



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

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## BOARD OF REGENTS

Testimony presented before the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
February 10, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

By  
Randolph Moore  
Chair, Board of Regents

### HB 552 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of the Committee on Higher Education:

My name is Randolph Moore, and I am the chair of the University of Hawai'i's Board of Regents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to HB 552, which proposes to change the composition of the board of regents to add three voting members to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents to represent undergraduate students, research faculty, and other faculty, and to convert the existing student member to represent graduate students. I want to emphasize that although I am the board chair, I am speaking only for myself. The board has not had the opportunity to discuss the bill and to determine whether it wishes to take a position on the bill or what such a position might be.

The statute currently provides for a voting student regent and does not preclude a faculty member or additional students from applying and being selected to serve as a regent. I do not support this measure because it is contrary to the principles of good governance. There are already vehicles for these constituencies to convey their views to the board.

All board members bear the responsibility to act in the best interest of the institution, and to serve its many constituents, not just represent the interest of a particular constituency. The Association of Governing Boards (AGB), the only national organization focused on governance and citizen trusteeship at higher education institutions in the United States, does not support adding students or faculty as voting board members because of the inherent conflict of interest, especially for an employee, in serving on his or her own institution's board.

Taking the alternative approach and making such new membership non-voting does not resolve the concern behind this measure: meaningful engagement and communication. AGB warns that including a representative on a board does not ensure good communication between a governing board and the students or faculty on a campus. The current student regent position on the board provides student perspective, but is

not representation. Like all other regents, the student regent is appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate. The student regent is not elected by the students and therefore does not “represent” the students. Obtaining the perspectives of students and faculty can be and currently is achieved with selection of regents who are alumni or former faculty, both of whom currently serve on the board.

In addition to the current opportunities for students and faculty to formally convey their concerns, views and ideas to the board, the board has already taken and committed to additional steps to improve communications with the faculty, students and other internal constituencies. Over the past several years board leadership has developed a practice of meeting directly with student and faculty leaders. After discussion in committee and on the recommendation of the President, the full board also recently agreed to invite elected representatives of the faculty and students to formally present to the full board and to create additional informal discussion venues with students and faculty around board meetings. The board will continue to identify opportunities to maximize open communications with students and faculty.

In addition, as a matter of board size the current membership of 15 is considered to already be the upper bound for an effective board. Enlarging the board beyond this may make governance more unwieldy.

I welcome the opportunities to engage in public conversation with the Legislature about major policies, directions and priorities. However, I believe that maintaining the current composition of the board is appropriate.

I regret I am out of town and unable to present this testimony in person or to respond to questions at your February 10 meeting.



**ASUH**  
Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i  
YOUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT

**Martin M. Q. Nguyen**  
Chairperson  
ASUH Committee on External Affairs

**February 10, 2015**

Rep. Issac W. Choy  
Chairperson  
Committee on Higher Education  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 404  
Honolulu, HI 96813



Aloha Chair Choy, Vice-Chair Ichiyama and Members,

I am submitting testimony in my capacity as the ASUH Committee on External Affairs Chairperson in support of HB 552 which adds three voting members to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents to represent undergraduate students, research faculty, and other faculty while converting the existing student member to represent graduate students.

The ASUH Senate recently passed Senate Resolution 13-15: In Support of Additional Student Representation on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. I am attaching SR 13-15 for your review.

The summarized points of the resolution are:

- 1) the addition of one voting student Regent, whose 2 year term would be staggered with the 2 year term of the other student Regent;
- 2) the selection process the two voting student Regents continue to go through the RCAC selection process and approval by the Governor; and,
- 3) the Board of Regents be kept to a reasonable amount in regards to operations and operational expenses.

After discussion with the ASUH Senate, we agreed that all three points do align to a good extent, for the most part, with the intent of HB 552. Regarding point 3, we feel 18 Regents as proposed in HB 552 is indeed a "reasonable amount".

Therefore, I strongly recommend that this bill be passed through the Committee on Higher Education.

Sincerely,

**Martin M. Q. Nguyen**  
Chairperson, Committee on External Affairs  
Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA  
2465 Campus Road, Campus Center 211A  
Honolulu HI 96822**

**In the Senate  
January 14, 2015**

**Senate Resolution 13-15  
For Special Order**

**A RESOLUTION**

**IN SUPPORT OF ADDITIONAL STUDENT REPRESENTATION ON THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I BOARD OF REGENTS**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:

*WHEREAS*, the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Senate is the elected body representing approximately 14,000 full-time classified undergraduate students; and,

*WHEREAS*, the University of Hawai'i System is headed by an executive board known as the Board of Regents; and,

*WHEREAS*, the Board of Regents is currently a fifteen (15) member board with only one (1) voting member being a University of Hawai'i student at the time of initial appointment; and,<sup>1</sup>

*WHEREAS*, currently, this one (1) voting student serves a term of two years, and is appointed by the Governor of the State of Hawai'i from a list of qualifying candidates; and,<sup>2</sup>

*WHEREAS*, this one (1) voting student provides the perspective of students from across the University of Hawai'i System;

*WHEREAS*, currently, the University of Hawai'i System has almost 59,000 students enrolled;

*WHEREAS*, student support for the structure of the Board of Regents is currently at a very low point and in light of the recent events, undergraduate and graduate students from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa have expressed their displeasure with the Board of Regents; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa 102<sup>nd</sup> Senate supports student representation on the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents being increased to two (2) voting student Regents, with the addition of one (1) voting student Regent; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa 102<sup>nd</sup> Senate recommends that these two (2) student Regents shall have staggered terms, with each student Regent serving terms of two (2) years; and,

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<sup>1</sup> Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 26, Section 11

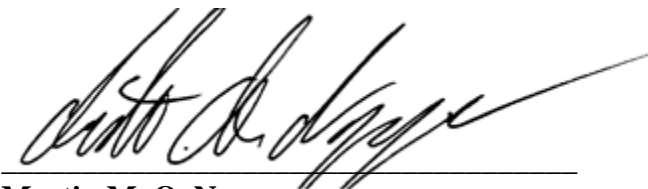
<sup>2</sup> Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 26, Section 11

*BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Associated Students of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa 102<sup>nd</sup> Senate recommends that any student from any University of Hawai‘i 4-year campus or community college be eligible to serve for both student Regent positions and are subject to the Regents Candidate Advisory Council (RCAC) selection process and approval by the Governor; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Associated Students of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa 102<sup>nd</sup> Senate recommends that the overall composition of the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents be kept to a reasonable number in regards to operations and operational expenses; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Associated Students of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa 102<sup>nd</sup> Senate recognizes that an additional one (1) voting student Regent will allow for increased student representation on the Board of Regents; and,

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED*, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: State of Hawai‘i Governor David Ige; State of Hawai‘i Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui; Senate Higher Education and the Arts Committee Chairperson Brian Taniguchi; Senate Higher Education and the Arts Committee Vice-Chairperson Lorraine Inouye; House Higher Education Committee Chairperson Isaac Choy; House Higher Education Committee Vice-Chairperson Linda Ichiyama; Board of Regents of the University of Hawai‘i Chairperson Randolph Moore and members; University of Hawai‘i President David Lassner; University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Interim-Chancellor Robert Bley-Vroman; Mānoa Faculty Senate Chairperson Bontekoe; Student Governments throughout the University of Hawai‘i System; the Honolulu Star Advertiser; and the Ka Leo o Hawai‘i.



**Martin M. Q. Nguyen**  
Introducing Member  
Chairperson, Committee on External Affairs  
Senator of the Shidler College of Business



**Heather Schulz**  
Introducing Member  
Chairperson, Committee on Internal Affairs  
Senator of the Colleges of Arts & Sciences



Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015  
Time: 2:00 PM  
Place: Conference Room 309

To: House Committee on Higher Education  
Representative Isaac W. Choy, Chair  
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

Re: Support of HB 552 Relating to the University of Hawaii

My name is Michelle Tigchelaar, and I am writing on behalf and as the President of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) Graduate Student Organization (GSO). The GSO represents the approximately 5,000 graduate students at the UHM campus. I am writing in strong support of HB 552, which adds three voting members to the University of Hawai'i (UH) Board of Regents to represent undergraduate students, research faculty, and other faculty, and converts the existing student member to represent graduate students.

The UH President and Board set strategic directions for the university and make decisions that directly impact students and faculty on the ten UH campuses. However, there are currently little means of engaging in meaningful dialogue with these groups, nor are these groups able to influence these decisions. In the past years this has led to a number of administrative decisions that received little support from the university community, including the appointment of UH President David Lassner, and the abrupt firing of UHM Chancellor Tom Apple. These decisions caused the GSO to pass two resolutions in Fall 2014 stating no confidence in UH President David Lassner as well as the Board of Regents. Since then, we have been pursuing both formal and informal ways to improve transparency, accountability, and shared governance at UH.

Adding one student member and two faculty members to the UH Board of Regents would remedy the lack of stakeholder participation by making the perspective of these important groups more clearly heard. While student and faculty governance groups currently are able to testify in front of the Board of Regents, this means of communication leaves little room for dialogue, and can be perceived as hostile or stressful – us vs. them. Therefore, it is useful and impactful to have more students and faculty on the other side of the rope.

The GSO would like to thank Representative Choy for taking initiative in drafting this bill, and the other members of the House Committee on Higher Education for their continued commitment to improving our university. For the drafting of this bill, the GSO has been uniquely collaborating with the UH Student Caucus, the All Campus Council of Faculty Senate Chairs, the UH Mānoa Faculty Senate, and the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i. This bill therefore carries support not only with the GSO, but with all of the most important constituents of any university: its students and its faculty.

Michelle Tigchelaar  
UH Mānoa Graduate Student Organization, President

Email: [mtigch@hawaii.edu](mailto:mtigch@hawaii.edu)  
Phone: (808) 724-1392

Graduate Student Organization • University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
Hemenway Hall 212 • 2445 Campus Road • Honolulu, HI 96822



**HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

**RANDY PERREIRA**, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Twenty-Eight Legislature, State of Hawaii  
House of Representatives  
Committee on Higher Education

Testimony by  
Hawaii Government Employees Association  
February 5, 2015

H.B. 552 – Relating to the University of Hawaii

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the intent of H.B.552, however, we respectfully request that the committee give consideration to include a representative of the University's support staff.

The University of Hawaii recognizes the Administrative, Professional and Technical staff (APT-BU08) as a University Key Stakeholder in its Executive Policy EP 9.213. In most cases, these employees plan, implement, maintain and support all functions for the University of Hawaii. These 2,400 employees need to have an opportunity to participate in the governance of the University of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide concerns relating to H.B. 552.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira  
Executive Director

**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, January 30, 2015 4:33 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** parranto@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM\*

**HB552**

Submitted on: 1/30/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pierre Parranto	Student Activities Council- Maui College	Support	No

Comments:

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## ichiyama2-Brandon

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:13 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** makahababy@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM

### HB552

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sara Perry	UH Student Caucus	Support	No

Comments: The UH Student Caucus had worked with Rep. Choy and other key University groups to propose this Bill, and we fully supports its intent. By adding one more student and two more faculty positions to the Board of Regents, it will give us more representation on the board that governs and dictates the policies that direct us all. In the spirit of shared governance, we find that it will be extremely beneficial and much more representative of the diverse student and faculty interests to include these new seats. With the addition of new voting members who are key stakeholders in the University organization, we hope to bring an air of transparency and the voices of those key players to the table. With a new approach to their selections, students and faculty alike can help insure the highest quality and caliber of applicants to then be reviewed for these positions. Staggered terms of these new individuals will allow for constant knowledge sharing and utmost levels of retention in institutional knowledge. It is our hope that this will help with seamless transitions from old to new appointees. The UH Student Caucus, which is made up of two elected student members of each UH campus supports this Bill and hopes for its success. Its passing into law will alter the University Board of Regents make-up in highly positive ways, and be a critical step forward in promoting shared governance and student voices being heard. More qualified and involved players at the table will surely benefit and advance our fine institution for the better! Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony, Sara E. Perry UH Student Caucus, Chair

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**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2015 8:06 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** ssims@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM

**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sarah Afong	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: It is important to me, a graduate student in DURP, that the students and faculty have adequate input in the decisions made by the UH Board of Regents therefore I am in support of this bill.

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**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 08, 2015 12:28 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** hi.albrights@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM\*

**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
cheryl albright	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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## ichiyama2-Brandon

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 08, 2015 10:37 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** tropicalcottons@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM

### HB552

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Calhoun	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support adding a student and two faculty members to the UH Board of Regents because it increases student voice, student participation, and shared governance. To have more representation from key stakeholder groups is an essential on any Board which governs policy for close to 60,000 students and several thousand faculty.

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Date: Tuesday, February 9, 2015

Time: 2:00 PM

Place: Room 309

To: House Committee on Higher Education  
Representative Isaac W. Choy, Chair of HED  
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair of HED

Re: Support of HB 552 Relating to the University of Hawaii

My name is Nick Chagnon and I am a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM), in the Sociology Department. I am writing in strong support of HB 552 which would increase the number of students sitting on the Board of Regent to two. One of these students will permanently be a graduate student.

Graduate students are uniquely positioned to offer insightful perspectives on the BOR. They are older students with more perspective on life, some of whom have had other careers prior to returning to school. Second, many of them are graduate or teaching assistants too, so the University of Hawai'i employs them. Furthermore, as employees of the university and students, they have a multi-dimensional perspective into the operations of higher education institutions. Many graduate students, also, intend to lead their entire careers within higher education. Thus they have very personal stakes in successful university governance. Though our tenure at UH may be limited to a few years with the university, that does not mean we are not highly invested in this university. Ultimately, we want to work with the BOR, and participate in the shared governance of this great institution.

Graduate students are an integral part of the UH system. We constitute a committed learning community, do important research, and perform a substantial proportion of the teaching duties. Therefore, I support HB 552.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nick Chagnon  
PhD candidate, lecturer, UHM Sociology  
Research Assistant, UHM Women's Studies  
Advocacy Co-chair, UHM GSO  
chagnon@hawaii.edu

To: Chair of the higher Education Committee, Isaac Choy

My name is Robert Cooney and I have been a faculty member at the University of Hawaii at Manoa for 30 years. I would like to voice my strong support for HB 552. Having served as a past Chair of the Manoa Faculty Senate, I have recognized for some time the disconnect between decisions made by the Board of Regents and what faculty and students recognize to be in the best interests of the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I believe that if there were better communication between Regents and those on the front lines of education and research, better decisions would be made that would enhance the functioning of our university system. The proposed legislation would take a major step in this direction by providing that frontline expertise in the deliberations of the Board. While greater interactions of Regents with diverse groups of faculty and students should also be encouraged, the presence of these additional representatives on the Board as voting member will provide much needed perspective on all aspects of the operation of the university, without giving undue power to any one group over the ultimate decision-making power of the Board. I strongly urge you to look favorably on this legislation and enact HB552 into law.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Cooney, PhD

Associate Professor

Department of Public Health Sciences

University of Hawaii at Manoa

**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:35 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** heeseung@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM

**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eric Kang	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I, Eric Kang, as part of the associated students of UHWO am for Establishes the UH-West Oahu conference center revolving fund.

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## ichiyama2-Brandon

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2015 7:39 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** puilam808@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM

### **HB552**

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pui Lam	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Faculty and students are major stakeholders of the university. It is crucial that they have their representatives at the BOR.

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**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 01, 2015 9:13 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** unheelim@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM\*

**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/1/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Unhee Lim	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:14 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** taradale44@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM

**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Margaret Maaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Critical stakeholders need to have greater input into the governing of the University of Hawai'i.

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**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 04, 2015 3:45 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** waimeavalleygirl@me.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM\*

**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bonnyjean Manini	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 12:52 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** mironesc@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM

**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Monique Mironesco	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Representatives, I strongly support HB 552 which adds three more representatives to the UH BOR. These three representatives would represent the interests of faculty and students, often overlooked constituents, yet integral people, within the University of Hawaii system. Thank you kindly for your attention and support of this matter.

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**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 08, 2015 4:03 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** holeung.ng@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM

**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ho Leung Ng	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill will strengthen oversight and management of the University of Hawaii system. Most current regents come from senior leadership positions in business and government. Some are far removed from the day to day realities of students and faculty. Inclusion of student and faculty regents will help guarantee that the interests of the most important stakeholders in the University are protected and advanced. Student and faculty regents can demand accountability from university leadership in a way that outsiders cannot.

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The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
House of Representatives  
Committee on Higher Education

Testimony by  
Walter Niemczura

February 10, 2015

H.B. 552 – Relating to the University of Hawaii

As an individual and an employee of the University of Hawaii in Bargaining Unit 8, Administrative, Professional and Technical Employees I am concerned by the purpose of this measure for two major reasons.

First, the state purpose of the bill is “. . . to change the structure of the University of Hawaii board of regents to include members of key stakeholder groups within the University of Hawaii system”. University of Hawaii Executive Policy EP 9.213 identifies “key stakeholders” as:

“To the extent that it is feasible, University search committees formed to screen candidates for Associate Dean positions and above, as well as committees established to recommend major policy changes at the Chancellors’ level and above, shall include representatives from the APT, faculty, civil service, student and management ranks where such groups are directly impacted by the policy changes under consideration.”

While the bill does expand the Board of Regents to accommodate students and faculty it falls short of providing representation for the APT and civil service staff in the system.

Second, faculty and the APT staff are identified as “Board of Regents Appointees”. As such, they are governed and administered by the board through their actions and policies. I find it difficult to imagine how an employee could act as part of the governing organization without presenting a conflict of interest in the majority of matters that come before the Board of Regent. I can think of no

other public board or commission which allows active employees to serve as members.

A far simpler solution would be to examine the selection criteria used by the Regents Candidate Advisory Council and modify those criteria to place increased emphasis on the selection of individuals who have extensive experience in higher education or were former employees of higher education institutions.

While I do not object to the addition of a representative from the graduate student ranks I feel it is inappropriate to add any current employee to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

Walter Niemczura

An individual and employee of the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Time: 2:00 PM

Place: Conference Room 309

To: House Committee on Higher Education  
Representative Isaac W. Choy, Chair  
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

Re: Support of HB 552 Relating to the University of Hawaii

My name is Penn Pantumsinchai and I am a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM). I am writing in strong support of HB 552, which adds three voting members to the University of Hawai'i (UH) Board of Regents (BOR) to represent undergraduate students, research faculty, and other faculty, and converts the existing student member to represent graduate students.

Increased student representation and participation as part of the BOR is essential to the successful operation of the university system. Two students regents, one to represent undergraduates and one for graduates, will provide perspective and voice for much of the student concerns at UH. Further, two students with staggered terms will allow for one student to mentor the other hopefully lessening the impact of the challenging learning curve for new regents. By having better representation on the BOR, we can prevent embarrassing and controversial incidents such as Chancellor Tom Apple's sudden removal. Passing HB 552 is the first step in re-establishing student and institutional trust in the BOR.

Respectfully submitted,

Penn Pantumsinchai

[ppantum@hawaii.edu](mailto:ppantum@hawaii.edu)

808-754-1128



Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Time: 2:00 PM

Place: Conference Room 309

To: House Committee on Higher Education  
Representative Isaac Choy, Chair  
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

Re: Support of HB 552 Relating to the Board of Regents University of Hawai'i

My name is Bret Polopolus-Meredith, and I am a graduate student at University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am writing in strong support of HB 552 adding three voting members to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents (BoR) to represent undergraduate students, research faculty, and other faculty.

Becoming a regent has a steep learning curve. I've heard current regents comment that it took several months, possibly up to six months to find one's bearings and role. This is challenging enough for a five-year term. Imagine how more so for the student regent's two-year term. A second complication of having one student regent is the loss of institutional memory from one student term to the next. Because of this, the voice of students on the board is diminished for a few months after the start of a new student term.

A second student, with a staggered term, won't eliminate the steep learning curve but could ameliorate the negative impact on student voice. The continuing student may act as a mentor to the new student regent and provide continuity by passing on institutional memory.

As for the faculty, they currently do not have their voice or perspective present at the BoR.

The current relationship between the BoR and graduate students at UH Mānoa is slightly above an all-time low. In October 2014, the Graduate Student Organization (GSO) voted No Confidence in the Board of Regents. BoR members have made a small step to improve communication by coming to a GSO Executive meeting and hosting a breakfast with GSO and ASUH. Otherwise, little has been done to improve the situation. There has been no discussion of the high turn over rate of UH leadership. There are no announced plans to start a search for a permanent chancellor. There has been no change to the process by which a campus chancellor or the system president are evaluated and removed.

Similarly, the Mānoa Faculty Senate unanimously approved a document in September 2014 for the "Reestablishment of Confidence... in the Board of Regents". Reestablish was the faculty's special way of saying they did not currently have confidence in the BoR. The document highlights a history of problems caused by UH Presidents that the BoR oversaw or even approved. I do not know whether or to what extent the BoR has resolved issues with the Mānoa faculty.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully,  
Bret Polopolus-Meredith  
bp32@hawaii.edu  
808-304-9334

HB 552

I fully supports this bill to add one more student and two more faculty positions to the Board of Regents as voting members. With those in the system being of diverse backgrounds, the new positions will promote and provide more representation on the board that governs and dictates the policies that direct us all. It is the hope to bring an air of transparency and the voices of those key players to the table.

Mahalo for your consideration of this testimony,  
Joyleanne Santos  
Secretary of the Associated Students of UH - West O'ahu

Hello,

My name is Brieana Williams and I am currently a member of the Associated Students of the University of Hawaii West Oahu. Currently I hold the position as Junior Class Senator. As a representative of the junior class, I fully support this bill and its intent. Adding one more student and two more faculty positions to the Board of Regents, will give students more representation on the board. This is extremely important considering that the University of Hawaii West Oahu has a diverse population of students who have different values, opinions, and beliefs. Adding more positions would give a better voice to the students and would be more impactful to the board's decision making.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony,

Brieana M, Williams

ASUHWO, Junior Class Senator

Feel free to contact me:

Office number: (808)689-2940

Email: [brieana.williams@hawaii.edu](mailto:brieana.williams@hawaii.edu)

**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:11 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** laiana.wong@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM

**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laiana Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Critical stakeholders need to have greater input into the governing of the University of Hawai'i.

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**LATE**

Aloha,

My name is Isaiah Baclaan and I am currently a member of the Associated Students of the University of Hawaii West Oahu. Currently I hold the position as the Social Science Senator. Being a representative of the students who fall under the Social Science majors here at UHWO, I support this bill and the purpose that it has. Placing two more faculty positions, and one more student position on the Board of regents, will give the students more facets of representation among the board. This would be beneficial because with the ever growing population and changing population the students need more representation. With more students and faculty on the board there are more voices to represent our students which will give the board a better input in making important decisions.

Mahalo for taking my testimony into consideration,

Isaiah C, Baclaan

ASUHWOW, Social Science Senator

**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 10, 2015 11:17 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** mybranner@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM



**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark Branner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a strong supporter of this bill as it increase the number of voices who are directly affected by decisions made by the Board of Regents.

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**LATE**

Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 552

Dear Chairman Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of the House Higher Education Committee,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify. I am a faculty member at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and I am in strong support of HB 552.

I believe that adding faculty and student voices on the Board of Regents is critical for several reasons:

As the state's only public university system, it's operations are complex and vast. Adding the voices of key stakeholders will help the board function more effectively by providing key input that was previously missing in policy and procedural decisions.

The work of the BOR is likewise vast and adding stakeholder representatives will facilitate communication with the university's communities.

Finally, I very much appreciate the language in the bill with regard to improving shared governance. I believe that having stakeholder representation will go a long way towards rectifying a major structural problem in the current system with regard to lack of accountability in upper administration. As it stands currently, a primary source of information about the health and well-functioning of the university is through the president him/herself. This is problematic because the president is the very position that the BOR is supervising, thereby creating a conflict of interest.

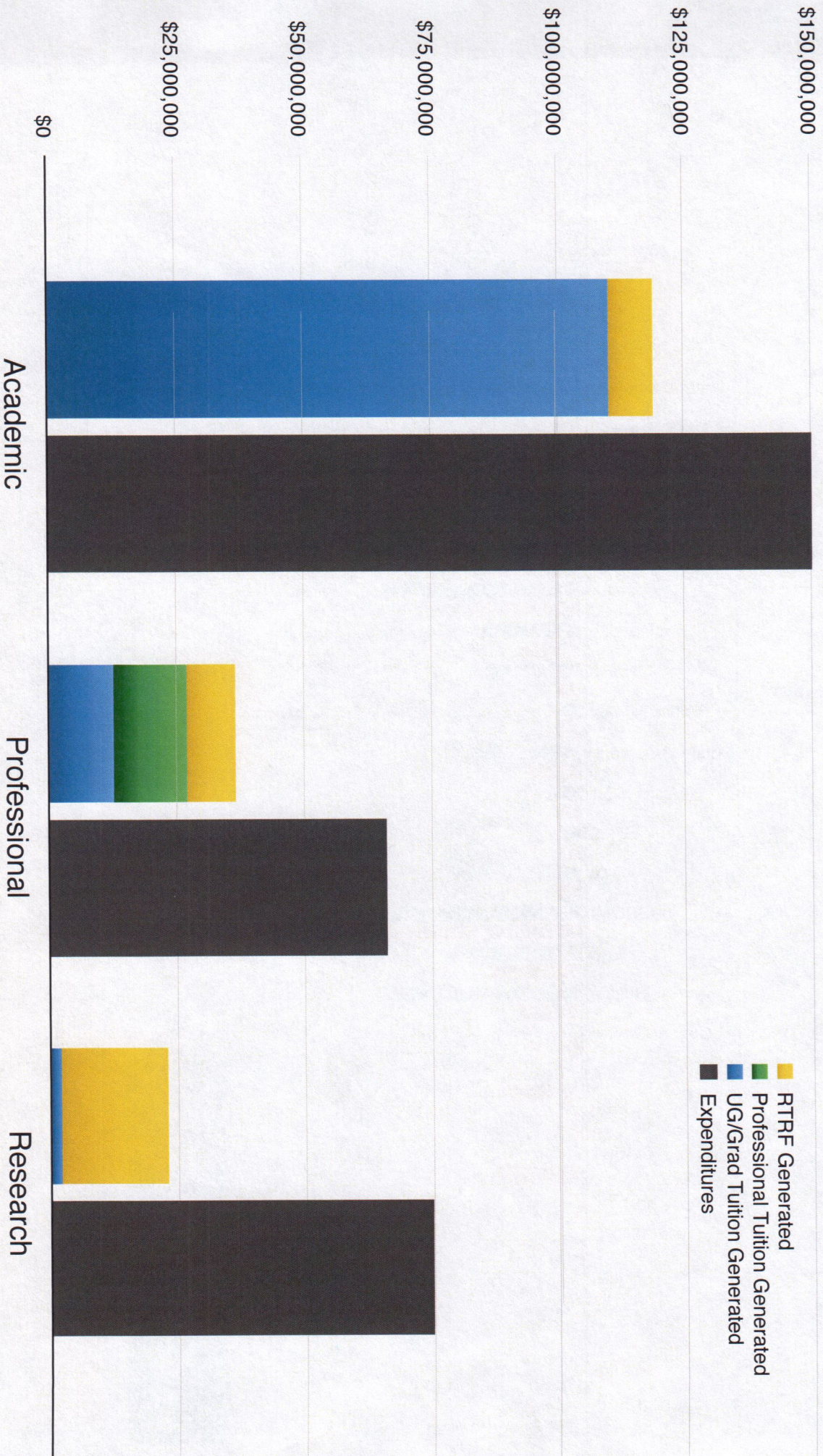
Perhaps if the channels for stakeholder input and shared governance were in place, we could have avoided some of the crises at the UH this past year. There remains an incredible amount of stress and uncertainty about our budget and our future at Manoa, and a climate of fear -- from retaliation from upper administration for speaking out about our problems. No one should have to work under these circumstances, but more importantly, it is harming our students.

I believe that this measure is the most promising and meaningful effort to solve major structural problems and I fully support it. Please pass this measure.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Butler  
Associate Professor of Biology  
University of Hawaii at Manoa

## 2013 Earned Revenues vs. Expenditures

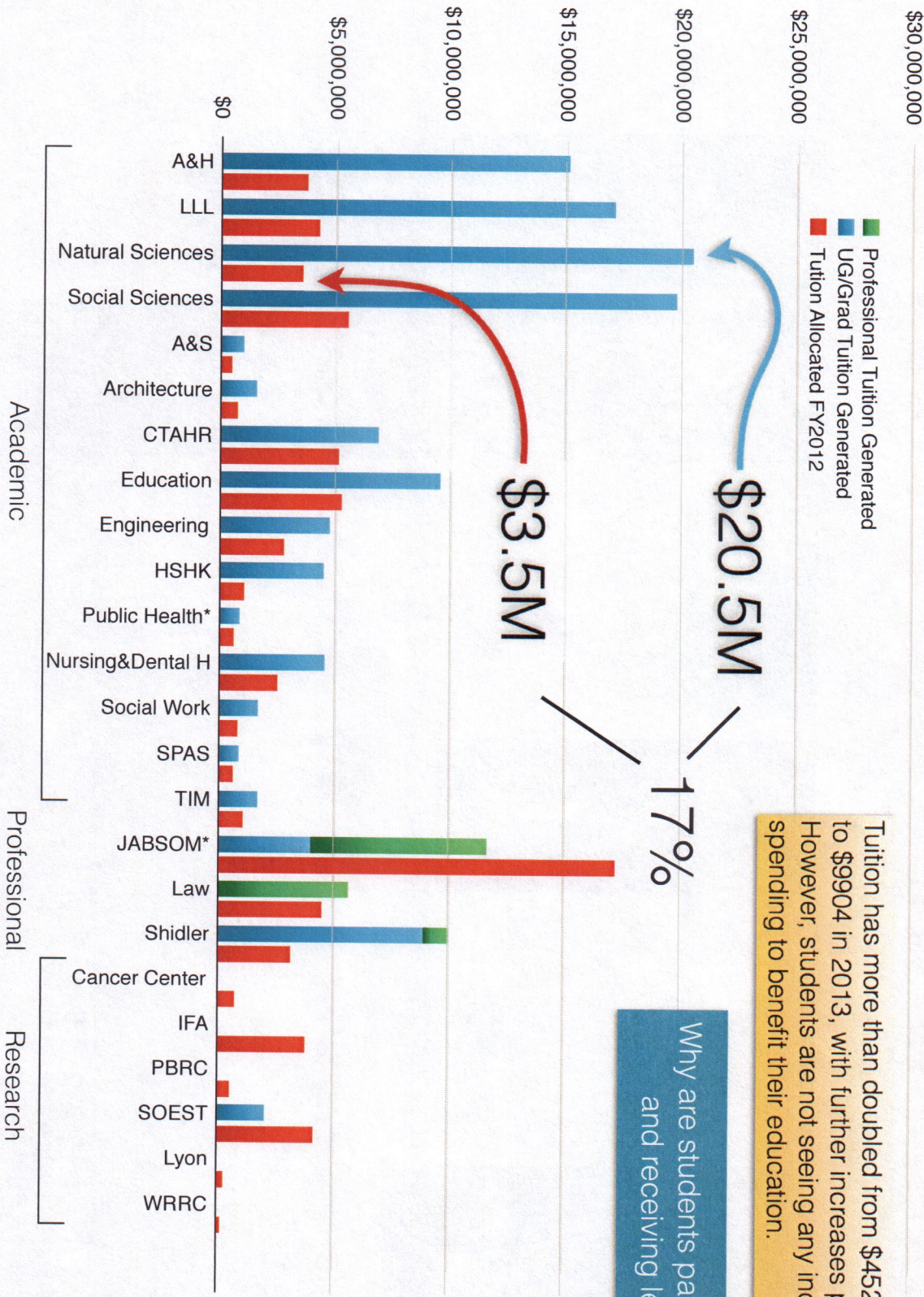


Is the University Managed in a Sustainable Way?  
 Does the allocation of G and S funds reflect the University's mission and the state's priorities?



Figure 1

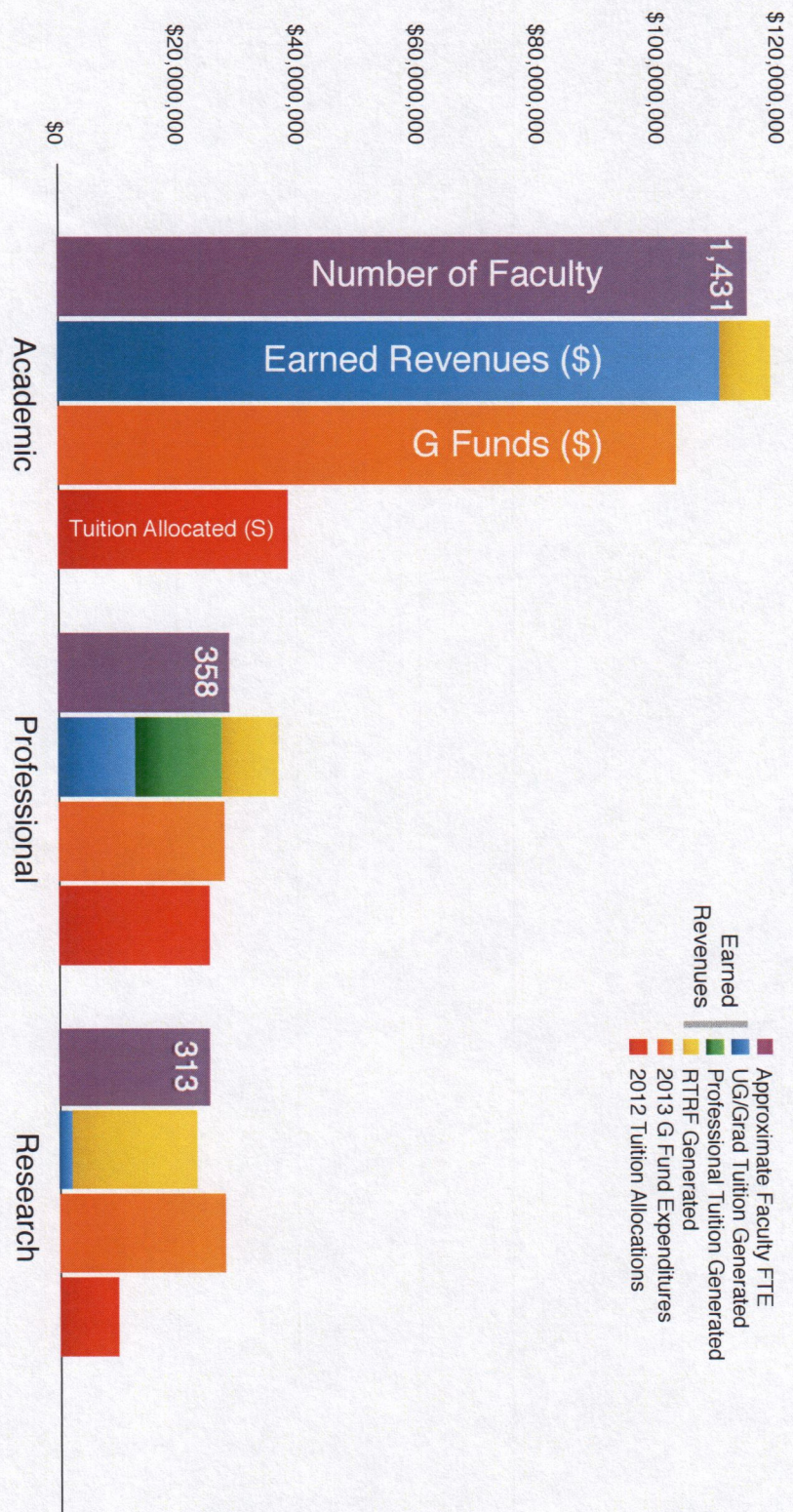
2013 Tuition Revenues vs. 2012 Tuition Allocation



\* SSH for Public Health is reported under JABSOM from the OVCBF. The estimated # for PH has been separated from JABSOM's total for this analysis.

Tuition dollars are not allocated to units based on enrollment. Disproportionately little tuition returns to the departments that generate the revenue, and undergraduate tuition is supporting many units which do little or no instruction. The University of Hawaii at Mānoa collected about \$140M in net tuition in FY2013. About 52% of tuition revenues is allocated to the units included here (the remainder goes to the administration). Net tuition is tuition after payments to the system level, waivers, and scholarships. **Academic units generate 79% of the net tuition (\$110M), and receive allocations of about 27% (\$38M) of the total tuition revenues.**

### 2013 Earned Revenues, G Funds, and Tuition Allocation



Although the academic and research units generate as much revenues per faculty as the professional unit, they are getting substantially less allocation per faculty (G-funds allocation + tuition allocation). G funds are less for academic units (\$71.7K) vs. professional (\$76.5K) and research (\$87.5K), and tuition dollars clearly do not follow students. Professional units include JABSOM, Law School, and Schidler Buisness School. Research units include Cancer Center, IFA, PBRC, SOEST, Lyon Arboretum and WRRC. All other schools and colleges are classified as academic.

ichiyama2-Brandon

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 2:02 PM  
To: HEDtestimony  
Cc: kealiig@hotmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM

**LATE**

**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keali'i Gora	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha e Representative Choy and Members of the House Committee on Higher Education, I fully support HB 552, with one (1) amendment, and it is as follows: Please add Pūko‘a Council as one of the three voting members to the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents, as Pūko‘a is a UH Board of Regents statutorily recognized chartered organization of the University of Hawai‘i. Pūko‘a Council is also an advisory body to the UH president on all matters relating to Native Hawaiian programs, services, and initiatives and the Native Hawaiian voice is critically important to ensure that the University maintains their commitment to a Hawaiian place of learning. Furthermore, at last month's UH BOR meeting, this esteemed body adopted the UH Strategic Directions 2015-2021, clearly expressing their support and commitment to a model indigenous serving university, which also explicitly lists Pūko‘a Council as part of this key imperative. Therefore, your inclusion of a representative from the Pūko‘a Council to the UH BOR is absolutely necessary. Again, mahalo for allowing me the opportunity to testify in full support of HB 552. Mahalo, Keali'i Gora 386-1363

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**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2015 7:53 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** wyatt804@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM\*



**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wyatt Gordon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**LATE**

Aloha,

My name is Shane Nishimura and I am currently a member of the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i – West O`ahu. I am the treasurer of the organization. As a representative of UH West O`ahu, I fully support this bill and its intent. Adding one more student and two more faculty positions to the Board of Regents, will give students more representation on the board. I feel this is very important considering that UHWO has a diverse population of students who have different values, opinions, and beliefs. Adding more positions would give a better voice to the students and would be more impactful to the board's decision making.

Love,

Shane Nishimura

ASUHWO, Treasurer

**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2015 9:31 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** christian.e.peterson@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM



**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christian Peterson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Faculty and student representation on the UH BOR is critical for a balanced perspective on issues affecting UH in its entirety, as well as for more effective university governance. The current board composed largely of local business and community leaders has little understanding of the complexity of issues and interests that impact the quality and availability of higher education in Hawaii.

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**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 10, 2015 10:45 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** randolflagg@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM



**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Richard Randolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As an Associate Professor at Kauai Community College, I strongly support this hearing. I believe it will help give the faculty a needed voice in important decisions affecting the college.

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**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2015 2:23 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** joeritter3@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB552 on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM



**HB552**

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 10, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joe Ritter	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: The University lacks transparency and accountability. The Cancer center Fiasco is but one visible example of many deeper issues in this disintegrating system where academic freedom is a thing of the past due to corruption and mini-dictatorships. Representation is just the first step. There is a reason why over 100 faculty and staff (members of Imua Manoa) have been protesting. I urge you to help reform this system which could be an economic flywheel for our economy rather than a place of secrecy. Thank you, Dr. Joe Ritter HGEA member, House D11 Senate D8

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## ichiyama2-Brandon

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**From:** Carole Hagihara on behalf of Rep. Isaac W. Choy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 10, 2015 9:08 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Subject:** FW: Support HB 552

**LATE**

From: Noriko Shiratori [mailto:noris808@gmail.com]  
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 8:32 PM  
To: Rep. Isaac W. Choy  
Subject: Support HB 552

Dear Chairman Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of the House Higher Education Committee,

I am a PhD candidate and lecturer at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and a staff at the UH Cancer Center. I strongly support HB 552. UH is a public academic institution, and the current BOR is simply not capable of handling the academia. There are too many regents from business and money-hungry lawyers. Applying business model has not been working because the value of profit-making and academia is so different. We are in academia because we believe that there are something more interesting than making money. We really need to change the toxic culture. Adding faculty and student voices on the Board of Regents is urgent now, more than ever.

Structural problem at UH is astronomical and unethical. Shared governance with transparency and accountability must be implemented before UH collapse. It is time to hold the higher-administration accountable. The current top-heavy structure in which nobody take responsibility should be stopped. It is hurting faculty, staff, and, most importantly, students. I fully support HB 552, and I sincerely hope it passes. Please pass.

Sincerely,

Noriko Shiratori  
PhD candidate and lecturer at the department of political science  
University of Hawai`i at Manoa,  
staff at the UH Cancer Center

Regarding: Bill HB552  
Testimony by: Duane Stevens, Ph.D., Professor, University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Date: February 10, 2015  
Location: Hawaii House Committee on Higher Education

Thank you, Representative Choy, for providing the opportunity to testify to the Committee on Higher Education regarding Bill HR552, regarding faculty and student participation on the Board of Regents for the University of Hawaii. I speak as an individual, but with the experience of President of UHPA 2009-2011 and a current member of the Manoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

Over a 47 year career in higher education, I have participated in three types of institutions:

1. A small private liberal arts college (Wheaton College)
2. A large private University (Harvard)
3. Three large research universities (37 ½ years)
  - a. University of Washington (postdoc: 1 year)
  - b. Colorado State University (3 ranks in professoriate; 11 ½ years)
  - c. University of Hawaii at Manoa (25 years)

It has been my fortunate experience to have been a student and faculty at four well-managed universities. It has been my unfortunate experience to have served 25 years in not-so-well-managed institution.

Last summer, ten Manoa faculty of the SEC met twice each week, with UH President, several regents, two chancellors, four vice chancellors. In 2009 and 2014 the UH President searches possessed fatal flaws. In 2001 a President was first fired and then allowed to resigned.

The regents with whom I have met are individually well-meaning and very hard-working individuals who have only the best interest of the University of Hawaii in mind. They are generally well-known in the community for their expertise in particular and narrow fields of business, including banking, lower education, medicine, small business, accounting, a federal computing center, building and contracting, law, etc.

It is very unfortunate that the collective knowledge and expertise among the regents virtually excludes higher education (with the exception of a single student). Even the President told you and us many times last year that he (as ex officio member) has little to no academic experience. There is no reason to believe that such a set of overseers, trustees, directors, or regents have the collective experience to make wise strategic or tactical decisions when they have such little professional interaction with either

the providers or recipients of higher education. Primarily, they meet with those we affectionately call bureaucrats and managers.

It is my long-considered opinion that a primary cause for the now essentially recognized (but fully unacceptable) mismanagement of the UH system is a flawed governance by the Board of Regents with inadequate education or training in the nature of public higher education, and insufficient resources for obtaining a true picture of the institutions they govern.

This bill goes a long way to correct this fundamental problem. There are minor points that I would recommend altering (such as misuse of the term "research faculty"), but I heartily support and recommend the reformation of the Board of Regents.

**LATE**

Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 552

Dear Chairman Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of the House Higher Education Committee,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify. I am a PhD student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and I am in strong support of HB 552.

I believe that adding faculty and student voices on the Board of Regents is critical for several reasons:

As the state's only public university system, its operations are complex and vast. Adding the voices of key stakeholders will help the board function more effectively by providing key input that was previously missing in policy and procedural decisions.

The work of the BOR is likewise vast and adding stakeholder representatives will facilitate communication with the university's communities.

Finally, I very much appreciate the language in the bill with regard to improving shared governance. I believe that having stakeholder representation will go a long way towards rectifying a major structural problem in the current system with regard to lack of accountability in upper administration. As it stands currently, a primary source of information about the health and well-functioning of the university is through the president him/herself. This is problematic because the president is the very position that the BOR is supervising, thereby creating a conflict of interest.

Perhaps if the channels for stakeholder input and shared governance were in place, we could have avoided some of the crises at the UH this past year. There remains an incredible amount of stress and uncertainty about our budget and our future at Manoa, and a climate of fear -- from retaliation from upper administration for speaking out about our problems. No one should have to work under these circumstances, but more importantly, it is harming our students.

I believe that this measure is the most promising and meaningful effort to solve major structural problems and I fully support it. Please pass this measure.

Sincerely,  
Jonathan Whitney

PhD candidate  
Department of Biology  
University of Hawaii at Mānoa