

MINUTES
BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING
JULY 18, 2024

A video recording of this meeting may be viewed at the Board of Regents website as follows:

[Meeting Video](#)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. on Thursday, July 18, 2024, at the University of Hawai'i (UH) at Mānoa, Bachman Hall, 1st Floor Conference Room 106A/B, 2444 Dole Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96822, with regents participating from various locations.

Quorum (11): Chair Gabriel Lee; Vice-Chairs Laurie Tochiki and Laurel Loo; and Regents Neil Abercrombie, Lauren Akitake, Joshua Faumuina, William Haning, Wayne Higaki, Michael Miyahira, Diane Paloma, and Ernest Wilson.

Others in attendance: President David Lassner; Vice President (VP) for Administration Jan Gouveia; VP for Academic Strategy Debora Halbert; VP for Community Colleges (UHCC) Erika Lacro; VP for Legal Affairs/UH General Counsel Carrie Okinaga; VP for Research and Innovation Vassilis Syrmos; VP for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer Garret Yoshimi; VP for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer Kalbert Young; UH-Mānoa (UHM) Provost Michael Bruno; UH-Hilo (UHH) Chancellor Bonnie Irwin; UH-West O'ahu Chancellor Maenette Benham; Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents (Board Secretary) Yvonne Lau; and others as noted.

II. WELCOME NEW REGENTS MIYAHIRA AND FAUMUINA

Chair Lee officially welcomed new Regents Miyahira and Faumuina to the board.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 16, 2024 MEETING

Chair Lee inquired if there were any corrections to the minutes of the May 16, 2024, meeting which had been distributed. Hearing none, the minutes were approved.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Board Secretary Lau announced that, while the Board Office did not receive any written testimony, one individual did sign up to provide oral comments.

Jill Nunokawa provided verbal remarks in support of the establishment and naming of the Leonard Hoshijo Endowed Chair in Labor Law at the University of Hawai'i William S. Richardson School of Law (WSRSL) and the request to award the title of Dean Emeritus to Dr. Noreen Mokuau.

V. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS HONORING UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I REGENTS ALAPAKI NAHALE-A AND ABIGAIL MAWAE

Chair Lee stated resolutions honoring former University of Hawai'i Regents Alapaki Nahale-a and Abigail Mawae were contained within the meeting materials.

Regent Higaki moved to adopt the resolutions honoring University of Hawai'i Regents Alapaki Nahale-a and Abigail Mawae and the motion was seconded by Regent Wilson.

Regents offered their thanks to Regent Emeritus Nahale-a and Regent Emeritus Mawae for their service and commitment to the university and outstanding work as members of the board. Each was praised for their contributions to board discussions, professionalism, insight, sense of responsibility, kindness, courtesy, and friendship. Regent Emeritus Nahale-a was especially commended for his patience, leadership, guidance, mentorship, and grace under pressure, particularly during his tenure as board chair. It was noted their presence on the board will be missed.

There having been a motion that was moved and seconded, a roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

VI. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

A. Update on Enrollment

Overall fall headcount enrollment and student semester hour numbers are up slightly from the same time last year and continue to hold steady. This is especially good news given UHM's change to its registration schedule to improve student services whereby first-time full-time freshman are registering for classes about two weeks closer to the start of the school year. As such, the usual comparisons to prior year data based on days before the beginning of instruction are, at present, significant underestimates. Degree-seeking student headcount is already up almost three percent, despite the change in UHM's registration schedule; undergraduate continuing enrollment is currently up over six percent; Native Hawaiian Pacific Island enrollment is up over four percent; resident enrollment is up nearly three percent; and undergraduate transfer enrollment is slightly up (0.4 percent). President Lassner stated he will be able to provide the board with a better picture of enrollment at the university during next month's board meeting, which is much closer to the start of instruction.

The overall impacts on enrollment resulting from issues associated with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) discussed at the April 18, 2024, board meeting are still unknown both in Hawai'i and across the country. However, the number of State of Hawai'i Department of Education students from the class of 2024 who have completed their FAFSA has seen a substantial drop with just 49.9 percent of percent of these individuals completing their FAFSA as of July 5, 2024, as compared to 59.3 percent doing so by this time last year, although these figures are still ahead of the national average of 46.6 percent. President Lassner underscored the efforts, commitment, and diligence of all campuses throughout the university system regarding the packaging of FAFSA-related aid for students despite challenges with the FAFSA

application process. He stated that the four-year campuses have already been notifying students about their offers and the community colleges expect to do the same shortly.

B. Final Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Extramural and Philanthropy Numbers

The university did remarkably well in securing extramural research funding for FY 2024 surpassing the \$600 million threshold for the first time with just over \$615 million being received for the fiscal year. This marks the third year in a row in which the university has set a record with respect to these numbers.

For the fourth year in a row, philanthropic donations have exceeded \$100 million with just under \$115 million being secured for FY 2024. While not a record, the amount received represents the highest total in philanthropic funding in a year without a so-called unicorn gift, or gift over \$50 million, and is indicative of a steady growth in base giving to the university. Although these figures in-and-of themselves are outstanding, President Lassner emphasized that every one of these donations represents an increase in trust in the work of the university, as well as its faculty and students.

C. Willard Wilson Award for Distinguished Service

President Lassner and the board presented Dr. Kathleen Kane, UHM Director for the Office of Faculty Development and Academic Support, with the Board of Regents' Willard Wilson Award for Distinguished Service to the University of Hawai'i (Willard Wilson Award) which is named in honor of long-time university administrator and secretary of the board, Willard Wilson, who set the standard for exemplary service to the university during his 40-year career. President Lassner spoke about Dr. Kane's dedicated service to the university over the course of more than three decades; noted some of the numerous programs and activities she played a role in initiating, oversaw, coordinated, or supported such as new faculty orientation, teaching assistant training, and professional development workshops; highlighted her efforts to spearhead the design and creation of several innovative classroom spaces at UHM including the award winning Sakamaki Innovation Zone, Webster Collaborative Classroom, and the recently completed Dean Hall Culture Lab; expressed his gratitude for her commitment to the university; and remarked that Dr. Kane's work will undoubtedly leave an indelible mark on teaching and learning at UH.

D. Other

The Institute for Astronomy (IfA) has been selected by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to continue to operate the agency's Infrared Telescope Facility (IRTF) on Maunakea. Among its many science programs, IRTF is used to identify asteroids and comets that may pose a threat to Earth and therefore serves as a primary asset in NASA's planetary defense system. The NASA contract with the university has a maximum potential value of approximately \$85.5 million and could extend through December 2033. The university was careful to communicate to NASA that the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority (MKSOA) will determine the future of all Maunakea observatories, including the facility housing the IRTF, following

the transition of stewardship responsibilities from the university to this entity no later than 2028.

President Lassner spoke about Hawai'i's critical role in planetary defense which relies on multiple instruments located around the globe to serve as an early warning system for potential interstellar impacts with the Earth. In addition to the abovementioned IRTF, he noted IfA's Panoramic Survey Telescope and Rapid Response System (Pan-STARRS) located on Haleakalā which conducts surveys comparing current and prior space imagery to detect near-Earth objects with the potential for an astronomical collision event, and the asteroid impact early warning system known as the Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System, or ATLAS, which was developed by the university with sites on Mauna Loa and Haleakalā, as well as in Chile and South Africa, and is used to detect smaller near-Earth objects a few weeks to days before impacting Earth.

VII. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Update on Board of Regents Resolution 23-01: [Resolution To Further Act on Items Relating to Maunakea Management](#)

- 1. Report by the Center for Maunakea Stewardship**
- 2. Address by MKSOA Officials**
- 3. Discussion Regarding the Work of the Co-Management and the Transition Working Groups**

Dr. Greg Chun, Executive Director of UHH's Center for Maunakea Stewardship (CMS), presented an update on work being done to meet the terms of directives contained within Board of Regents Resolution 23-01 in relation to the university's stewardship and management of Maunakea. He reviewed the status of CMS's compliance with several of Board Resolution 23-01's action items, including the decommissioning of the Caltech Submillimeter Observatory and UHH's Hōkū Kea teaching telescope, and the establishment and locating of a new educational telescope facility at Hale Pōhaku, although this project has been paused pending MKSOA's creation of a management plan for Maunakea. He also pointed out the areas of Maunakea currently managed by the university, the largest being the Maunakea Science Reserve which consists of just over 11,300 acres of land, along with their respective lease expiration dates; highlighted a few of the activities of the CMS Ranger Program, such as the protection of natural resources, the provision of public safety and emergency response services, and visitor education, as well as the Program's recognition as the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i's team of the year for 2023; spoke about the university's ongoing stewardship and resource management efforts on Maunakea including the monitoring of cultural and historic sites, the removal of invasive species, and the propagation of native plants via conservation partnerships; touched upon the four main objectives of CMS's community education and outreach efforts, which are primarily based upon the philosophy of Maunakea being the kumu and the mauna serving as the classroom, mentioning several community engagement activities which have taken place over the past year; and talked about the creation of interpretive

and interactive exhibits at the newly renovated Visitor Information Station that are grounded in Hawaiian knowledge and science and will provide individuals visiting the mountain with a better understanding of Maunakea as a storied Hawaiian place, with a dynamic, living, Hawaiian culture.

In addition to the aforementioned matters related to Board Resolution 23-01, Dr. Chun offered details on the establishment of MKSOA via Act 255, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2022 (Act 255), stating this newly created State agency will be assuming complete control of matters related to Maunakea lands upon the expiration of a five-year transition period in 2028. He then proceeded to talk about some of Act 255's declarations and requirements, in particular, provisions with the potential to impact the execution of Board Resolution 23-01's action items, such as the decommissioning of three additional telescopes and the establishment of a new educational telescope, along with those related to MKSOA's post-transition authority and the joint management of Maunakea lands during the transition period; highlight the university's and CMS's efforts to facilitate a smooth transition of jurisdictional authority to MKSOA through the provision of educational and administrative support, among other things; note a few of the issues that would fall under the auspices of MKSOA, like the approval of leases and issuance of permits for Maunakea lands; discuss the current project approval process as provided for in the Master Plan for the University of Hawai'i Maunakea Lands (Master Plan) approved by the board in 2022 and efforts undertaken to incorporate MKSOA into this process; and go over the particulars of a CMS-proposed organizational structure with respect to the university and MKSOA's joint management of Maunakea lands which is currently under consideration.

Regent Higaki left at 10:18 a.m.

For the edification of newer regents, Chair Lee provided information on the relationships between some of the entities presently responsible for managing and stewarding Maunakea, including CMS and the Mauna Kea Management Board, and MKSOA.

Referencing the Master Plan's project approval process, Regent Abercrombie sought clarification as to whether already-approved projects would be routed through MKSOA given the modification of project review procedures due to the passage of Act 255. Dr. Chun replied that projects which have already been approved would not be subject to this recently-added review.

Regent Akitake asked about the status of CMS's proposed organizational structure for the joint management of Maunakea lands and whether all parties involved were agreeable to this plan. Dr. Chun stated a version of this proposal was originally put forth in December 2023 but has since been refined. However, to fully agree to, vet, establish, and implement this plan, MKSOA needed to bring on its management team, which the entity has only recently done. As such, CMS's proposal remains under discussion at present. With respect to agreement on the plan by all parties involved, Dr. Chun remarked that he could not speak for MKSOA but noted CMS is comfortable with the proposal as presented. He also mentioned the University of Hawai'i Office of General Counsel's desire to have this proposal, or other similar agreement between

parties on the joint management of Maunakea lands, be officially approved via the adoption of resolutions by both MKSOA and the board.

Regent Abercrombie shared his thoughts on the legal obligations and authority of the university, MKSOA, and the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) with respect to Maunakea lands and their associated projects in light of Act 255. He then inquired if his belief that the university and DLNR were the legally responsible authorities for managing and stewarding Maunakea until such time these duties were fully transferred to MKSOA was correct. Dr. Chun responded that, at the June 28, 2024, meeting of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR), it was made abundantly clear by the BLNR Chair that BLNR holds the university responsible for all obligations under its permits, leases, and approved management plan until the transition.

A brief discussion ensued between Regent Abercrombie and Dr. Chun on the university's involvement in the permitting process for projects on Maunakea and the joint management of Maunakea lands during the five-year transition period from an operational perspective.

Citing the decommissioning of the Caltech Submillimeter Observatory and UHH's Hōkū Kea teaching telescope, Regent Paloma asked if she understood correctly that Act 255 could affect efforts to decommission three additional telescopes on Maunakea as noted in Board Resolution 23-01. Additionally, she sought a brief explanation on the restoration of land once the decommissioning of a telescope was completed. Dr. Chun responded that, similar to the situation involving the construction of a new educational telescope previously mentioned, conversations on efforts to decommission three additional telescopes on Maunakea have been paused pending MKSOA's creation of a management plan for the mountain. He also went over the three levels of restoration identified in the Mauna Kea Comprehensive Management Plan, highlighting the components of each; pointed out the decision as to which level of restoration is executed is determined after careful analysis of a variety of factors; and presented post-restoration images of the Caltech Submillimeter Observatory and UHH's Hōkū Kea sites.

At the invitation of Chair Lee, John Komeiji, Chair of MKSOA, shared his thoughts on the roles and responsibilities of MKSOA as laid out in Act 255 emphasizing the uniqueness of this entity in the sense that it was created to give a voice to individuals who believed they were not being heard on issues regarding Maunakea, particularly with respect to the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope. He talked about what he felt were the main goals of MKSOA based upon statutory requirements and conversations with legislators and community members; mentioned the entity's diverse membership; noted operational challenges encountered by MKSOA since its inception, such as the inability to hire staff; discussed some of the work being done by MKSOA and its recently appointed management team including, among other things, the formation of a permitted interaction group to determine how MKSOA should proceed with the development of its master plan for Maunakea; and offered insights on MKSOA-initiated community meetings on issues concerning Maunakea which, in his opinion, were positive. He also

expressed his belief that progress is being made on matters related to Maunakea, albeit slowly.

John De Fries, Executive Director of MKSOA, then spoke about some of MKSOA's recent hires and the positive impact these individuals are expected to have on the body's work due to their plethora of experience and discussed the co-management proposal for Maunakea lands put forth earlier by Dr. Chun stating that, in essence, portions of the plan are becoming operationalized given that the Maunakea Joint Management Committee will be holding its first meeting next week and every two weeks thereafter.

Regent Emeritus Ben Kudo, who currently serves as the board's representative on MKSOA, provided the basis for the creation of MKSOA's Co-Management Working Group and Transition Working Group and described the tasks each was charged with accomplishing including addressing uncertainties with respect to jurisdictional, operational, administrative, and policy issues brought about by the joint-management requirement of Act 255 and the methodology for conveyance of the university's Maunakea liabilities and assets to MKSOA. He also highlighted some of the actions already undertaken by each of the working groups to achieve their respective tasks; summarized a few of the activities and processes the working groups expect to engage in over the next several months; and shared his perspectives on Board Resolution 23-01 and its action items, which he feels should be updated to more accurately reflect the current situation.

A conversation took place between Regent Abercrombie and Mr. Komeiji on the fulfillment of the university's roles, responsibilities, and obligations relative to Act 255 and Board Resolution 23-01 and the necessity of clarifying and moving forward on these matters in a timely fashion.

B. Strategic Plan Implementation Update

VP Halbert gave a brief overview of the development of the University of Hawai'i System Strategic Plan 2023-2029 (Strategic Plan), which was adopted by the board in November 2022, noting its structure and foundational principles, and provided a synopsis of general activities to implement the Strategic Plan that have occurred over the past academic year. She then introduced the leads for each of the four imperatives encompassed by the Strategic Plan who would be providing implementation updates on their respective subject areas.

Chancellor Benham, Farrah-Marie Gomes, Associate VP (AVP) for Student Affairs, Alan Rosenfeld, AVP for Academic Programs and Policy, Della Teraoka, UHCC VP for Academic Affairs, and VP Syrmos discussed the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan's four imperatives of Kuleana to Native Hawaiians and Hawai'i, Developing Successful Students for a Better Future (Student Success Imperative), Meeting Hawai'i's Workforce Needs of Today and Tomorrow, and Diversifying Hawai'i's Economy through Innovation and Research (Innovation Imperative); spoke about the progress being made in attaining these goals and objectives; mentioned a number of strategies, processes, university and external community engagement events, and other activities undertaken to develop and refine each imperative; pointed out some of the

priorities and major initiatives of each imperative as well as accomplishments and milestones achieved; noted the establishment of key indicators and metrics to ensure desired outcomes are being met; and went over various next steps expected to be taken with respect to future implementation of the imperative. Chancellor Benham also provided background information on the creation of Hawai'i Papa O Ke Ao, an organization that was instrumental in developing the Kuleana Imperative.

Regent Higaki returned at 11:27 a.m.

Regent Haning solicited further information about a statement made by VP Syrmos related to the State's renewable energy goals during his discussion on the Innovation Imperative. VP Syrmos stated that the State would be hard-pressed to meet its goal of achieving 100 percent clean energy production by 2045 if it solely relies on wind and solar energy generation methodologies. As such, one of the Innovation Imperative's initiatives is to accelerate research on developing alternative means of renewable energy generation including geothermal and green hydrogen.

Regent Miyahira suggested including biosecurity issues and time-to-degree metrics within the Innovation and Student Success imperatives respectively. He also asked if the university was taking steps to encourage enrollment in specific academic programs, especially in those where there is a large or community workforce need. VP Syrmos stated the university is currently conducting research on a number of biosecurity matters and was recently awarded a significant federal grant related to this topic. VP Halbert noted time-to-degree metrics have already been incorporated into the Student Success Imperative and has been showing signs of improvement over time. Given the administration's critical interest in this issue, she stated work on the Student Success Imperative has involved the analysis of several strategies to address this subject and will continue to do so. Concerning the university's actions to encourage enrollment in particular educational programs, VP Halbert responded that the administration is hoping opportunities such as the just announced zero percent interest loan program for engineering student tuition will help promote enrollment in specific academic disciplines. Should projects such as these experience success, the administration could then adapt them to other degree programs.

C. Consent Agenda

- 1. Board Approval of Amendments to Regents Policy (RP) 5.211 Admissions**
- 2. Board Approval of Contracting of the Migration and Ongoing Operation of the Kualii Financial System to the Kualii Fully Hosted Version (Fully Hosted Software-as-a-Service)**
- 3. Board Approval of a \$500.00 Per Semester Professional Fee for the Doctor of Pharmacy Program at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo**

A brief discussion occurred between Regent Abercrombie, President Lassner, VP Halbert, and Chancellor Irwin regarding the different admission standards for the university's four-year institutions, the rationale for these differences, and the minimal impacts, if any, this has on applicants.

Regent Abercrombie asked if the amendments to RP 5.211 and the aforementioned distinction in admission requirements affected articulation. VP Halbert stated that neither the amendments to RP 5.211 nor campus admission requirements have an impact on articulation.

Regent Wilson moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Vice-Chair Loo, and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

Given that Agenda Items D and E addressed similar subject matters, Chair Lee suggested the board receive information on both items concurrently and vote on these items simultaneously. He asked if there were any objections to proceeding in this manner. No objections were raised.

D. Approval of the Establishment and Naming of the John C. Couch Endowed Chair in Hepatology at the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM)

Provost Bruno provided information on a financial commitment received from John C. Couch to establish and name the John C. Couch Endowed Chair in Hepatology at JABSOM stating the purpose of establishing and funding this endowed chair is to recruit and retain talented faculty and provide the recipient with resources to enhance research, education, and community outreach missions in the field of Hepatology.

E. Approval of the Establishment and Naming of the Dr. Ken and Mrs. Gemie Arakawa Endowed Chair in Medicine at JABSOM

Provost Bruno presented information on a financial commitment received from Dr. Ken and Mrs. Gemie Arakawa to establish and name the Dr. Ken and Mrs. Gemie Arakawa Endowed Chair in Medicine at JABSOM. The purpose of establishing and funding this endowed chair is to recruit, support, reward, and retain talented faculty and provide the recipient with resources to enhance the research, education, and community outreach missions of the Department of Medicine at JABSOM.

At the conclusion of his presentation, Provost Bruno introduced Dr. Thomas Samuel Shomaker, the newly appointed Dean of JABSOM.

Regent Haning moved to approve the establishment and naming of both the John C. Couch Endowed Chair in Hepatology and the Dr. Ken and Mrs. Gemie Arakawa Endowed Chair in Medicine at JABSOM, seconded by Regent Miyahira, and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

F. Approval of the Establishment and Naming of the Leonard Hoshijo Endowed Chair in Labor Law at the UHM William S. Richardson School of Law

President Lassner briefly spoke about Leonard Hoshijo, espousing his lifelong dedication to public service and advocacy, and presented information on a financial gift of \$7,000,000 from the Leonard Hoshijo Memorial Foundation for the establishment of an Endowed Chair in Labor Law at the UHM William S. Richardson School of Law. He noted information contained in the materials packet regarding the purpose for

establishing and naming the endowed chair and stated that this is the largest cash or outright gift funding an endowed chair in university history.

As a student enrolled in the UHM William S. Richardson School of Law, Regent Faumuina acknowledged the work of Leonard Hoshijo and expressed his thanks to the Hoshijo family and the Leonard Hoshijo Memorial Foundation for this generous financial commitment.

Regent Miyahira moved to approve the establishment and naming of the Leonard Hoshijo Endowed Chair in Labor Law at the UHM William S. Richardson School of Law, seconded by Regent Akitake, and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

G. Approval of a Request to Award the Title of Dean Emeritus to Dr. Noreen Mokuau

Provost Bruno referenced the numerous achievements and extraordinary accomplishments of Dr. Noreen Mokuau spelled out in the memo for this request, stating that her positive and valuable contributions to the university, as well as decades of dedicated service, merits approval of the awarding of the Emeritus/Emerita title.

Regent Wilson voiced his strong support for this request and moved to grant the title of Dean Emeritus to Dr. Mokuau as recommended. The motion was seconded by Regent Haning and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

H. Legislative Update

VP Young reviewed the university's operating and capital improvement project (CIP) budgets approved for the second year of the 2023-2025 Fiscal Biennium. He presented a comparison between the university's initial, board-approved operating and CIP budget requests, to actual appropriations contained with the budget approved by the governor, highlighting reductions made via line-item veto as well as those items funded through non-recurring sources of revenue. He also discussed the operational and fiscal impacts of the governor's decision to line-item veto roughly \$40 million in cash-funded capital projects encompassed within Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 CIP budget appropriations, noting much of this money has already been committed or encumbered; went over the status of select bills of interest taken up by the Legislature this session that had the potential to impact the university or the board; spoke about several single chamber and concurrent resolutions related to the university that have been adopted; noted that Regent Miyahira had been officially confirmed by the State Senate; and, although they had already passed, talked about the deadlines in June and July for the governor to act upon bills passed by the Legislature.

Regent Abercrombie sought clarification on the reduction in funding for projects from the FY 2023-2024 CIP budget with an existing encumbrance. VP Young explained that the State's current financial need along with the methodology of using general funds to pay for these projects were the root causes for the reductions in CIP funding made by the governor. As these monies were already encumbered, the administration has

begun the process of identifying projects jeopardized by the line-item veto reductions and determining ways to supplant these funds using monies in the FY 2024-2025 CIP budget. The university has also been working with the State Department of Budget and Finance to accommodate the utilization of FY 2024-2025 funds to pay for the FY 2023-2024 projects. Regent Abercrombie asked whether this meant some of the university's capital projects for FY 2024-2025 could experience delays or be postponed. VP Young replied in the affirmative.

In light of the abovementioned responses, a conversation ensued between Regent Abercrombie, VP Young, and Chair Lee regarding the process for addressing the noted issues relative to the university's operational and CIP expenditure plans for the current fiscal year and the necessity of ongoing dialogue between the board and administration on this matter.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (closed to the public)

Regent Wilson moved to convene into executive session, seconded by Vice-Chair Loo, and with all members present voting in the affirmative, the board approved convening in executive session to consider the hire, evaluation, dismissal, or discipline of an officer or employee, where consideration of matters affecting privacy will be involved, pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(2), Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), and to consult with the board's attorneys on question and issues pertaining to the board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities, pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(4), HRS.

The meeting recessed at 12:32 p.m.

Chair Lee called the meeting back to order at 1:38 p.m. and announced that the board met in executive session to discuss the matters as stated on the agenda.

IX. AGENDA ITEMS (Continued)

A. Personnel Actions (Attachment A-1 for approval)

Regent Wilson moved to approve the reappointment of Dr. Debora Halbert as VP for Academic Strategy and the appointment of Dr. Makenakauhaneola (Makena) Coffman, Professor, as Academic Program Officer (Director of the Institute for Sustainability and Resilience), UHM, as requested by the administration, seconded by Regent Haning, and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

B. Approval of Settlement of Civil Actions Entitled: (1) Ekins-Coward v. University of Hawai'i, et al., Civil No. 17-1-0036-01; and (2) Ekins-Coward v. University of Hawai'i and Firms Claims Services, Case No. AB 2018-282, DCD No. 2-16-48915, on Appeal to the Intermediate Court of Appeals, State of Hawai'i (CAAP-23-0000303)

Chair Lee stated this agenda item concerned the settlement of litigation and was discussed extensively in executive session.

Regent Miyahira moved to approve the settlement of civil actions entitled: (1) Ekins-Coward v. University of Hawai'i, et al., Civil No. 17-1-0036-01; and (2) Ekins-Coward v. University of Hawai'i and Firms Claims Services, Case No. AB 2018-282, DCD No. 2-16-48915, on Appeal to the Intermediate Court of Appeals, State of Hawai'i, (CAAP-23-0000303), seconded by Regent Haning, and the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Lee announced that the next board meeting was scheduled for August 15, 2024, at the University of Hawai'i Maui College.

Regent Abercrombie pointed out the American Volleyball Coaches Association announcement of its Team Academic Awards for the 2023-24 academic year with the Rainbow Warrior men's volleyball team and the Rainbow Wahine beach volleyball team each gaining recognition and congratulated both programs for this accomplishment.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Lee adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/

Yvonne Lau
Executive Administrator and Secretary
of the Board of Regents