

OCT - 5 2012

October 3, 2012

Senator Donna Mercado Kim
Hawaii State Capital, Room 210
415 S. Beretania St
Honolulu, Hi 96813

Dear Senator Kim,

Thank you for holding the hearings on the UH management issues. I think you and the committee members asked the questions that many residents were wondering about. I appreciate that the tone was respectful but the questions were pointed.

I am concerned about the task group formed by the Board of Regents to investigate how the UH was scammed out of \$200,000 and to also examine operational, financial and oversight practices. I don't know whether you are aware that 2 of the nonvoting members have or had a professional/personal relationship with Mr. Howard Todo. Mr. Larry Rodriguez was the partner in charge of the Ernst & Young accounting firm while Mr. Howard Todo was a partner in that firm. Ms. Terri Fujii is the current partner in charge of Ernst & Young and worked as a partner with and colleague of Mr. Todo. This doesn't look good. Why are half of the accounting experts on the task group from the same accounting firm as Mr. Todo? I doubt that you can do anything about this situation but I didn't want you to get blind sided. In my opinion, it's another example of bad judgement by the UH or a total lack of concern/sensitivity of how the public would view this.

Again, I appreciate and thank you for your sincere concern about this matter.