

APR 21 2008

April 12, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am honored to write a letter of recommendation for nomination of Dr. Emi Isaki to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology. I have worked with Emi for the past three years in the Division of Speech Pathology and Audiology (SPA) at the University of Hawaii, Manoa. As a colleague of Emi's, I have had the opportunity to see how dedicated she is to the field of Speech Pathology.

First, and foremost, she is strongly committed to educating her students and motivating them to succeed. Emi helps guide her students in identifying their strengths and interests, and constantly challenges them to be the best they can be both academically and clinically. Even after her students have graduated, she continues to act as a mentor and friend.

Outside of the University, Emi is always contributing to the field of Speech Pathology. She volunteers her time to a number of organizations related to the field, including the Hawaii Speech-Language-Hearing Association (HSHA) and the Brain Injury Association of Hawaii. Not only does she give her time, but she is constantly motivating and challenging other individuals to do the same. Emi has recruited a number of speech-language pathologists to become part of the HSHA board.

Dr. Emi Isaki is dedicated to the field of Speech Pathology as a teacher, clinician, and mentor. She is a self-motivating, hard worker who is constantly striving to improve the education of her students and her contributions to the field. I feel strongly that she would be a wonderful addition to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology.

If you would like to discuss anything further, please contact me at (708) 927-7227 or sabarber@hawaii.edu.

Sincerely,



Steffanie A. Barber, M.S., CCC-SLP
Clinical Instructor/Speech-Language Pathologist
University of Hawaii, Manoa

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

John A. Burns School of Medicine
Division of Speech Pathology and Audiology

Senator Russell S. Kokubun
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer
Protection, & Affordable Housing
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

April 01, 2008

Dear Senator Kokubun:

I am writing to endorse the application of Dr. Emi Isaki to serve on the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology. I have known and worked with her since her arrival here at the University of Hawaii in the Division of Speech Pathology and Audiology in 1999. I have been a professor in the field of speech-language pathology for about 25 years. Since her arrival, I have taught with Dr. Isaki, been on numerous research committees with her both as chair and member, served on a community board with her (the Hawaii Speech-Language Hearing Association), shared clinical supervisory assignments with her, served on various committees with her, and have known her as both a friend and colleague. During these experiences, she has shown her breadth of understanding of the scope of responsibilities of this field, the necessary quality of its care, the importance of its code of ethics, and a deep understanding of the professional issues faced by practitioners both within the state and nationally.

As a teacher, she has been very actively involved with students, very motivated to pursue her research interests, and teaches soundly and receives good student reviews. She brings energy, enthusiasm, and a good sense of humor, reasonableness, and logic to departmental problems and her interactions with others. I have found her to be among the most easygoing of faculty members. These are all skills and aptitudes that would serve her well in the state position on the Board of Speech pathology and Audiology. She has also served as president of our state association, the Hawaii Speech-Language-Hearing Association, where she adeptly led the association and learned about professional concerns and solutions to a wide variety of problems facing clinicians today.

She has been at the center of a period of rapid change in this department (the graduate student body tripled in size over the past few years and then collapsed to some degree), bringing about problems of provision of adequate clinical supervision, provision of sufficient and good externship site placements for students, and routine course overloads. It has been a pressure to which not all faculty have responded favorably. Nevertheless, under these conditions of duress, she has performed her duties with calm, reason, a strong problem-solving ability, a sense of what is possible, and a positive attitude that I have come to admire.

I strongly endorse her for the position on the Board of Speech Pathology.



R. Weirather, Ph.D
Assistant Professor

APR 21 2008

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

John A. Burns School of Medicine
Division of Speech Pathology and Audiology

April 4, 2008

Russell S. Kokubun, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,
And Affordable Housing
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 407
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Emi Isaki, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Dear Mr. Kokubun / Senate Committee,

I am writing in enthusiastic support of **Dr. Emi Isaki** and her nomination to serve on the State of Hawai'i Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology. I have had the enormous pleasure of working with Dr. Isaki for the past 8 years, and can offer insight in regard to her ideas and work ethic in terms of Teaching, Research, and Clinical Supervision.

Teaching. The teaching provided by Dr. Isaki is outstanding. She has an extensive knowledge base, and her primary content areas of pedagogy are in adult neurogenic disorders and work re-entry with patients who experience closed head injury. She has added rigor to the theoretical foundations of our academic coursework here at the University of Hawai'i, as she has consistently taught graduate-level courses (*SPA622: Aphasia and the Dementia's*; *SPA708: Seminar in Right Hemisphere Damage and Traumatic Brain Injury*) in our program. It is vital to mention there have been other faculty members in our program with experience for teaching these courses, yet Dr. Isaki has ultimate responsibility for course administration in these areas. This distinction is well deserved.

Research. Given the extremely heavy teaching and clinical load among our faculty, Dr. Isaki has an admirable record of disseminating findings and conclusions from research and their implications for professional practice by means of journal articles and conference presentations. At present, Emi and I are working collaboratively on a research project that focuses on examining auditory attention skills of individuals with traumatic brain injury that have either returned to work or remained unemployed after their injury. Via administration of central auditory function tests (i.e., SCAN-A), our research serves to evaluate abilities in sustained, selective, and divided auditory attention—necessary components for work re-entry. Plans are currently in order to draft a manuscript of our work for publication. It is anticipated that our research will not only aid in understanding higher-level processing and attention abilities in both normal and abnormal systems, but also assist in fostering improvements in treatment and therapy programs.

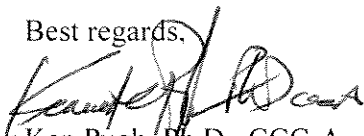
Dr. Isaki's knowledge in the field and application of empirical inquiry to academic and clinical situations has consistently led to her selection as committee chair in directing over 45 Master's level (Plan B) research projects, some of which have been subsequently presented at conferences sponsored by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Our Masters-level program offers the option of a thesis (Plan A) or a non-thesis (Plan B) course of study. Due to both the labor and the time-consuming academic and clinical components of our program, we have not had a student in the past 5 years select the thesis (Plan A) option. Instead students routinely opt for Plan B, which requires enrolling in either *SPA695* (3.0 credits; research with emphasis in Speech-Language Pathology) or *SPA696* (3.0 credits; research with emphasis in Audiology). It is crucial to highlight that the *SPA695/696* coursework is extremely similar to a regular research thesis; the work requires students to conduct investigations, draft research documents, make numerous revisions that conform to acceptable standards consistent with APA writing style, and scholarly presentation. Carrying out this process often requires Dr. Isaki to edit students' written work as well as offer guidance on identifying the statistical, clinical, and ethical components of their research. On all accounts, Dr. Isaki has performed in a superior fashion.

Clinical Supervision. Dr. Isaki has worked in both clinical directorship and clinical supervision roles. The locus of her clinical directorship duties primarily involved organizing student/client schedules each semester and arranging guest lecturers for our Clinic Colloquium. For clinic supervision, Emi currently serves as clinical supervisor for anywhere from 3-6 students in any given semester. Her zeal has been unyielding, as she has carried out our mission to work with professionals in the community to insure intervention for clients across the age continuum. The fruits of her labor have reached the state legislative level, which culminated by meeting with Linda Lingle (Governor of the State of Hawaii) as the Governor signed a proclamation in May, 2003 for Better Speech and Hearing Month.

My review of Dr. Isaki's deftness in teaching, research, and clinical supervision shows that she can be of great use to the Hawai'i Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology. I am pleased to recommend Dr. Isaki for your review, I am confident that she can be an enormous asset, and I endorse Dr. Isaki without any hesitation.

Should you require additional information, you may contact me directly.

Best regards,



Ken Pugh, Ph.D., CCC-A
Assistant Professor, Audiology
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UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

John A. Burns School of Medicine
Division of Speech Pathology and Audiology

April 15, 2008

Sesnator Russell. S. Kokubun
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,
& Affordable Housing
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Kokubun:

I am writing this letter in support of Emi Isaki,, CCC-SLP, Ph.D, for membership to the Board of Speech Pathology & Audiology for the State of Hawaii. I have known Dr. Isaki for approximately eight years in her capacity as professor and former clinical director of the Speech & Hearing Clinic, Division of Speech Pathology & Audiology, John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Dr. Isaki possesses many positive attributes. One attribute that immediately comes to mind is her strong work ethic. During a time when too many people find taking shortcuts and making compromises easy, Dr. Isaki embodies the good, old-fashioned work ethic of planning and preparing well, jumping in with both feet, persevering until the work is done, then staying to clean up all loose ends. She accomplishes all this while maintaining the highest professional, ethical, and moral standards. In addition, she consistently fulfills her responsibilities regarding her academic teaching and clinical supervision in the university setting in such a manner.

Dr. Isaki also approaches volunteerism in the community in the same vein. She has served as a board member and former treasurer for the Brain Injury Association of Hawaii, past president and current board member of the Hawaii Speech Language Hearing Association, former academic advisor to the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association University of Hawaii chapter, and member of the Multi-Cultural Issues Board for the American Speech Language Hearing Association. This seemingly limitless investment of time, energy, and resources to the field of speech language pathology, her students, clients, and community at large is what makes Dr. Isaki an invaluable resource to Hawaii.

In addition to volunteerism, mentorship is another ideal that is close to Dr. Isaki's heart. The time and energy spent with her students makes for better people, who then develop into better clinicians, who then are able to provide better care for Hawaii's people. Since there is a portion of UH graduates who later relocate to the mainland U.S. and even abroad, the teachings and life-lessons Dr. Isaki has imparted to her students reach far beyond Hawaii's shores. She understands that responsibility and takes it seriously.

In short, there is no doubt that Dr. Emi Isaki will be a valued member of the Board for Speech Pathology & Audiology. She will bring experience and wisdom to the table, as

well as a healthy dose of no-nonsense, common sense. I cannot think of anyone I would trust more academically, clinically, professionally, and personally.

Thank you for your time. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 956-8296.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joanne Kawahigashi Oshiro".

Joanne Kawahigashi Oshiro, M.S., CCC-SLP
Instructor