

To Further Act on Items Relating to Maunakea Management and Amend Board of Regents Resolution 19-03

WHEREAS, at a special meeting on November 6, 2019, the Board of Regents (“Board”) adopted Resolution 19-03, *To Act on Items Relating to Maunakea Management*, which directed University Administration to accomplish certain actions with specified timeframes, including the decommissioning of five (5) observatories; engaging in community outreach; developing historical, environmental, and cultural education programs; incorporating uses by Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners within the Maunakea Master Plan update; working with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to improve infrastructure and access to Maunakea; and improving the University of Hawaii’s (“University”) management function, structure, and operations;

WHEREAS, the Board appointed a permitted interaction group to review and investigate proposed changes to the Maunakea Master Plan and Comprehensive Management Plan (collectively, “Plans”), to follow up on the requested actions in Board Resolution 19-03 and identify any other critical issues pertaining to the Plans, and make related findings and recommendations to the Board;

WHEREAS, the Board concurs with the findings and recommendations of the permitted interaction group, and formally expresses and reiterates the University’s commitment to accelerated efforts to strengthen its cultural stewardship of Maunakea, to astronomy as a cornerstone of excellence for the University and a significant contributor to the island and state economies and workforce, to maintaining high quality environmental stewardship of Maunakea, and to advocate for a management structure that is inclusive, efficient, and protective of all resources on Maunakea; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that the University’s proper stewardship of Maunakea is a long-term, complex, and challenging process, having its own timeframe, due in part, to anticipated and unanticipated factors outside of the University’s control; and

WHEREAS, the Board remains firmly committed to accomplish the completion of all outstanding actions set forth in Board Resolution 19-03 at the earliest possible date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Administration be directed to take the following actions:

1. Provide progress updates to the Board every six months regarding:
 - a. Progress made towards accomplishment of action items set forth in Board Resolution 19-03
 - b. The restructuring plan adopted by the Board in August 2020
2. At a future 2021 Board meeting, provide a comprehensive presentation on astronomy in the State as well as on Maunakea, and related academic programs, to be followed by a Board discussion on the role of the University in astronomy in Hawaii and the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the timelines for action specified in Board Resolution 19-03 are amended as follows:

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R E S O L U T I O N

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1. Two (2) observatory sites known as the Caltech Submillimeter Observatory (CSO) and Hōku Ke‘a Observatory (HKO) shall be decommissioned; assuming no permitting, weather, and access issues the target date for CSO decommissioning is no later than April 30, 2023, and HKO no later than August 31, 2024. For purposes of this resolution, the term “decommissioning” shall mean the complete removal of all man-made structures at each respective site bringing each site to as close as feasible to its natural state prior to construction.
2. To ensure the prompt availability of a teaching telescope for the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo Physics and Astronomy Program, a new educational telescope facility shall be established on already developed land at Hale Pōhaku or elsewhere with a target date for permitting, assuming no legal issues, no later than May 30, 2024, and the project being awarded for construction, subject to funding, no later than November 30, 2024. The Board of Regents shall support the funding of the planning, design, and construction of the new educational facility.
3. In collaboration with the Center for Maunakea Stewardship, the ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center shall develop and implement a suite of educational programs regarding Maunakea including but not limited to Native Hawaiian culture, history, environmental, and biological considerations designed for tour guides and drivers, employees, contractors, recreational users, scientists and observatory workers, and visitors, as required by the Management Plans, by September 30, 2021, with implementation targeted to commence no later than December 31, 2021.

Adopted by the Board of Regents
University of Hawai‘i
May 20, 2021