

**Written Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Education
Friday, March 14, 2008, 2 p.m.
Conference Room 225**

by
**Carl R. Clapp, Associate Athletics Director
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**

L A T E

HB2521, HD2 Related to Education

Chair Jerry Chang, Vice Chair Jill N. Tokuda and the members of the Senate Committee on Education:

Aloha and thank you for this opportunity to support HB 2521 the purpose of which is to address the repair and maintenance of facilities of the University of Hawaii. More specifically, this Act:

- 1) Creates the University of Hawaii repair and maintenance special account to fund the repair and maintenance of university facilities and requires the deposit of one per cent of general revenues accrued during the next six fiscal years into the special account; and
- (2) Expresses the legislature's intent to authorize and appropriate, in each of the next six fiscal years, an additional minimum of \$50,000,000 in general obligation bonds for the same purpose and requires general excise tax revenues to be transferred to the University of Hawaii repair and maintenance special account if the minimum \$50,000,000 general obligation bond commitment falls short in any fiscal year.

We are reacting to facility challenges at the University due to a lack of appropriate repair and maintenance over a period of time. Additionally the University facilities experience emergencies such as floods and fires. Scarce resources have forced us to focus on patches rather than performing regular repair and maintenance. The challenges the University faces have been well documented.

This bill is a proactive solution that will provide funding to assist with addressing the repair and maintenance backlog that exists. The opportunity to address these needs will prove to be less expensive over time than the reactive approach currently in place.

The University of Hawaii is important to the State in so many ways. The State's greatest asset is our people. Many of them are educated in some form by the University. I have always believed that education occurs in many settings. Our classrooms give way to experiences in athletics, band, debate, student government, and many other activities. Hawaii has great people that represent the state with terrific talent and as ambassadors of Aloha! The facilities that they learn in should be reflective of their talent and the pride we take in the contributions they make to the world.

Mahalo for the opportunity to support HB 2521, HD2.

Written Testimony For The
State Senate Committee on Education

February 14, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

by

Richard A. Dubanoski
Dean, College of Social Sciences
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 2521 HD2 Relating to Education

Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I am Richard Dubanoski, Dean of the College of Social Sciences at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am in support of H.B. 2521 which will provide revenue to improve facilities throughout the ten-campus University of Hawai'i system. I will focus my testimony on the critical need of improving the academic facilities of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and let others, who are more knowledgeable, speak on behalf of the other nine campuses and the athletic facilities on the Mānoa campus.

In my walks across the Mānoa campus, it is very evident that many of the buildings have deteriorated greatly over the past decades, making them unsafe, unhealthy, and unfit. Some are literally breaking apart with falling concrete and serious structural cracks. Because of these conditions, the quality of education, research and community service has been negatively impacted.

Let me be specific. Gartley Hall, on the Mānoa campus, is an 85+-year-old building that has been renovated only once, more than 45 years ago. Since this time, the building has literally been breaking apart. Because of falling concrete, one entrance has been closed for over a year, making a safe fire escape from one side of the building absolutely impossible. Ground subsidence in the basement has resulted in uneven flooring; chunks of cement have fallen from the ceilings of three faculty offices; and structural cracks have appeared in other offices. There are other problems that result in safety, health, and accessibility concerns for both faculty and students. For example, frequent flooding of the basement and faculty offices during heavy rains have led to mold and air quality problems. The building is not compliant with ADA standards; for people with physical disabilities, there is no access to the basement or second floor. Furthermore, the electrical wiring is obsolete, resulting in frequent power surges and potential fire hazards.

I could go on and on, pointing out that the poor design leads to inefficient use of space and energy. And it should be noted that Gartley Hall is an eyesore, which is a shame for a building that is placed on the State registry of historical places.

The story of Gartley Hall can be repeated dozens of times across the Mānoa campus. I thank you for your support of and attention to one of the greatest need of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, repair and maintenance.

L A T E



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII STUDENT CAUCUS 2007-2008
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Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 2521 HD2

TO: Honorable Senator Norman Sakamoto Chairman,
Sen. Education Committee

TESTIFIER: Liana Hofschneider, University of Hawaii Student Caucus Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, March 14, 2008

HEARING: EDU Committee Hearing, RM 225 2:00PM

Aloha Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Senate Education Committee,

The University of Hawaii Student Caucus (UHSC), representing the collective voice of advocacy of over 50,000 UH students across the 10 campuses, supports HB 2521 HD2 which would establish a UH repair and maintenance fund.

Every year the University of Hawaii Student Caucus identifies and pursues issues that affect student life and the quality of education, and facilities and maintenance issues continue to be a top priority among student leaders of all campuses.

According to University reports, the maintenance backlog cost-analyses are estimated to have reached \$400 million, with 950 work orders a month and a total backlog of 4,607 work orders. While the UHSC understands that such maintenance inadequacies will not be solely relieved by a special fund for repairs and maintenance, it hopes that this bill will be a step forward for the University, its students, and the State as a whole.

The UHSC applauds the proposed HB 2521 HD2 as a proactive solution and remedy to the maintenance and repair backlog concerns of the UH System student body and urges the Committee to recommend passage of HB 2521 HD2 un-amended.

Respectfully,

Liana Hofschneider
UHSC Vice Chair

L A T E

SUBMITTED BY

**Shannon Wood
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**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Sen. Norman Sakamoto, Chair
Sen. Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair**

**PUBLIC HEARING
2 pm
Friday, March 14, 2008
Conference Room 225**

**HB2521 HD2- RELATING TO EDUCATION
STRONGLY SUPPORT**

TO THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

My name is Shannon Wood, a Kailua, O`ahu resident, speaking only as an individual on my own behalf and not representing any group or organization. I am here today to speak in support **HB2521 HD2 - Relating To Education** and to offer some clarifying language to address some concerns I've heard expressed over the past several weeks.

The bill **Expresses the Legislature's intent to authorize and appropriate, in each fiscal year of the fiscal period July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2014, at least an additional \$50,000,000 in general obligation bonds for the repair and maintenance of UH facilities.... Appropriates \$50,000,000 from the special account in fiscal year 2008-2009 for the repair and maintenance of UH facilities. Authorizes and appropriates \$50,000,000 in general obligation bonds for the repair and maintenance of UH facilities. (HB2521 HD2)**

* Physical infrastructure improvements & repairs are needed on all campuses to correct health & safety deficits as well as to improve student, faculty & staff educational experiences. Investing in the future now will pay off over the next two decades with increased earnings by graduates which will generate additional tax revenues.

* Licensed contractors & their employees will spend the money locally both for supplies & equipment as well as with their take-home paychecks during the six-year period. That money will flow through the economy 2.5 to 3.5 times which will create new jobs & support existing ones as well as generate GET & income tax revenues. Economic stimuli are going to be needed over the next several years as the economy slows down & stabilizes.

* These restored and new campuses will help improve the physical & natural environments of the communities in which they are located - for example, ***Kapi`olani Community College***. All ***UH*** campuses should look this good.

* With respect to the **Athletic Department's** \$30 million improvement allocations, this will bring in money from sources other than taxes to help support all 19 intercollegiate sports programs through the sales of logowear, concession revenues, radio & tv contracts, endowment funds, naming rights, etc. These revenue sources will help generate funds for the entire ***University of Hawai`i*** operations. Investing \$30 million now will bring in anywhere from two to ten times that amount over the next ten years.

In closing, I urge that you pass out **HB2521 HD2 - Relating To Education** and that you include the suggested arguments and funds distribution. *Mahalo* for providing the opportunity to testify.

PROPOSED BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

YEAR ONE	<i>UH Manoa - Main Campus - \$10m</i> <i>UH Manoa Athletic Facilities - \$10m</i> <i>UH Hilo - \$10m</i> <i>Maui Community College - \$10m</i> <i>Honolulu Community College - \$10m</i>
YEAR TWO	<i>UH Manoa - Main Campus - \$10m</i> <i>UH Manoa Athletic Facilities - \$10m</i> <i>UH West O`ahu - \$10m</i> <i>Kaua`i Community College - \$10m</i> <i>(East) Hawai`i Community College - \$10m</i>
YEAR THREE	<i>UH Manoa - Main Campus - \$10m</i> <i>UH Manoa - Athletic Facilities - \$10m</i> <i>Leeward Community College - \$10m</i> <i>Windward Community College - \$10m</i> <i>Kapi`olani Community College - \$10m</i>
YEAR FOUR	<i>UH Manoa - Main Campus - \$10m</i> <i>UH Hilo - \$10m</i> <i>Maui Community College - \$10m</i> <i>Honolulu Community College - \$10m</i> <i>Kaua`i Community College - \$10m</i>
YEAR FIVE	<i>UH Manoa - Main Campus - \$10m</i> <i>Leeward Community College - \$10m</i> <i>Windward Community College - \$10m</i> <i>(West) Hawai`i Community College - \$10m</i> <i>(East) Hawai`i Community College - \$10m</i>
YEAR SIX	<i>UH Manoa - Main Campus - \$10m</i> <i>UH West O`ahu - \$10m</i> <i>UH Hilo - \$10m</i> <i>Open - \$20m</i>
TOTALS	<i>UH Manoa - Main Campus - \$60m</i> <i>UH Manoa Athletic Facilities - \$30m</i> <i>UH Hilo - \$30m</i> <i>UH West O`ahu - \$20m</i> <i>Kapi`olani Community College - \$10m</i> <i>Leeward Community College - \$20m</i> <i>(East) Hawai`i Community College - \$20m</i> <i>(West) Hawai`i Community College - \$10m</i> <i>Windward Community College - \$20m</i> <i>Kaua`i Community College - \$20m</i> <i>Honolulu Community College - \$20m</i> <i>Maui Community College - \$20m</i> <i>Open - \$20m</i>

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF **HB 2521 HD2**

Joseph H. O'Mealy, Interim Dean, College of Languages, Linguistics, and Literature
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (omealy@hawaii.edu)

For Senate Education Committee
Friday, March 14, 2008, 2 PM

Aloha:

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to write in support of the UH Mānoa's Repair and Maintenance requests for the Supplemental Budget (HB 2521, HD2). As Interim Dean for the last seven years of one of the largest colleges at Mānoa, I have seen first hand the damaging effects of postponed repair and maintenance on this campus. The budget cuts of the '90s led to a drastic curtailing of the R&M budget, and each year we are living out the compound results of that necessary cutback (the choice was either cut student access or cut R&M and I think you will agree that the wiser choice was made).

The College of Languages, Linguistics, and Literature holds most of its classes and houses most of its faculty members in three buildings—Moore Hall, Kuykendall Hall, and Spalding Hall. The complaints I regularly hear from students and faculty alike involve broken or malfunctioning air conditioning systems and elevators, dysfunctional and unsanitary restrooms, and classrooms and offices with outdated equipment. And I have to be honest and say that buildings under my jurisdiction are far from the worst on campus. But it is the health of the whole that I am urging you to consider. The least functional aspects of the campus cancel out the impact of the best aspects. Students and faculty deserve better and will need better if Mānoa is to continue to attract the best and brightest.

The most recent and reputable estimate places the R&M backlog at \$400 million. This is a shocking figure, but it will continue to grow and our facilities will continue to deteriorate, at the expense of health, safety, and an effective education, unless there is a concerted effort now to face this problem squarely. The administration of UH Mānoa has placed before you two bills that will begin the process of addressing this tremendous backlog. As Chancellor Hinshaw is fond of reminding us, Mānoa is a jewel intellectually but badly tarnished physically. I urge you to look favorably on these two bills. The costs of beginning to overturn two decades of neglect are formidable, but this is the right thing to do and now is the right time to start.

We all appreciate the support we have received in the past from the Senate Education committee and we look forward to your joining with us in making the promise of Mānoa become a reality.

Mahalo!



LATE

March 16, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair
and Members
Education Committee
Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Sakamoto and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 2521, Relating to University of Hawaii (UH) Facilities, Repairs & Maintenance

I am Jim Donovan, a current member of the Board of Directors for the UH Alumni Association and also the UH Letterwinners Club. I am a two-time graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, obtaining my Bachelor of Arts degree in 1983 and my Masters of Business Administration in 1996. In addition, I served in a management capacity for UH Manoa athletics for 17 years, from 1985 until 2002, and recently was approved by the UH Board of Regents to serve as Director of Athletics beginning March 24, 2008.

I strongly urge your support of House Bill No. 2521, relating to University of Hawaii Facilities, Repairs & Maintenance.

Recent published articles put the deferred maintenance estimates at the University of Hawaii at Manoa upwards of \$400 million.

The proposed appropriation of \$50 million for UH deferred maintenance projects in FY '09, and the other special provisions in HB No. 2521, would be a good start to fixing many facilities that have fallen into a state of disrepair.

Specifically, in the case of University of Hawaii at Manoa Athletics, some of the facilities have not had any major repair and maintenance since they were built. Les Murakami Stadium for example has not had any major repair and maintenance done to its exterior since it was built in 1985. Portions of the Athletic Complex have also not had any major repair and maintenance since its completion in 1982. Even the Stan Sheriff Center, opened in 1995, is starting to show clear signs of "wear and tear."

On “upper campus” of UH Manoa, some of the buildings have not had any major repair and maintenance since I first started attending UH in 1981. The state of disrepair, especially of the dorms and apartments on campus is shocking.

While I have not personally visited many of the other UH campuses besides UH Manoa since 2002, I know there are many legitimate needs to be addressed.

I strongly urge your support of House Bill No. 2521, Relating to University of Hawaii Facilities, Repairs & Maintenance.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jim Donovan
President