

# GM 586

## Testimony -

# Stanford Yuen

**Measure Title:** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, Gubernatorial Nominee, STANFORD YUEN, for a term to expire 6-30-2019.

**Report Title:** Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii

**Current Referral:** HRE



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Testimony of

### **Representative Isaac W. Choy, Chair**

Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State House of Representatives

Submitting Comments to the Consideration and Confirmation of the following nominees:

**Mr. Stanford Yuen**  
**Ms. Lee Putnam**  
**Mr. Jeffrey Portnoy**  
**Ms. Michelle Tagorda**

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Vice-Chair Kahele and Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide comments on the selection of these individuals to the University of Hawaii's Board of Regents. I have not met or interviewed any of these candidates.

The University of Hawaii is currently in a situation which will require management expertise. Article X Section 6 of our Hawaii State Constitution states: *"The board shall also have exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management, and operations of the University."* Further, HRS 304A-321 (b), Independent Audit Committee; established; powers; duties states: *"The independent audit committee shall consist of at least three but not more than five members who shall be appointed by the chairperson of the Board of Regents..."* *"The independent audit committee shall include one or more individuals with financial expertise."*

I believe the **financial expertise** required for membership on the audit committee should include the following skill set and experience:

1. Ability to read financial statements and management comments.
2. Ability to understand the state of Hawaii and University of Hawaii budgeting scheme.
3. Ability to understand and evaluate the financial information given to the board by management.
4. Ability to recognize and understand enterprise risk management.

I would request that the committee question each candidate to see if the candidate meets the qualifications for the audit committee, evaluate the composition of the current board, and determine if future or current selections meet the requirements of this statute.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments.

Manoa • University • Punahou • Moiliili  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 404, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone: (808) 586-8475 / Email: repchoy@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sam O. Hirota, Inc.



March 23, 2014

**Senate Committee on Higher Education**

Honorable Senator Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair; and Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education

Subject: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT** of **Stanford Yuen** as University of Hawaii Regent  
**GM 586**

**Hearing: Tuesday, March, 25, 2014 at 3:30PM, Conference Room 414**

Dear Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Committee.

I am writing in support of Stanford Yuen as a University of Hawaii Regent. I have known Stanford for many years and as a University of Hawaii Regent (2008-2012), I observed Stanford's dedication and support of all aspects of UH life, especially with the College of Engineering. His Hawaii lifetime Achievement Award in Engineering and Distinguished Alumni College of Engineering, University of Hawaii in 2014 are but two of many community awards which he has received.

Although Stanford is involved in many community projects and activities, I believe that his best contributions are yet to be made as a Regent for the University of Hawaii. The Regents need someone like Stanford with life experience in the field of engineering to help guide the future direction of the University of Hawaii. There have been few engineers that have had the opportunity to become Regents for the University of Hawaii and with more emphasis on STEM and engineering, Stanford's leadership and guidance will be a significant addition to the Board of Regents.

Thank you for an opportunity to express my views in the unconditional **SUPPORT** of Stanford Yuen as Regent for the University of Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis I. Hirota, PhD, PE, LPLS  
President  
Regent, University of Hawaii (2008-2012)

**From:** [Susan Miyao](#)  
**To:** [HRETestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stanford Yuen UH Regent -Senate Confirmation Hearing  
**Date:** Friday, March 21, 2014 8:25:06 AM

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**From:** Clskwock [mailto:clskwock@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 20, 2014 4:51 PM  
**To:** Susan Miyao  
**Subject:** Fwd: Stanford Yuen UH Regent -Senate Confirmation Hearing

Aloha Ms. Miyao - FYR.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Clskwock <[clskwock@gmail.com](mailto:clskwock@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** March 20, 2014 at 4:40:57 PM HST  
**To:** "[sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)" <[sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)>  
**Cc:** "[smiyao@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:smiyao@capitol.hawaii.gov)" <[smiyao@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:smiyao@capitol.hawaii.gov)>  
**Subject:** **Stanford Yuen UH Regent -Senate Confirmation Hearing**

Aloha Senator Taniguchi,

I am supporting Stanford Yuen for UH Regent. I have known him for over twenty years in a professional and community work setting.

In all these times he has been an honest, hardworking and fair person, a consummate professional - he listens and very quickly he has a good grasp of facts presented and knows what to do to resolve problems and handle difficult people and situations in a calm and collected way.

He has a wide network of professional friends whom he frequently consults with and also gathers the thoughts of people from the street, ordinary folks who care about our UH and our State.

He is a consensus builder, a team player and with his navy background in engineering and strategic management, his public hearing experience, his congressional experience dealing with all levels of government and protocol, I feel very comfortable vouching for his qualifications and character.

There is much to do at UH to get our school back on keel, Stanford has the passion, the stamina, the vision and the best interest of the University at heart.

Please confirm him. He will prove himself worthy given the opportunity. If I may be of further help, please call me at 808 391-4350 or email at [clskwock@gmail.com](mailto:clskwock@gmail.com)

Mahalo for the opportunity to present testimony.

Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock  
President, ABC mo Mortgage  
Chu Lan Properties

President, Chinatown Business & Community Association

President, US China Peoples Friendship Association

Chair, Small Business Regulatory Review Board

Member, Downtown/Chinatown Neighborhood Board Member

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
Honolulu, Hawaii. 96813

Re: GM 586 – Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the University of  
Hawaii Board of Regents

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

Please accept my statement of support for Mr. Stanford Yuen for appointment to the  
Board of Regents of University of Hawaii.

I have know Mr. Yuen for over 55 years both personally as aspiring basketball “stars”  
and professionally in his various positions with United States Navy and statewide  
community organizations.

Aside from his numerous significant community awards, Stanford is best regarded as a  
person extremely invested in the future development of our state assets and resources.

Stanford is thoroughly knowledgeable of how our community works, committed to the  
betterment of our community and currently serves in positions that can and will affect  
community outcomes.

Stanford is a graduate of engineering at the University of Hawaii. He is devoted to the  
betterment and excellence of the University of Hawaii in academics, in providing future  
leaders for the community and a balance of student academics and student extracurricular  
activities.

I highly recommend without reservations that Mr. Stanford Yuen be confirmed as a  
Regent of the University of Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald S. Lim CPA, CGMA  
Retired Special Assistant to the Governor of the State of Hawaii

**March 24, 2014**

**Senator Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education  
Senatorial District 11  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 219  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813**

**Honorable Brian Taniguchi:**

**I strongly support Mr. Stanford Yuen's nomination to the Board of Regents, University of Hawaii.**

**I have known Mr. Yuen for many years and he is a person of high integrity and moral character. His diverse and extensive business background together with his involvement with many non-profit organizations makes him uniquely qualified to be a member of the Board of Regents.**

**The University of Hawaii will greatly benefit from having Mr. Yuen on the Board.**

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Yu', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Robert Yu  
President-Elect  
Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii**

**From:** [Susan Miyao](#)  
**To:** [HRETestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents  
**Date:** Friday, March 21, 2014 8:24:07 AM

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**From:** CHANGED56 . [mailto:changed1956@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 20, 2014 11:05 PM  
**To:** Sen. Brian Taniguchi  
**Cc:** Susan Miyao  
**Subject:** Re: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
Honolulu, HI 96813

I have know Mr. Staford Yuen for approximate 10 years and support his nomination for UH Board of Regents.

Mr. Yuen has shown to be a very community minded individual giving of his time and energy to giving back to the community. His occupational experience within the Federal Government really brings a broad base of experience in planning and getting projects done. He is dedicated to giving back to the community and state of Hawaii. Stanford will prove to be a great addition to the Board of Regents.

Edmund Chang  
President,  
Mid Pacific Gun Club

Carlson Sales Hawaii, LLC  
P.O. Box 26092  
Honolulu, HI 96825

March 21, 2014

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents

Gentlemen:

I have had the privilege of knowing Stanford Yuen for over 24 years and support his nomination for the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

He is truly a renaissance man who has mastered his skills in a number of disciplines yet remains humble and generous with family and community. His success in life both personal and professional is a direct reflection of his character and tireless work ethic.

The Board of Regents would benefit from his knowledge and experience and I recommend him highly without reservation

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kit Chee Ma".

Kit Chee Ma  
President



**From:** [Susan Miyao](#)  
**To:** [HRETestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents  
**Date:** Friday, March 21, 2014 10:05:24 AM

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**From:** Chang, Edmund [mailto:edmund.chang@heco.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 21, 2014 10:04 AM  
**To:** Sen. Brian Taniguchi  
**Cc:** Susan Miyao  
**Subject:** GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents

March 21, 2014

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher  
Education  
Hawaii State  
Senate  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents

I have known Mr. Stanford Yuen for over 20 years, and I support his nomination for the position as a UH Board of Regent.

Before coming to this conclusion, I read the ATG report on BOR Policies and Practices to assure myself that Mr. Yuen has the requirements described in the report, and I am pleased to say that he has the qualities to fulfill the responsibilities or duties to highest achievable levels. Although he has much experience at the engineering, planning, and administrative levels, he will think beyond his experience and plan beyond his tenure. He is a person who will not put personal interests before the duty and will keep politics to a minimum. He believes in being involved and understanding the BOR processes and criteria, and avoiding any micromanaging.

Mr. Yuen has shown to be an energetic team player who believes in being well prepared for meetings, reviewing agendas and issues prior to meetings, and asking the right questions. I know he is a believer of accountability of BOR and staff, and the need for metrics and process to understand how success will be defined and whether it is being achieved.

Mr. Yuen fully meets the requirements for the position, and has shown through his many volunteer organizations his dedication to serving. He will be a great addition to the Board of Regents.

Sincerely,

Edmund W.K. Chang, P.E.

ASME-HI Honors & Awards Committee Chair

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**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:** This e-mail message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, copying, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender immediately by reply e-mail and destroy the original message and all copies.

**From:** [Susan Miyao](#)  
**To:** [HRETestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: GM 586 Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen for the UH Board of Regents  
**Date:** Monday, March 24, 2014 1:29:03 PM

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**From:** Robin Leong [mailto:robinleong@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 24, 2014 12:07 PM  
**To:** Sen. Brian Taniguchi  
**Cc:** Susan Miyao  
**Subject:** Re: GM 586 Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen for the UH Board of Regents

March 24, 2014

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: [GM 586- Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents](#)

Dear Senator Taniguchi,

I support Mr. Stanford Yuen's his nomination for the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. I recently wrote an article on Mr. Yuen for a Chinese fraternal organization, relating to his being chosen as "Chinese Citizen of the Year," by the United Chinese Society. Although I have known Mr. Yuen for many years, I was amazed by what I learned about his professional credentials and community service. His selection as Chinese Citizen of the Year, speaks volumes as to how high he is held in esteem by the local Chinese community. My research for the article further revealed that the United Chinese Society is one of the oldest Chinese business organizations. Combined with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the U.S.-China Peoples Friendship Association, of which Mr. Yuen has served a director, these organizations are important linkages for Hawaii's growing relationship with China. Equally apropos for Mr. Yuen's nomination is his commitment to Chinese language education in Hawaii as demonstrated by his presidency of Mun Lun School, the oldest surviving Chinese language school in Hawaii.

I had a brief business experience with Mr. Yuen when he was serving with the U.S. Navy as Special Assistant to the Navy Region Hawai'i Commander (Admiral). He helped my company resolve a sensitive business issue that involved Navy personnel. As a civilian who does business with the U.S. Navy, it was very reassuring to have someone of Mr. Yuen's stature and authority be so responsive to my business concern. This is a clear example of his serving to promote good relations between the U.S. Navy and Hawaii businesses.

Mr. Yuen is very gracious and collegial in all settings. He is always considerate of others, and would be an exceptionally fine addition to the Board of Regents.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin J. Leong

President

Music Center of Hawaii, Inc.

**From:** [Susan Miyao](#)  
**To:** [HRETestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: GM 586 Supporting Statement for Mr. Stanford Yuen  
**Date:** Friday, March 21, 2014 8:23:22 AM

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**From:** dion coschigano [mailto:dionmagrit@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 21, 2014 8:21 AM  
**To:** Sen. Brian Taniguchi  
**Cc:** Susan Miyao  
**Subject:** GM 586 Supporting Statement for Mr. Stanford Yuen

March 21, 2014

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education

Hawaii State  
Senate  
amp; nbsp;

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Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Taniguchi:

Re: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents

This is my letter of support for Mr. Stanford Yuen, whom I have known for longer than 30 years.

I first met Mr. Yuen during the preservation and restoration of Honolulu's Chinatown and related community projects. He is a tireless supporter to the betterment of Hawaii - intelligent, energetic, reliable and honorable. For his honest commitment, fairness and energetic spirit, I thoroughly support his nomination to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

Throughout the years, with his tireless contributions and support, Mr. Yuen has proven to be a valuable asset to our community preservation and educational efforts. For the above reasons and more, I recommend him for a position on the UH Board of Regents.

Having witnessed his dedication and commitment for decades towards improving and sustaining Hawaii's excellence, I truly believe he would be a great addition to the UH Board of Regents.

Sincerely,

Ms Dion-Magrit Coschigano  
Past Executive Director, Historic Hawaii Foundation  
Past Chairperson, Honolulu Historic Preservation Advisory Committee



**From:** [Susan Miyao](#)  
**To:** [HRETestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Niminee for the UH Board of Regents  
**Date:** Friday, March 21, 2014 8:23:34 AM

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**From:** vernon\_tom@comcast.net [mailto:vernon\_tom@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 21, 2014 6:12 AM  
**To:** Sen. Brian Taniguchi  
**Cc:** Susan Miyao  
**Subject:** Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Niminee for the UH Board of Regents

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman Committee on Higher Education

Hawaii State Senate

Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 586

I have known Mr. Stanford Yuen for over 55 years, and I support his nomination for the position of Regent, with the University Board of Regents.

Mr. Yuen has shown to be resourceful, goal oriented, and a complete team player.

I fell that Mr. Yuen fully meets she requirements of the position.

He is dedicated to serving as seen by his many years of dedicated service with the US Navy, as and engineer and administrator.

I truly believe that he will be a great addition to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

Sincerely,

/s/

Vernon Tom  
Retired FAA Labor Relations Specialist

March 20, 2104

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher  
Education  
Hawaii State Senate

Honorable Gilbert Kahele  
Vice Chairman, Committee on Higher  
Education  
Hawaii State Senate

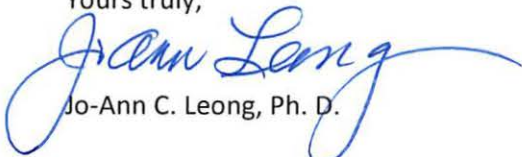
Re: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents

Dear Chairman Taniguchi, Vice-Chairman Kahele, and members of the Committee on Higher Education,

I am writing to you as a personal friend and colleague of Mr. Stanford Yuen who is a nominee for the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. In reviewing the criteria for selection of a regent, the statute reads "the senate shall consider the combination of abilities, breadth of experiences, and characteristics of the board of regents, as a whole, that will best serve the diverse interests and needs of the students of the university system and assist the university system in achieving its strategic goals and performance indicators. The senate shall consider whether the board reflects the diversity of the student population, the various counties of the State, and a broad representation of higher education-related stakeholders." With these attributes in mind, I would like to highlight Mr. Yuen's breadth of experiences including Aerospace Engineering, Stockbroker for Dean Witter, and Head of the Industrial Engineering at Hickam Air Base, Hawaii. In his last position, he was Senior Advisor to the Admiral for the Navy Region Hawaii, a position that he retired from in 2013. He continues to volunteer for the Chinese Community by promoting the Culture and Arts District in Chinatown, and he has served tirelessly for Mun Lun School, one of the nation's largest and oldest Chinese language schools. He currently serves on the Honolulu Ethics Commission. He has the breadth of experiences, and achievements that the Board of Regents needs in the coming five years. An alumnus of the University of Hawaii, Stanford Yuen has taught "Engineering Economics" at the University from 1979 to 1992.

Please give Mr. Yuen your highest consideration and select him for the UH Board of Regents.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jo-Ann C. Leong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jo-Ann C. Leong, Ph. D.

Marine Biology, Microbiology



Wilbert C.F. Chee  
833 Waika Place  
HONOLULU, HI 96825

March 21, 2014

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education :

I am writing to urge your approval of Mr. Stanford Yuen to the position on the UH Board of Regents.

Briefly, I was formerly the President and CEO of Wil Chee-Planning, Inc. (WCP) for 37 years . In December of 2012, I sold this land use and environmental services company which I founded, and am now semi-retired as Vice-President of Marketing for WCP. In the transpiring years, I have conducted site selection studies, master plans, EIS, and facilities planning studies for the University of Hawaii; on the Manoa campus, West Oahu (site selection), and most recently site selection, master plan, and EIS for the campus at West Hawaii. In that capacity, I have appeared before the UH administration, and the Board of Regents on numerous occasions to present the results of our work, and to discuss the many issues that are involved in these projects. As a result, I have an understanding of the mechanisms at the UH administration, and the Board of Regents, and the rigors of its business. I am currently the newest member of the Aloha Stadium Authority, where I also sit on the Stadium Optimization Committee.

I have known Stanford Yuen, known to me as Stan, continuously for at least the past 15 consecutive years, both professionally and personally. I first met Stan professionally in his capacity at the US Naval Command where we (WCP) were consultants, and then personally through his many civic leadership roles; most recently as President of the Mun Lun Chinese School board for which I am First Vice-President.

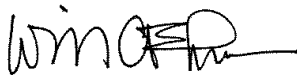
On the basis of my professional and personal knowledge of Stan, I will state to you that he is a reliable, hard-working and trustworthy professional who has extensive experience and knowledge of the responsibilities of a board and demands of its client group. In this regard, I believe he is quite up to the task of business on the UH Board of Regents. There is no doubt that he possesses the personal requirements desirable in a UH regent, and dedication to the function

and role it represents. As a person, I know that he has the highest integrity and solid character desirable in such a position.

Stan, with his extensive professional and civic background, will be a strong contributor and asset to the UH Board of Regents. Please accept this testimony in support of Stan in your deliberations of his confirmation.

Thank you for your precious time.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wilbert C.F. Chee". The signature is stylized and includes a horizontal line extending to the right.

Wilbert C.F. Chee

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chair  
Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Mr. Stanford Yuen, Nominee for University of Hawaii Board of Regents

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

I urge your and the committee's confirmation of Mr. Yuen's appointment to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. I have known him since our formal educational years and have also frequently interacted with him in numerous social and cultural events. I know him well and believe he is worthy of the prestigious position for which he is being considered.

Mr. Yuen's academic and professional accomplishments are good indicators of his dedication to cause and ability to perform on complex problems, issues, and opportunities. He also has strong leadership skills which he widely demonstrated in representing the commanding Admiral of Pearl Harbor. He is a caring and considerate person widely respected in the community. Moreover, he has a high regard for civic responsibilities. Considering his talents and traits, I have no doubt he will admirably perform the duties of a regent.

Of course, if there are any questions about my statement of support, I would be happy to confer with you.

Thank you!

Douglas S.Y. Tom

Gordon Lum  
3255 Alani Drive  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

March 25, 2014

Senate Committee on Higher Education  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 414  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Testimony for  
Governor's Message 586  
Relating to Confirmation of Stanford Yuen to the UH Board of Regents

Chair Brian Taniguchi and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education.

My name is Gordon Lum and I wish to express my strong support for the confirmation of Stanford Yuen to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

I had the pleasure of working with Mr. Yuen during my past career as the Executive Director for the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization and he with the Navy Region Hawaii as an Assistant Chief of Staff. His intimate working knowledge of the Navy's policies, budget, internal structure, management (including construction) and operations were extremely helpful in establishing the framework to secure federal funds for transportation projects located on Navy property. His understanding of the inner workings of such a large organizational structure will be invaluable in dealing with the many policy issues the Board of Regents will be facing with our extensive university system.

I have also known Mr. Yuen on a personal level for two decades, most recently through our participation in the Lions Club of Honolulu and the Chinese Civic Club. I can attest to Mr. Yuen's high moral character and integrity and am confident he will do a great job, not only because he is more than capable of doing so, but also for alumni pride.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Yuen's confirmation.

**From:** [Susan Miyao](#)  
**To:** [HRETestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Nominee for UH Board of Regents  
**Date:** Friday, March 21, 2014 10:11:29 AM

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**From:** Rosalind Mau [mailto:[rosalindmau@hotmail.com](mailto:rosalindmau@hotmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 21, 2014 10:11 AM  
**To:** Sen. Brian Taniguchi  
**Cc:** Susan Miyao  
**Subject:** Nominee for UH Board of Regents

March 21, 2014

Honorable Brian Taniguchi

Chairman, Committee on Higher Education

Hawaii State  
Senate

Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents

This letter is in support of Stanford Yuen for a position on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

I have known him since we attended Mun Lun School, the largest continuous Chinese language school in Hawaii, over 50 years ago.

He was an able and dedicated leader as President of Mo Hock Ke Lock Bo dba Mun Lun School while I was a board director.

He fully meets the requirements for a regent as he has extensive experience with major engineering projects such as the Ford Island Bridge construction; worked on intergovernmental affairs; and has been a staunch supporter of the University of Hawaii.

He is a dedicated community volunteer serving in numerous civic, cultural and charitable organizations. Last year, he was awarded the Model Citizen of the Year by the United Chinese Society.

Stanford Yuen will be a great asset to the Board of Regents based on his engineering knowledge, his fine work with the military and his demonstrated willingness to serve the community.

Sincerely,

Rosalind Y. Mau, Ph.D.

Retired Associate Professor

National Institute of Education

Nanyang Technological University

Singapore

**From:** [Susan Miyao](#)  
**To:** [HRETestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stanford Yuen UH Regent - Senate Confirmation Hearing  
**Date:** Friday, March 21, 2014 12:04:32 PM  
**Attachments:** [STANFORD YUEN - Resume.doc](#),  
[ATT00001.txt](#)

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-----Original Message-----

From: Myrtle Choan [<mailto:myrtlechoan@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Friday, March 21, 2014 12:04 PM  
To: Sen. Brian Taniguchi  
Cc: Susan Miyao  
Subject: Stanford Yuen UH Regent - Senate Confirmation Hearing

Aloha Senator Taniguchi,

I have known Mr. Stanford Yuen for over seventy years, and I support his nomination for the position for the UH Board of Regents. Mr. Yuen fully meets the requirements for the position.

I have a deep affection and respect for Mr. Yuen and in every sense a leader of men in an inspiring manifestation of the high esteem in which he contributed his services to the people of this community.

This honor is well earned by Mr. Yuen and not only a compliment for the past but reflects upon the future. This was a unique opportunity to nominate Mr. Yuen, for the UH Board of Regents with his most sterling personalities, wisdom and lofty idealism, combined with his vigor and unequalled experience, will be a tower of strength for the UH Board of Regents.

May the Almighty God give him strength and wisdom to fulfill his responsibilities during the next years.

My heartfelt thanks for the opportunity to present this testimony.

By reading Stanford Yuen's resume, he will be a great addition to the UH Board of Regents.

**From:** [Susan Miyao](#)  
**To:** [HRETestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Letter of of Recommendation for Stanford Yuen  
**Date:** Friday, March 21, 2014 12:05:42 PM

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**From:** sheldonzane64@gmail.com [mailto:sheldonzane64@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Sheldon Zane  
**Sent:** Friday, March 21, 2014 12:05 PM  
**To:** Sen. Brian Taniguchi; Susan Miyao; Sen. Gilbert Kahele  
**Subject:** Letter of of Recommendation for Stanford Yuen

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Honorable Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee

It is a pleasure for me to add my recommendation of Stanford Yuen for appointment as a UH Regent.

I have known Stanford for over a period of twenty years. He is a Professional Engineer colleague and I know that his past experience with the Pacific Division of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Pearl Harbor/ Hickam Joint Command would enable him to be a valuable resource on the Board of Regents especially with the UH's current difficulties in managing it facilities. My recommendantion is base on being a former Navy Civil Engineer Corps Officer with in depth knowledge with PACDIV and the important role Stanford served with that command.

I know Stanford to be a very active member of the Honolulu community and his devoting numerous hours to volunteering for Chinatown activities as well as with the US Park Services Arizona Memorial.

Stanford is the exemplary model of the type of Regent we need for the UH. One who is experienced in the business world, willing to devote his time and experience to serving the Board, and one who has boundless enthusiasm and energy to serve.

I highly recommend Stanford Yuen to the UH Board of Regents.

Sheldon Zane  
999 Wilder Ave. #1203  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
ph. 808-664-0903  
cell 808-349-1964



250 Kawaihae Street  
Apartment 14C  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
96825  
March 23, 2014

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

I support the nomination of Stanford Yuen for the position of Regent, UH Board of Regents. I have known Stanford for over 12 years as a fellow member of the Chinese Civic Club (Triple "C" Club). Stanford has been a great asset to the Chinese Community over the years and most recently was recognized as Chinese Citizen of the Year by the United Chinese Society. He serves as an officer and Board Member of numerous organizations in the Chinese community in Hawaii. I can attest to his concern for our community and I am convinced that he will be a great asset to our fine university system.

Stanford Yuen's professional experience bodes well for the Board of Regents. He brings a fresh, professional engineering perspective to the often-times complex challenges of our university system. His professional experience as part of the military component in our State economy is extremely useful as he can further the working relationship between the University of Hawaii and the Military.

I heartily endorse Stanford Yuen's nomination to the UH Board of Regents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Peter H. P. Ho, Ph.D.

(sent via eMail)

**From:** [Susan Miyao](#)  
**To:** [HRETestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents  
**Date:** Monday, March 24, 2014 8:09:54 AM

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**From:** Harold Chun [mailto:halola001@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 23, 2014 6:49 PM  
**To:** Sen. Brian Taniguchi  
**Cc:** Susan Miyao  
**Subject:** GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents

March 23, 2014

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Subject: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for  
the UH Board of Regents

I have known Stanford Yuen for over 65 years ever since my days at St. Louis School, and I wholeheartedly support his nomination to the UH Board of Regents.

As long as I have known Mr. Yuen, he has shown to be an honest person with great leadership skills.

I believe he meets the requirements for the Board of Regents because:

1) He is well respected in the civilian and military community, 2) He has worked with many of the leaders in the State, 3) He is a good listener and after he has heard all the pros and cons, he can make a reasonable decision on the issue.

He is a loyal and dedicated individual and I strongly support Mr. Yuen's nomination to the UH Board of Regents based on his demonstrated experience and leadership, and his willingness to serve the community.

Sincerely,

Harold M.W. Chun  
Senior Project Manager  
CH2M HILL

Lois H. Sismar  
740 Ahukini Street  
Honolulu, HI 96825

March 24, 2014

Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chairman  
Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Honorable Taniguchi:

I have known Mr. Stanford Yuen for over 10 years, and I support his nomination for the position of UH Board of Regents.

Mr. Yuen has shown his great knowledge in the educational field with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Hawaii; a M.S. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Southern California and a MBA from Pepperdine University. With two professional engineering licenses, Mr. Yuen has the perspective on education.

Over the years he has shown me to be a person of high integrity and moral character. This is shown by his last assignment working as a Senior Advisor and Special Assistant to the Admiral for intergovernmental affairs, Navy Region Hawaii. He had to deal with the local governments, legislature, and business communities. This takes a special person to be able to deal with the different facets of private and public sectors.

I feel that the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii would truly benefit with Mr. Stanford Yuen on board.

Sincerely yours,



Lois H. Sismar

Myron L. Tong  
1606 Keeaumoku Street  
Honolulu, HI 96822

March 21, 2014

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM 586 – Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen, Nominee for the UH Board of Regents

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Stanford Yuen for over 30 years and support his nomination for the position of UH Board of Regent. Mr. Yuen is a fellow alumna of St. Louis High School and exemplifies the core values of a Crusader - honor and integrity.

As a professional engineer and Executive Assistant for Intergovernmental Affairs Engineering & Land Use to the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, Mr. Yuen has extensive experience in lobbying at the national and state level where he worked closely with Senator Inouye and our congressional delegation to secure defense appropriation for the Pearl Harbor shipyard and the Ford Island bridge and housing development projects. He has also worked with state and county governments for land use approval for military housing and the swap of military lands for building military housing.

In all the years that Mr. Yuen has work for the Navy, he has dedicated his service for the betterment of the armed forces and the people of Hawaii.

Mr. Yuen has a superb work ethic and fully meets the requirements for the position of regent. He will be a great addition to the UH Board of Regents. He brings a fresh outlook and a can-do attitude that will enhance the board of regents.

Thank you for the opportunity of providing this letter of support for Mr. Stanford Yuen.

Sincerely,

Myron L. Tong

4122 Pakolu Place  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816  
March 22, 2014

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: GM 586 - Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen,  
Nominee for the University of Hawaii Board of Regents

Senator Taniguchi:

Aloha! I am the Attorney General of the State of Hawaii. I have practiced law for the past 36 years. I am a former President of the Hawaii State Bar Association, and I have served in various capacities on various boards. I served as the Chair and a Director of the Aloha Tower Development Corporation. I write in my personal capacity in strong and unequivocal support of the nomination of Stanford Yuen for the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

I have known Stanford for the past seven years. Stanford has been a very prominent member of the community, and is widely regarded as a man of character, integrity and achievement. He is intelligent, articulate, calm, balanced and thoughtful. He has the capacity and understanding to address and help solve the many issues that confront the University of Hawaii today. He has received many honors and awards recognizing his many achievements and contributions to the community. He will be a very effective person to help guide the University forward.

Please vote to confirm Mr. Yuen to this important position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Louie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

David M. Louie

Cc: Stanford Yuen  
s.miyao@capitol.hawaii.gov

**From:** [Anita Tyau](#)  
**Subject:** re: GM586 Supporting statement for Stanford Yuen, nominee for the UH Board of Regents  
**Date:** Saturday, March 22, 2014 2:06:31 AM

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I have known Stanford Yuen for forty (40) years and I support his nomination for the position on the

UH Board of Regents.

Mr. Yuen is very conscientious and caring of the community. As he has held positions of responsibility,

he is capable of working in such a position. He is dedicated to serving and doing it well.

He will be a great addition to the Board of Regents.

Sincerely,

David D. W, Tyau

**From:** [Susan Miyao](#)  
**To:** [HRETestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: GM586 Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen  
**Date:** Monday, March 24, 2014 3:05:34 PM

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**From:** kin ching [mailto:chingk085@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 24, 2014 3:04 PM  
**To:** Sen. Brian Taniguchi  
**Cc:** Susan Miyao; Stanford Yuen  
**Subject:** GM586 Supporting Statement for Stanford Yuen

Honorable Brian Taniguchi  
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Senate

Re: GM 586 Supporting statement for Mr. Stanford Yuen ( for UH Board of Regents )

I have worked in the Chinatown Community for many years and am presently the President of Mun Lun School, the largest Chinese School in Hawaii. I have worked with Stanford and found him more than capable to do the volunteer task of regent at University of Hawaii. He was model citizen of the year by the United Chinese Society last year and was voted Engineer of the Year at UH Engineering School. He has the love and passion for higher education and especially UH.

As a retired chief of Kaiser Permanente Medical Group Eye Clinic I can tell and see how well he works with other members always focusing on improving society. A great choice for Regent

Aloha,

Kin Ching

[chingk085@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:chingk085@hawaii.rr.com)

**Testimony Before the Committee on Higher Education**

**Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair  
Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chair  
Committee on Higher Education**

**Committee Hearing  
Tuesday, March 25, 3:30 p.m.  
Room 414, Hawaii State Capitol**

Testimony in **Support** of **GM 586**, relating to the consideration and confirmation of **Stanford Yuen** to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii Board, for a term expiring on June 30, 2019.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Kahele, and members of the committee:

My name is Gerald Chang.

I strongly support the nomination of **Stanford Yuen** to serve as a Regent of the University of Hawaii.

I have known and worked with Stanford as a fellow director of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii for at least fifteen years.

During that time, I have learned of his long career, initially as an engineer in the aerospace industry (1966-71), and then for many years for the federal government at Hickam Air Force Base (1975-1982) and Pearl Harbor (1982-2001), finally serving as Special Assistant to the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (2001-2012). In addition, Stanford managed to find time to teach an evening course in "Engineering Economics" at the University of Hawaii (1979-1992).

Stanford has also been active in the community, not only with a number of Chinese societies and associations, as well as numerous business, civic, community, cultural, educational, and engineering organizations, but also serving on the Downtown Neighborhood Board for many years.

In closing, I respectfully urge the members of this committee to vote in favor of the nomination of **Stanford Yuen** to serve as the University of Hawaii Board of Regents and to move the nomination (**GM 586**) forward for further consideration by the Hawaii State Senate.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Gerald Y. Y. Chang  
Attorney-at-Law



TESTIMONY  
OF  
STANFORD B.C. YUEN  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
HIGER EDUCATION  
ON  
March 25, 2014

GM586

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, Gubernatorial Nominee, STANFORD YUEN, for a term to expire 6-30-2019.

Chair Taniguchi and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

I want to thank Governor Neil Abercrombie for nominating me. I truly consider this an honor and a privilege to be considered to serve on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

I want to also extend a warm mahalo to everyone that submitted letters of support on my behalf and to everyone here in attendance lending me their support and aloha.

I am deeply grateful for the many friends and families who have guided me in my personal life and business career. I am indebted to my late parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sai Wun Yuen who taught my siblings and I the value of helping those in need and to give back to the community. I took their advice to heart and am proud to say that it is part of my everyday life as I volunteer many hours to non-profits.

My desire to serve on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents stems from my long standing interest in the welfare of the university, having graduated there with an engineering degree in 1966. University of Hawaii has served me well, and this is a way for me to give back to the school.

My understanding of the Board of Regents is that, as a whole they are responsible for the internal governance and management of the university. This is a tremendous challenge since responsibilities covers a broad range focusing on the general mission and goals of the system, the academic and facilities planning, personnel issues including appointing and evaluating the president and senior executives, input on major contracts, approving any new academic and organization changes, review of all fiscal audits and the budget approval including long-range financial plans, and budget requests for state funding.

Given the immense responsibilities, I feel strongly that a position on the Board of Regents requires a strong commitment, perhaps almost a full-time effort, and also a generalist and macro point of view rather than a specialist or narrow focus. This is in line with my position with the Navy prior to my retirement a year ago.

The diversity of my professional experience in positions I have held, has provided me with the qualifications required to serve on the Board of Regents, especially the ability to collaborate on

all levels and with those of various backgrounds. My last position in my professional career as a Senior Advisor and Special Assistant to the Admiral has prepared me well.

My desire as a Regent is to provide quality service to the Board with the best interest of the university first and foremost. We can accomplish this by creating and enriching the environment through trust, cooperation, transparency, and mutual respect of the university administration, the legislature, and all affected agencies, in addition to the public at large. Again, this was a major requirement in my previous position with the Navy.

There are many challenges and pressing issues facing the university and the Board of Regents. While we might not be able to resolve all these issues, you have my commitment that I will always have the university and the public's best interest in mind and in my heart.

In closing, I would like to thank this committee for the hard work you do for higher education and the State of Hawaii, and for giving me the opportunity to be here today. Thank you for considering my nomination. Again, thank you to everyone who submitted supporting testimony on my behalf, some of whom are here today.

At this time, I would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have.