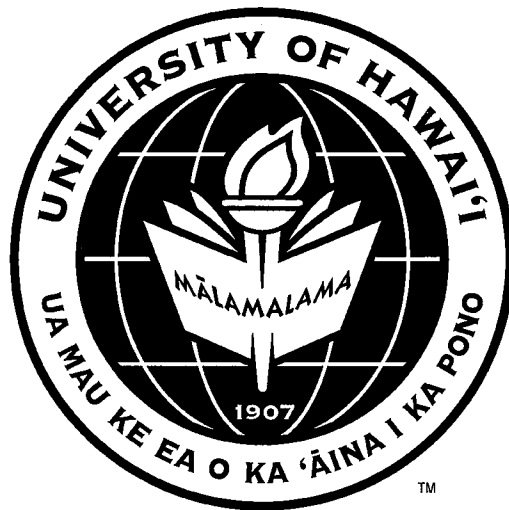


UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY



SB 2469 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
and the
Senate Committee on Education

February 8, 2008

by
Rose Tseng
Chancellor
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
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SB 2469 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI`I

Chair Tokuda, Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committees

Our local media have made us fully aware of the State's staffing shortages in Historic Preservation, and many of the problems it has caused, and that Hawai`i Administrative Rules Title 13, Chapter 281 require principal investigators conducting archaeological work or cultural impact assessments in Hawai`i possess graduate degrees in archaeology or anthropology, or an equivalent field. We strongly believe that many of the current problems in the state's historic preservation program could be resolved by providing graduate training in cultural resource management at UH Hilo.

There are several reasons why the UH Hilo campus would provide the best opportunities for effecting positive changes in the overall number and composition of Cultural Resource Management professionals in Hawai`i. Of the 26 private consulting firms operating in Hawai`i, **none** of them have principal investigators who are of Native Hawaiian ancestry. This is despite MA training in archeological topics at Mānoa since 1930, and the awarding of the first Mānoa Ph.D. in anthropology in 1967. Notably, the anthropology department at Mānoa is re-directing their large and distinguished faculty to train more indigenous practitioners in Cultural Resources Management (CRM), but we feel that the greatest impact for increasing the number of indigenous practitioners in CRM can be obtained by establishing a CRM graduate program in Hilo.

We hope to design our program in concert with the extant graduate training program at Mānoa and with feeder programs from other UH campuses, but we will need to expand our faculty from the current number of five tenure-track instructional positions. There are several reasons why funding a program at Hilo will result in the best outcome for the State.

First, the UH Hilo anthropology program maintains strong ties with Ka Haka `Ula O Ke`elikōlani our highly acclaimed College of Hawaiian Language, and it is our mutual mission to better serve the needs of the Native Hawaiian community and State by placing more Native Hawaiians and other individuals of local ancestry in key management positions in historic preservation. Because our anthropology program and our relationship with Ka Haka `Ula O Ke`elikōlani is so amicable, we can build meaningful partnerships between indigenous communities and our proposed resource management program.

Second, Hawai`i Community College's Hawaiian Lifestyles Program in Hilo has already initiated an additional A.A.S. track called Kahu Kuuna: Cultural Resource Stewardship,

directed by one of our graduates, Sean Naleimaile, who undertook Herculean efforts to finish his MA at Mānoa despite being a Hilo resident who is married, and a father of six. He was forced to commute between Hilo and Mānoa to finish his graduate degree and few students with similar backgrounds have been willing or able to make the same sacrifices. By providing the opportunity for both BA and MA degrees in Hilo, the State will most effectively expand its opportunities to provide graduate training to underserved communities, particularly to Native Hawaiian students at HCC and UHH who could continue on to graduate degrees without leaving their families and jobs.

Third, the Big Island has an enormous land-base managed by both State and Federal agencies that could directly benefit a graduate program in Hilo. Currently, many of our B.A. level graduates majoring in anthropology are working for one of the aforementioned 26 private archaeological consulting firms, or work in entry level positions for state and federal agencies. UH Hilo students enrolled in our anthropology program over the last ten years are currently working on Hawai`i island for the State Historic Preservation Division, Volcano National Park, Pu`ukoholā Heiau National Historic Site, Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park, Pu`uhonua O Hōnaunau National Historical Park, Pohakuloa Training Area, and several of the private consulting firms that operate in the State. Without graduate degrees, BA level graduates remain stuck in entry-level positions. Approximately half of the individuals are of Native Hawaiian ancestry, and 80% were born and raised in Hawai`i. These are precisely the people who could best serve the needs of the State in identifying and protecting cultural sites as part of the state regulatory process.

Finally, we understand that Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park has initiated a proposal to construct a 4 million dollar curatorial facility with federal monies in West Hawai`i. By placing a graduate program in Hilo, it will be possible to form a strong partnership with Kaloko through graduate training in collections management that could lead to the resolution of our need to establish better curatorial facilities in the State, and simultaneously provide more opportunities for university training to one of the least well served populations of potential college students in Hawai`i.

We truly believe that this bill is necessary to re-establish a strong and efficient historic preservation program for Hawai`i. We support the intent of the bill but are concerned about the cost incurred upon its passage. Notably, this initiative was approved in the UH Hilo budget priority process and recommended to the President. Since it did not make the Board of Regents listing we are unable to support this bill at this time because it is not part of the Board of Regents approved requests.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. If you have any questions, I would be more than happy to address them to the best of my ability or you may contact me at 974-7444.

testimony

From: Thomas Dye [sha@tsdye2.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 4:08 PM
To: testimony
Cc: Society for Hawaiian Archaeology
Subject: Testimony in Strong Support of SB 2469

TO: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs, and

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair
Senate Committee on Education and

FROM: Thomas S. Dye, Ph.D., President
Society for Hawaiian Archaeology
Telephone: 808-529-0866, FAX: 808-529-0884
Email: sha@TSDYE2.com

HEARING: February 8, 2008, 1:15 PM, Conference Room 225
COPIES: 5
SUBJECT: Testimony in Strong Support of SB 2469, Relating to the
University of Hawaii

I am Dr. Thomas Dye, President of the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology (SHA). We have over 200 members that include professional archaeologists and advocates of historic preservation in general. I am testifying in strong support of SB 2469, a bill that proposes to establish a graduate level program in cultural resource management at the University of Hawaii at Hilo (UH-Hilo). If passed, this bill will add new opportunities for educational and professional training in archaeology and historic preservation to our state university.

SB 2469 proposes the establishment of a graduate level program in cultural resource management (CRM) at the UH Hilo. A CRM program would build upon the cooperative and amicable relationship that currently exists between the UH Hilo anthropology department and Ka Haka Ula o Keelikolani, the College of Hawaiian Language at UH Hilo, and the Kahu Kuuna: Cultural Resources Stewardship program developed by staff at Hawaii Community College in Hilo. Many of the individuals who have successfully completed these undergraduate programs are seeking opportunities for graduate work and certifications in cultural resource management, anthropology, or similar fields. The proposed program at UH Hilo would meet these needs and provide local students an in-state and on-island setting for advanced training. A number of SHA members who reside on Hawaii Island would be very pleased to see UH Hilo add graduate training in CRM to its programs so that they could pursue this accreditation without having to leave home. Receiving a graduate degree from this program would also enhance their ability to qualify for a number of positions on Hawaii Island that require a graduate degree, whether with the State or Federal governments or with a private company.

SHA strongly endorses this measure as well as SB 2906. We see the need for a locally based, accredited graduate program in applied archaeology or cultural resource management or a closely related area. There is a widespread need in the private sector and in government for a cohort of qualified CRM professionals and archaeologists who are locally trained, and who meet national standards as well. While we cannot make any judgment as to the priority given one of the two programs proposed in SBs 2469, the subject measure, and 2906, we can definitely state that they are needed and wanted now. We hope that the University of Hawaii will move forward to make one or more of these programs a budget priority.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above telephone number and email address.

Thomas S. Dye, Ph.D.
President, Society for Hawaiian Archaeology

TO: Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair of the Committee on
Education
Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair, Committee on Agriculture
and Hawaiian Affairs
Senator J. Kalani English Vice Chair, Committee on
Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Sean Naleimaile, Lecturer
Hawaii Community College
Kahu Ku'una: Cultural Resource Stewardship Program
Telephone: 808-974-7486, FAX: 808-974-7701
Email: naleimai@hawaii.edu

HEARING: Friday, February 8, 2008, 1:15pm,
Conference Room 225, State Capitol

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of SB2469, making an appropriation
for a Master's Program in Cultural Resource Management at the
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

I am Sean Naleimaile. I am a concerned Native Hawaiian. My concern for the responsible protection, preservation, and continued perpetuation of the integrity of our natural and cultural resources here in Hawaii are of the utmost priority. My concern and desire to contribute in a positive manner has driven my educational path towards attaining my Master's degree in archaeology from the University of Hawaii-Manoa. For three years I endured weekly flights to and from Hilo to Honolulu to attend classes. Although as I look back and realize it was all worth it, I remember quite clearly the toll it took on my wife and the rest of my five children both personally and financially. Yet, that is a small price to pay so that I could have an opportunity to truly affect the way our cultural resources are cared for.

Recently, I have been given the opportunity to design a new program at the Hawaii Community College in Hilo called Kahu Kuuna: Cultural Resource Stewardship program. This program is geared towards enabling more Native Hawaiians and members of our local community to be more participatory in the processes connected to the management and future stewardship of our cultural resources.

I am sure that the Legislature is aware of the State's staffing shortages in Historic Preservation, and many of the problems it has caused; and that Hawaii Administrative Rules Title 13, Chapter 281 require principal investigators conducting archaeological work or cultural impact assessments in Hawaii to possess graduate degrees in archaeology, or anthropology, or an equivalent field. Of the 26 private consulting firms operating in Hawaii, none of them have principal investigators who are of Native Hawaiian ancestry. This is despite the existence of MA training in anthropology at Manoa since 1930, and the awarding of the first Manoa Ph.D. in anthropology in 1967. The anthropology department at Manoa is re-directing their large and distinguished faculty to train more indigenous practitioners in CRM, and I am one of them, but I feel the greatest positive change will be obtained by bringing a CRM graduate program to UH Hilo.

There are just a handful of Native Hawaiians with their advanced degrees in archaeology and anthropology. There are only two Native Hawaiians with their PHDs whose focus has been primarily archaeology. I feel that this is something that needs to be changed and that as my program grows, I hope that it would foster an interest in our Native Hawaiian community, as well as our local community to take an interest in pursuing these advanced degrees so as to further affect the field in a more culturally appropriate manner. We hope to design our program here at the Hawaii Community College in concert with the proposed MA program at UH-Hilo so that we can make transitioning into a four-year degree and subsequently the MA program at UH-Hilo seamless and student friendly. I support UH-Hilo's push to begin developing this program, but to do so they will need to expand their faculty from the current number of five tenure-track instructional positions. There are several reasons why funding a program at Hilo will result in the best outcome for the State.

The UH Hilo Anthropology Department has graduated a large number of Native Hawaiian students, and many of them have had an interest in pursuing a graduate degree in CRM. Few students with similar backgrounds have been willing or able to make the same sacrifices I have made to pursue an advanced degree. By providing the opportunity for both BA and MA degrees in Hilo, the state will most effectively expand its opportunities to provide graduate training to underserved communities, particularly to Native Hawaiian students at HCC and UHH who could continue on to graduate degrees without leaving their families and jobs.

The Big Island has an enormous land-base managed by both State and Federal agencies that could directly benefit a graduate program in Hilo. Currently, many of our B.A. level graduates majoring in anthropology are working for one of the aforementioned 26 private archaeological consulting firms, or work in entry level positions for state and federal agencies. UH Hilo students are currently working on Hawaii Island for the State Historic Preservation Division, Volcano National Park, Pu`ukohola Heiau National Historic Site, Kaloko Honokohau National Historical Park, Pu`u Honua o Honaunau National Historical Park, Pohakuloa Training Area, and several of the private consulting firms that operate in the State. Without graduate degrees, BA level graduates remain stuck in entry-level positions. Approximately half of the individuals are of Native Hawaiian ancestry, and 80% were born and raised in Hawaii. These are precisely the people who could best serve the needs of the State in identifying and protecting cultural sites as part of the state regulatory process. Kaloko Honokohau National Historical Park has initiated a proposal to construct a 4 million dollar curatorial facility with federal monies in West Hawaii. By placing a graduate program in Hilo, it will be possible to form a strong partnership with Kaloko through graduate training in collections management that could lead to the resolution of our need to establish better curatorial facilities in the State, and simultaneously provide more opportunities for university training to one of the least well served populations of potential college students in Hawaii.

This bill is necessary to re-establish a strong and efficient historic preservation program for Hawaii. I envision a holistic training program in cultural resource management that will engage and empower individuals of local ancestry in the management of their own heritage. Without such a program, we will continue to suffer staffing shortages in key regulatory positions, and foster unneeded distrust between our constituencies and those charged with leading historic preservation projects in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. If you have any questions I would be more than happy to address them to the best of my ability, or you may contact me at the address and telephone number submitted with the written copy of this testimony.

TO: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair, Committee on Agriculture and Hawai'ian Affairs
Senator Norman Sakamota, Chair, Committee on Education

FROM: Michael L. Gregg, 75-5812 Lewa Place, Kailua-Kona HI 96740

Telephone: 808-987-1491

Email: mikegregg72@hotmail.com

HEARING: Thursday, January 31, 2008, 3pm, Conference Room 309, State Capitol

COPIES: 35

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2469, making an appropriation for a graduate degree program in Cultural Resource Management at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo

I am Michael Gregg, a retired archaeologist and historic preservation professional with 40 years of experience in the Northern Plains, Midwest, and Mid-Atlantic region on the mainland. I now live the North Kona District of Hawai'i County. I see a serious need for locally educated and trained cultural resource professionals.

During the past 40 years, the National Historic Preservation Act and the National Environmental Policy Act were enacted, leading to federal requirements for consideration of significant historic buildings, structures, and archaeological sites in the process of planning projects that alter the natural and built environments. All states and thousands of counties and municipalities nationwide have followed the federal lead and participated in various way in historic preservation initiatives. Historic buildings, structures, and archaeological sites have become known as cultural resources. They are nonrenewable resources of many cultural origins. Every facet of the Hawai'ian population today has members who care deeply about cultural resources. However, in Hawai'i we lack the numbers of academically trained cultural resource professionals to meet basic needs for respectfully and reasonably identifying and managing our nonrenewable cultural resources. A graduate degree program in cultural resource management would be an important addition to the academic anthropology program at UH Hilo. The young men and women who complete the program will be equipped to provide valuable service to the State for decades after graduation.

Cultural resources are very important to the fabric of Hawai'ian life. When historic buildings and archaeological features are identified, interpreted for the community, and sustained, they are testaments to the accomplishments of people who have gone before us. Through appreciation of their work, living people extend respect to those who have contributed in the past. Acknowledging those who have gone before gives our lives more meaning because we can see the products of our work will be appreciated by those who come after us.

When a historic building or an archaeological feature is destroyed, it is a disrespectful action that diminishes everyone's quality of life. We are less inclined to be contributing participants in our communities when we see past efforts disrespected. When our community allows the destruction of historic buildings and archaeological features that are important to living community members, it is thoughtless and disrespectful. We need more cultural resource management

professionals to work with local communities, planners, and businesses to identify, protect, and interpret significant cultural resources.

The Department of Anthropology at UH Hilo is an appropriate location within Hawai'i's network of institutions of higher education for this proposed graduate program. The Department chairperson, Peter Mills, is ready, willing, and able to begin building a program. He is a highly qualified and respected archaeologist with extensive experience in many facets of the culture history of the Big Island and the State.

I believe the Committee on Agriculture and Hawai'ian Affairs, and the Committee on Education will be providing valuable service to the people of Hawai'i by supporting the development of this important program.

TO: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair, Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs,
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair of the Committee on Education

FROM: Amanda Johnson, Archaeologist, Society for Hawaiian Archaeology member
Telephone: 928-600-1784, FAX: 808-329-2597
P.O. Box 465
Kailua-Kona, HI 96745
Email: mandyjohnson2@yahoo.com

HEARING: Thursday, January 31, 2008, 3pm, Conference Room 309, State Capitol

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of SB2469, making an appropriation for a Master's
Program in Cultural Resource Management at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Thank you, Senators Tokuda and Sakamoto, for accepting this testimony. My name is Amanda Johnson and I am an archaeologist for federal agency on the Island of Hawai'i. I have a master's degree in anthropology, and have been working in the field of archaeology for over ten years. As an archaeologist, and an alumni from a well-respected anthropology program (Northern Arizona University), I am writing this letter in support of SB2469, making an appropriation for a Master's Program in Cultural Resource Management at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

My job is unique, in that I am entrusted not only with the responsibility of protecting and preserving archaeological resources, but as an employee of a Park that is working to fulfill its mandate of perpetuating Native Hawaiian traditions, culture and history. Also, we are mandated to hire Native Hawaiians whenever possible. Ideally, in our division the archaeologists would be lineal descendants from this area, with family connections to this land. To fill these positions, we need qualified Native Hawaiian applicants. However, it is often difficult to find qualified applicants, with advanced degrees.

At the moment, Hawaiian scholars with a focus in archaeology and anthropology must leave the Big Island and move to Oahu to pursue higher education beyond a Bachelor's Degree. This fact prohibits many Hawaii residents and promising young scholars from receiving an advanced degree in this field. Often family obligations and the expense of making this move makes it impossible to reach this goal.

This is unacceptable for several reasons. First, Native Hawaiian students should have access to education in the increasingly important field of archaeology, as they are the ones who should be learning, interpreting and involved in the history, and determining the future of their *kupuna's* remains and archaeological sites. They are the ones who should have a say in how the past is treated on this island. The younger generations in Hawaii need the proper education in order to protect the past and the land of their ancestors. Second, this island is currently under an onslaught of development, with archaeological sites being destroyed every day to make way for new shopping centers, housing developments and resorts. The need for qualified archaeologists, familiar with this *'aina* and the archaeology of the area, as well as the unique problems faced by field archaeologists on this island (invasive vegetation) is monumental right now. These archaeologists need to be educated in the required environmental compliance and National

Historic Preservation Act compliance. A master's degree is often the only way to obtain jobs in higher levels to deal with these issues.

Professionally, with a B.A. one can only go so far as an archaeologist. To be able to compete for higher level federal, state and private contract firm positions the applicant must meet the Secretary of Interior Standards for archaeologist:

The minimum professional qualifications in archeology are a graduate degree in archeology, anthropology, or closely related field plus:

- 1. At least one year of full-time professional experience or equivalent specialized training in archaeological research, administration or management;*
- 2. At least four months of supervised field and analytic experience in general North American archeology, and*
- 3. Demonstrated ability to carry research to completion.*

In addition to these minimum qualifications, a professional in prehistoric archeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archaeological resources of the prehistoric period. A professional in historic archeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archaeological resources of the historic period.

A master's program in cultural resource management at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo is imperative to protect the archaeology and the history of Hawai'i island. Simply expecting everyone from this island to drop family responsibilities and endure the economic hardships of moving to Oahu or the mainland to pursue higher education is unacceptable. Please support and approve SB2469, the future and past of our island depend on it.

Thank you,

Amanda E. Johnson

February 8, 2008

The Honorable Jill Tokuda
Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture & Hawaiian Affairs
The Honorable Norman Sakamoto
Chair, Senate Committee on Higher Education
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Email testimony to AHWtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: SB2469 RELATING TO UH HILO – PUBLIC HEARING
Friday, Feb. 8, 1:15PM Room 224

Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Paula Z. Helfrich, and I am testifying before you as a Senior at UH-Hilo, majoring in Anthropology. I strongly support the measure before you, and humbly ask that you pass this bill.

For many years, I have participated in my professional life in hundreds of EIS proceedings, public hearings, contested cases, community briefings and lawsuits regarding highly contentious issues around Hawaii Island and throughout our state. In every case, pivotal information is needed on cultural resources and their proper management. This field has vital social, cultural and economic consequences for Hawaii. Simplistically put, CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (CRM) marries Hawaiian studies, Hawaiian cultural anthropology, natural science, and serious fieldwork with applicable federal and state laws and compliance requirements. Good CRM means good projects because of the wide field of consultation and mitigation done up front. Bad CRM, unfortunately in many cases, is the mess we have now, with untold and continuing consequences.

I understand that almost all the CRM practitioners in Hawaii are trained elsewhere. I study with more than 400 young people in Anthropology classes (including many native Hawaiians) at UH-Hilo, many of whom would like to make this scientific and cultural discipline their life's work. They simply cannot afford to move to Manoa in pursuit of graduate level studies, because of the higher tuition and living costs for students and their families. There are real, current examples of drop-outs from graduate programs, at the very time they are needed most. It is especially important to note that Hawaii Island offers a magnificent, applied anthropological training ground on every trail and coastline, valuable for our Hawaii and also for those all who need to learn the history, kama'aina, newcomers and developers alike. CRM is urgently needed for all the right reasons.

I respectfully urge your support for this measure. A CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT Masters' Program at UH-Hilo is progress for our future, and preservation for our past. Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.