

DANIEL K. INOUE  
HAWAII

**LATE**

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## United States Senate

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**April 12, 2011**

**Sandra W. Scarr, Ph.D.  
Daily Fix Coffee  
78-6915 Palekana Road  
Holualoa, Hawaii 96725**

**Dear Dr. Scarr:**

**We were very pleased to recently learn that Governor Neil Abercrombie has recommended you to be appointed to the Board of Regents at the University of Hawaii. Please accept our sincerest congratulations. Very, very nice.**

**Aloha,**



**PATRICK H. DeLEON  
Chief of Staff**

**PHD:gjw**

April 20, 2011

Via email

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair,  
Senate Education Committee  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Tokuda,

I'm writing in strong support of the appointment of Dr. Sandra Scarr to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i. I appreciate your consideration of my comments, offered from the perspective of a decades-long professional relationship with Dr. Scarr.

Sandra Scarr is one of the world's most distinguished scientists and educators in the field of child development. Her research led to enormous advances in understanding human psychological and genetic development and she has been responsible for training generations of scientists whose work in turn has ushered in the modern era of child and adolescent behavioral research.

I have worked with Sandra most closely in her role as a founder of the Association for Psychological Science in the late 1980s (originally named American Psychological Society) and later as a President of APS. In both instances she was a passionate advocate for the organization and for the discipline, always seeing both as the means to advancing human welfare through science.

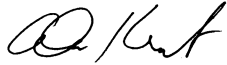
As a founder of APS Sandra was a central force in establishing not only our mission but the "culture" of our organizational activities and operations, stressing transparency, openness and responsible management of our resources, both financial and human. As President, she was directly involved in the finances of the organization, and even after her term, served for many years as a financial advisor to APS, providing guidance on fiscal management and investments, and most recently has been on our fundraising committee. She was also founding co-editor of our highly successful journal, *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, in which role she established and managed the journal's finances and peer review system.

Today, APS has more than 23,000 members, most of whom are scientists and academics; we publish 4 leading journals; and we hold a highly successful annual convention; and we are widely regarded as the most effective organization in our field. This simply would not have happened without Sandra's vision and involvement.

During my career-long experience with Sandra Scarr, I have worked closely with her on a number of initiatives in which her leadership was the key to success. In every instance, she has demonstrated

exemplary ethical behavior whether it was her use of scientific knowledge to argue positions or her financial stewardship of a program. Sandra Scarr will serve on the Board of Regents with great distinction and her involvement in the University will advance both the mission and the reputation of that great institution.

Sincerely,



Alan G. Kraut, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

Cc: Senator Michelle Kidani, [senkidani@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senkidani@Capitol.hawaii.gov)  
Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, [senchunoakland@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senchunoakland@Capitol.hawaii.gov)  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, [sennishihara@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sennishihara@Capitol.hawaii.gov)  
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, [sentaniguchi@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sentaniguchi@Capitol.hawaii.gov)  
Senator Sam Slom, [senslom@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senslom@Capitol.hawaii.gov)

LATE



HARVARD  
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

April 19, 2011

Senator Jill N. Tokuda  
Chair  
Senate Education Committee, Hawaii  
State Capitol  
Room 218  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Tokuda,

I write to support the Governor's nomination of Sandra Scarr for the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. Sandra is unusually well-qualified to serve on a university board, having spent her professional life in leading academic institutions. She is a creative, thoughtful, and supportive colleague. I serve on the Board of Trustees for Tufts University, and I know the dedication it takes. Sandra Scarr will do an excellent job for the University of Hawaii. The accusation that Sandra Scarr shows "poor fiscal responsibility" is ridiculous. I have known Sandra well since the late 1970's, when we were both in the Psychology Department at Yale University. Sandra managed large grants from federal agencies and private foundations. She was Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Department. Sandra and I collaborated on a multi-million dollar federal grant to study child care effects during the 1980's. She was scrupulously careful about the use of funds. Never was there a hint of financial impropriety. Since that time, and until her retirement from the University of Virginia, we have been close colleagues and collaborators. I have only praise for her contributions to psychology and higher education.

It is outrageous that one person's unfounded innuendoes should prevent her appointment. I urge the Senate Education Committee to look at Sandra's 50-year track record of exemplary service to higher education and the communities in which she has lived, especially since her retirement to Hawaii. She has given thousands of hours to local community organizations. She is willing and more than able to serve on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

Sincerely yours,

Kathleen McCartney  
Dean  
Gerald S. Lesser Professor in Early Childhood Development

cc: Senate Education Committee members

LATE



April 22 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to endorse the nomination of Sandra W. Scarr, Ph.D., for a seat on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. The State of Hawaii is fortunate indeed to have a candidate of Dr. Scarr's talent and experience who is willing to serve in this important capacity. I feel sure that she will be a wonderful addition to the Board, and it is a pleasure to write in support of her candidacy.

Dr. Scarr and I were colleagues on the faculty of the Psychology Department at the University of Virginia for twelve years, from 1983 to 1995. During several of those years, she served as Department Chair. Having taught at the University of Minnesota and at Yale University, Dr. Scarr brought to the University of Virginia Department of Psychology not only her brilliant mind and her cutting-edge program of research but also the energy and will to contribute to everyday life among this diverse group of scholars. During her years at Virginia, Dr. Scarr edited major professional journals, won coveted national awards, published significant original papers that are still studied by today's graduate students, mentored many young scholars, and oversaw the multiple functions of a growing academic department. She was successful both in fiscal management and in organizational matters; some of the innovations that she introduced are still in use today. Looking back, I am even more amazed than ever at all that she managed to achieve.

In addition to Dr. Scarr's exceptional academic career, she has also contributed to our world in many other ways. When Dr. Scarr left Virginia, she became the CEO of Kindercare Learning Centers, Inc., the largest child care company in the United States, and served with distinction on their Board of Directors for a number of years. Along the way, she also reared four children, a son and three daughters, who are accomplished adults. Now retired, Dr. Scarr is raising orchids and running a coffee farm in Holualoa, on the island of Hawaii.

It is difficult to imagine that any candidate for a seat on the Board of Regents could bring a sharper mind or a broader range of skills and perspectives to the job. Sandra Scarr has been a leading scholar, an acclaimed editor, a successful administrator, a renowned teacher, a noted business leader, and a beloved parent, to name only a few of her roles. She has firsthand knowledge of a number of the leading universities in our country. In my view, the fact that she is willing to serve on the Board is a stroke of good fortune for the University of Hawaii. If Dr. Scarr is selected for the Board, I feel sure that her service will be distinguished by her strong intelligence, varied experience, sharp wit, and by her evident good will. How lucky the people of Hawaii are to have such a candidate for the University's Board of Regents!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlotte J. Patterson".

Charlotte J. Patterson  
Professor of Psychology

**Richard A. Weinberg, Ph.D.**  
**Professor Emeritus, University of Minnesota**  
**3638 Oakton Ridge**  
**Minnetonka, MN 55305**  
[weinb002@umn.edu](mailto:weinb002@umn.edu)

April 18, 2011

Dear Senator Tokuda:

I am writing in response to the issue of appointing Dr. Sandra Scarr as a Regent for the University of Hawaii. I understand that her credibility has been questioned in regards to her integrity and professional responsibility. Recently retired from the University of Minnesota, I was a colleague of Dr. Scarr for almost forty years during which we collaborated on several research and writing projects. I find the accusations absurd at best. For over four decades, I never saw any evidence of a lapse of integrity or witnessed any instances of irresponsible behavior on behalf of Dr. Scarr. As a scientist and as a private citizen, her behavior has been impeccable. She oversaw several federal grants, always demonstrating careful fiscal management, attention to the interests of study subjects, and cooperation with her various collaborators. On a more personal note, I have been a close friend of Dr. Scarr and her family for all of these years and again have never questioned how she has conducted herself.

The University of Hawaii would be fortunate to have someone with Dr. Scarr's credentials and international visibility participating in the oversight of the institution. Denying Dr. Scarr the opportunity to serve on the Board would be outrageous.

Yours very truly,

Richard A. Weinberg, Ph.D.  
Distinguished University Teaching Professor Emeritus  
Institute of Child Development  
University of Minnesota,  
Minneapolis MN 55455

C: Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara  
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi  
Senator Sam Slom

**Lawrence M. Ford, C.P.M.**  
**81- 950 Makahiki Lane**  
**Captain Cook, HI 96704**

Aloha Senator Tokuda, Chair, Senate Education Committee,

I have known Sandra Scarr for about 12 years and consider her to be a fine candidate for the Board of Regents. We worked together as officers in several nonprofit organizations. I followed her as Treasurer of the Kona Orchid Society and my audit found no discrepancies. Her handling of the Society's funds was impeccable.

Sandra has shown in the years that I have known her that she will listen, weigh all facts and make well considered decisions. She carries out her duties in an insightful and reasonable manner. Her profession is as an academic and therefore brings crucial background to this position.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,  
Lawrence M. Ford, CPM, retired

Erin Conner

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2011 6:14 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** jbuckstead@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM661 on 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM

Testimony for EDU 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM GM661

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: John Buckstead  
Organization: West Hawaii Higher Education Working Group  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [jbuckstead@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:jbuckstead@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 4/18/2011

Comments:

Honorable Chair Tokuda:

I am pleased to write this letter to support Governor Neil Abercrombie's West Hawaii nominee to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. I have known Sandra Scarr for several years and can attest to her contributions and leadership roles with various West Hawaii community organizations. She has served the people and communities of West Hawaii with great energy, skill, and kindness.

Dr. Scarr has a lifelong interest and dedication to higher education and has a passion for furthering the educational opportunities in West Hawaii. Most recently she has been very active with a "working group" of West Hawaii volunteers who are trying to advance the cause of higher education in West Hawaii—to make our long-promised West Hawaii campus a reality and to provide better access to higher education to our residents.

We believe that Sandra Scarr is eminently qualified to serve the University of Hawaii and the residents of West Hawaii on the UH Board of Regents, and we urge you to confirm her nomination.

Sincerely,

John Buckstead, Vice Chair for West Hawaii Democratic Party of Hawaii and member of the higher education working group



Erin Conner

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 19, 2011 1:29 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** nalu@turquoise.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM661 on 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM

Testimony for EDU 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM GM661

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Ann A. Stevenson  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [nalu@turquoise.net](mailto:nalu@turquoise.net)  
Submitted on: 4/19/2011

Comments:  
Aloha All!

I wish to respond to a purported allegation of financial misconduct on the part of Dr. Sandra Scarr when she served as a volunteer on a Kona community board in the past.

As a former board member of the Kona Outdoor Circle for 9 years where I held multiple positions, including Treasurer, I've had the pleasure of serving with Sandra when she represented our non-profit organization as VP for Public Affairs and also as President. At no time did I/we ever observe any such implied misconduct, financial or otherwise. She served us faithfully, enthusiastically, generously and extremely competently.

In my personal opinion, such a smear to her character is totally unfounded and could possibly be construed as a "personality" issue. Dr. Scarr is a strong leader but one who is capable of compromising, when necessary, with logic and fine moral character to obtain the best resolution to a presented dilemma. And, believe me, she was confronted with several of those during her tenure as our president!

My husband, Charles E. Stevenson, has also served on the same KOC Board (as Treasurer or co-Treasurer for a total of 3 years) and shares my impression of Sandra.

I know you will research thoroughly her qualifications and service to our community. Please consider us as advocates for her nomination -we believe she would be a definite asset to the Board of Regents.

Respectfully,

Ann A. Stevenson

73-1955 Hao St., #A

Kailua Kona, HI 96740

808-325-0102

Erin Conner

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 19, 2011 6:18 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** robert.sternberg@gmx.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM661 on 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM

Testimony for EDU 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM GM661

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Dr. Robert J. Sternberg  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [robert.sternberg@gmx.com](mailto:robert.sternberg@gmx.com)  
Submitted on: 4/19/2011

Comments:

Dear Senator Tokuda:

Although I am Provost and Senior Vice President at Oklahoma State University, I am writing this letter in a personal, not official capacity.

It is my understanding that Sandra Scarr has been nominated by Governor Abercrombie to serve on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. It is also my understanding that her nomination is being opposed by someone named Brent Hight, with whom she is unfamiliar (as am I), on the alleged grounds that she has a "negative fiscal accountability track record."

As you know, it is very easy to make such accusations on the basis of no evidence, such as in this testimony. As no documentation is offered, it would seem irresponsible and extremely imprudent to make such a charge. I have known Sandra Scarr for over 30 years, and have followed her career from the U. of Minnesota to Yale U. to the U. of Virginia to Kindercare to Hawaii. At no time have I been aware of, or heard any allegation of, "negative fiscal accountability." On the contrary, Dr. Scarr has an extremely distinguished record both as a professor and as an administrator. Contrary to the claim about her "performance history," I would assert that her extensive experience in university teaching, research, and administration would make her an excellent candidate for the Board of Regents. I know I would like to have regents like her here in Oklahoma. I very much hope that Dr. Scarr is appointed. Her appointment would provide a great boost to the university and the state.

More generally, we live in an era where people seem to feel free to throw around scurrilous charges to further their own political, financial, or other ambitions. I would hope that irresponsible testimony would be recognized as such and given no credence.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert J. Sternberg

Erin Conner

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2011 9:46 AM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** pstolfa@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM661 on 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM

Testimony for EDU 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM GM661

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Patricia Stolfa  
Organization: District 6 Democrats  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [pstolfa@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:pstolfa@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 4/20/2011

Comments:

These remarks should be added to my earlier testimony supporting Gov Abercrombie's nominee to the BOR, Sandra Scarr.

I have known Sandra for the entire 10 years that I have lived in Kailua Kona. I go to know her because of exactly the qualities that make her our candidate for the BOR, as well as the Governor's: (1) because she has a keen interest in the public affairs of this community and shows up at council meetings, public hearings, general meetings and other local events where citizen input is sought; (2) because even though that citizen input often does not get appropriate attention and action, she still shows up and expresses her views in an articulate and persuasive manner; and (3) because her approach to public issues is thoughtful and based on her wide experience.

In the past few months, she has been working with a volunteer group in West Hawaii that is committed to moving forward in realizing the community's long-standing dream for a UH/WH campus.

We who know and respect her believe her presence on the BOR will help us, and will be an asset to the University.

Erin Conner

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 2:51 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** mshultise@mindspring.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM661 on 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM

Testimony for EDU 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM GM661

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Mark Shultise  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [mshultise@mindspring.com](mailto:mshultise@mindspring.com)  
Submitted on: 4/21/2011

Comments:

Dear Senator:

I have known Ms. Scarr for almost a decade and have worked with her in a number of organizations, including the Kona Outdoor Circle, the Kona Petfood Coop (Kona Raw), the Kona Coffee Council and the Kona Coffee Farmers Association.

I have NEVER had reason to question her integrity, honesty or fiscal responsibility and fully support her nomination to the Board of Regents of the University. She is extremely qualified for the position and would serve us well.

A small group of people has recently submitted testimony against Ms. Scarr in an apparent coordinated effort to besmirch her name. Those 7 people (not including 2 family members) out of the 1.2 million state residents are all members on the Board of the same organization, the Kona Coffee Council. It is unfortunate that the "coffee wars" become a part of this gathering of testimony; however this group has done just that.

In 2006 Ms. Scarr and many other farmers KCC sought to protect and promote 100% Kona coffee over the 10% Kona blends. These blends confuse the public because they tout the Kona name on a product which is mostly NOT Kona. This is no different than advertising a beef hot dog (containing 90% pork).

In the hour before the 2006 annual election of the Kona Coffee Council, one of these 7 dissenters brought in over \$4000 cash and signed up over 120 new members, rubber stamping a slate of officers that represented the "coffee industry". It should be noted that the company he works for has just been named in a human trafficking lawsuit filed by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Tuesday.

Those 120 new members had not attended a meeting before, did not attend that meeting to vote, and have not attended since. Their membership and voting was done for them.

This group of 7 dissenters are current Board Members, many installed by that rubber stamped takeover election. While the act was legal under the bylaws, it was certainly unethical. Those are the people testifying that Ms. Scarr is not appropriate for this position, people who were put onto a board by a bought election.

Ms. Scarr has received prestigious awards for her research work and is know worldwide. Recently, she has worked diligently with the Kona Outdoor Circle, the Water Board, the Kona Orchid Society, the Kona Coffee Farmers Association, the Kona Raw Pet Food Coop and many other organizations.

It is unfortunate that a few people in one organization have been put up to oppose her helping the state improve their University system.

Again, I fully support Ms. Scarr for the Board of Regents.

Mark Shultise  
LavaRock Farm  
PO Box 1002  
Captain Cook, Hi 96704-1002

Erin Conner

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2011 7:03 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** jdperritt@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM661 on 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM

Testimony for EDU 4/25/2011 10:00:00 AM GM661

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: June Perritt  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [jdperritt@yahoo.com](mailto:jdperritt@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 4/22/2011

Comments:

Dear Senators,

I have just read a letter which included the following negative comments about Ms. Scarr in conjunction with her potential to serve on the University Board of Regents.

"The business experience and negative fiscal accountability track record that Ms Scarr represents, both politically and factually is a huge concern during these hard economic times. I would request that you consider other candidates for this Board Position and vote against Ms. Sandra Scarr's appointment to the Board of Regents. The costs of poor fiscal responsibility and negative political guidance should not be qualities in a person that board of regents needs at this time. Her background and performance history if appointed could expose the board to lots of negative public criticism and could also contribute to the possible mismanagement of your budgets."

I know of NO examples of poor fiscal responsibility and negative political guidance demonstrated by Ms. Scarr. I was the treasurer of Kona Outdoor Circle and Ms. Scarr was the president. When we left the organization it was in better financial state than it had even been. We left the organization with greater than \$200K in financial assets.

My personal experience with Ms. Scarr is just the opposite from the above quote. As a reasonable person I would have to see some factual information to back up the innuendo above. Without any factual back up the quote above is simply not credible. Ms. Scarr is a highly professional educator who has many qualities which will benefit the Board of Regents should she be chosen.

June Perritt  
322-1402  
[jdperritt@yahoo.com](mailto:jdperritt@yahoo.com)  
78-7005 Ola Kino Street  
Kailua-Kona, Hi. 96740

LATE

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair, Senate Education Committee Hawaii State Capitol,  
Room 218 Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Specious Testimony Offered for Hearing Number GM661

Dear Senator Tokuda and respected members of the Senate Education  
Committee:

I would like to express again my support for Ms. Sandra Scarr, the Governor's nominee to represent West Hawaii on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. I feel that Ms. Scarr's extensive experience in the field of higher education, her familiarity with various groups within the West Hawaii community, and her willingness to serve make her an ideal candidate for the position.

I would also like to address the specious innuendo entered into the public record via the written testimony of Mr. Brent Hight. Mr. Hight's testimony implies that Sandra Scarr is fiscally irresponsible at best and, at worst, dishonest.

While everyone should be allowed express an opinion and approve/oppose a candidate or position, false and libelous testimony should not go unanswered.

I have worked with Ms. Scarr on a weekly basis in the Kona Raw Pet Food Cooperative since July of 2010 and have only known her to be thorough, meticulous, and honest with respect to financial matters.

She carefully reads through vendor invoices to make sure that charges for the pet food are correct. She has caught vendor mistakes and, even when such mistakes have been made in favor of the Co-op, she has brought those errors to the vendor's attention. She carefully computes the amounts due for pet food orders, including amounts due for the General Excise Tax.

I am appalled that Brent Hight's testimony impugning Ms. Scarr's reputation is allowed to stand in the public record.

I respectfully ask that you vote in favor of Ms. Scarr's appointment to the position under consideration.

Sincerely,

Dianne M. Buoncristiani  
Retired High School Teacher, Coffee Farmer, and West Hawaii Businesswoman  
P.O. Box 552  
Holualoa, HI 96725