision-making regarding the governance of our university and the university system, and one aspect of governance is inclusion. On December 1, 2023, the CAPP submitted testimony to the BOR that stated among other things that *"Shared governance is a principle of higher education and a crucial part of BOR policy between UH faculty and UH administration. The BOR should not attempt to circumvent that by excluding regular and sustained faculty participation in decisions as important as the search for the UH president"* (CAPP Testimony to BOR, 12/1/23, pg.1).

CAPP asks the BOR again to **include tenured instructional faculty members on the selection committee, rather than solely on the advisory board, as the committee deliberates the hiring of the next president of the University of Hawai'i system.** Faculty must be members of the selection committee to be able to read all applicants' files and actively and thoughtfully participate in the selection of applicants. This is because tenured instructional faculty members have a critical and specific professional vision to read and understand applicants' files in the proper perspective. Furthermore, we remind the BOR of the following:

1. UH's tradition of shared governance. The Regents' Policy RP 1.201, Faculty Involvement in Academic Policy, states, *"It is the policy of the university to maintain and strengthen organized and systematic involvement by faculty in academic decision-making and policy development."* While many worthy stakeholders are rightly concerned about selecting our leadership, the faculty has a unique responsibility for participating with the administration in the university's governance. This is a long-standing arrangement in academia in general and UH in particular.
2. Faculty expertise. Faculty have a central and seminal role in the academic mission of the university. As such, faculty possess thorough knowledge and experience regarding the central activities of the university. This includes classroom teaching, research, and publication; curriculum design and implementation; departmental, college, and campus governance, administration and budgeting; and service to local and professional communities. Faculty are expected to carry out the duties of reviewing, assessing, recommending, and taking action on issues related to academic policy, leadership, and governance. This expectation should extend to the selection of the next President.

We strongly urge you to consider our comments and take action to include faculty in meaningful ways in the presidential search. Please consider this testimony as an invitation to further conversations with you about faculty shared governance.

c: Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee

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Your Name (required)

Erin E. Centeio (ACCFSC), Jaret KC Leong (UH Staff Council), Kamakanaokealoha Aquino (Pūkoʻa Council), and Lindsey Millerd (UH Student Caucus)

Your Organization (optional)

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you)

JaretL@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required)

(2/16) Special BOR - IV.D. Discussion and Potential Action on Assignment of Tasks to the Presidential Search Advisory Group

Your Position (required)

Comments Only

Your Testimony/Comments

The testimonial is attached.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

Testimonial (Agenda IV.D.).pdf (55.3 kB)

TO: Board of Regents

FROM: Erin E. Centeio (ACCFSC), Jaret KC Leong (UH Staff Council),
Kamakanaokealoha Aquino (Pūko'a Council), Lindsey Millerd (Student
Caucus)

Regarding **Agenda Item IV. D. Discussion and Potential Action on Assignment of Tasks to the Presidential Search Advisory Group.**

Aloha Chair Nahale-a and Regents,

Many of us have provided our own individual testimony and testimony representing our different constituents in previous testimony to the BOR regarding the presidential search process. Much of our previous testimony has focused on faculty, staff, and students being integral to the search for the next president. The original hope was to have members serve on the search committee and have an equal vote recommending a slate of candidates to the BOR. After the BOR decided to move forward with a committee of the whole (COW) and establish a presidential search advisory group (PSAG), the four of us, in collaboration with the BOR liaisons, have been working tirelessly to establish a PSAG that is inclusive and representative.

During the BOR meetings and throughout the process of establishing the PSAG, we have been promised that the PSAG would play a significant role in the entire Presidential Search process. We have been operating in good faith with the BOR and expect this Advisory Group to have significant responsibilities.

Knowing that the BOR needs to make decisions quickly about the role of the PSAG within the hiring process and acknowledge that confidentiality agreements will need to be signed before proceeding, we would like to respectfully recommend that the responsibilities of the PSAG include:

1. **Consult with Search Firm:** Work collaboratively with the search firm to identify and attract suitable candidates. The PSAG may also provide feedback on the search firm's recommendations.
2. **Define Selection Criteria:** Work collaboratively with the search firm to establish clear and comprehensive criteria (minimum and desired qualifications) for selecting the university president. This may include considering academic qualifications, leadership experience, commitment to diversity and inclusion, and other relevant factors.
3. **Participate in Candidate Evaluation:** Review all applications and conduct initial interviews to assess the minimum and desired qualifications, leadership skills, and alignment with the university's mission of potential candidates.

4. **Engage with Stakeholders:** Gather input from various university stakeholders, including faculty, staff, students, and community members, to ensure a broad perspective on the needs and expectations of the next university president.
5. **Recommend Finalists:** Based on the PSAG evaluations of candidates, provide recommendations for a shortlist (3-4) of candidates who meet the established criteria. This may involve presenting a ranked list or providing detailed feedback on each candidate to the BOR.
6. **Ensure Transparency:** Promote transparency throughout the process by communicating regularly with the university community, keeping stakeholders informed about the progress, and seeking feedback at key stages.
7. **Participate in Campus Interviews:** Participate in campus interviews, allowing candidates to engage with the university and communities, ensuring that various perspectives are considered.
8. **Evaluate Leadership Style:** Assess candidates' leadership values, style, and potential to contribute positively to the university's culture, values, and strategic goals.

We know that selecting the next president is one of your essential duties as Regents. The PSAG's collaborative and deliberate involvement in the presidential search process is essential for the future president's success. We hope you will consider the important duties listed above that the PSAG should be involved in. Without significant responsibilities assigned to the PSAG, the faculty, staff, students, and community will lack trust in the final selection of the next president.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Aloha,

Erin E. Centeio, ACCFSC
Jaret KC Leong, UH Staff Council
Kamakanaokealoha Aquino, Pūkoʻa Council
Lindsey Millerd, UH Student Caucus

Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

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Your Name (required)

Lindsey Millerd

Your Organization (optional)

UHSC

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you)

lmillerd@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required)

(2/16) Special BOR - IV.A. Update on Presidential Search – Selection of Search Firm and Presidential Search Survey

Your Position (required)

Support

Your Testimony/Comments

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

The Board Of Regents 2_16 (1).pdf (47.1 kB)

The Board Of Regents

Ronald Sturges, Lindsey Miller & Bronson Azama
University of Hawaii Student Caucus

Friday, February 16th, 2024

In Regards to Agenda Section IV, Item A:

The Student Caucus has voted unanimously to support the separation of the UH System President and UH Mānoa Chancellor.

We believe the roles should be distinct in order to serve our 10 campuses more effectively. A president has the distinct role of managing the entire system, and stacking on the responsibility of the chancellor at the largest campus results in inadequate performance in both roles. A system president should not be directly tied to any one campus so they can fairly devote energy to all the campuses. This separation will mean Mānoa will have someone to properly manage their needs and the other campuses can all get the attention for current needs and future development.