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Lynn Heirakuji Named Associate Director of Administration at the University of Hawai`i Cancer Center

HONOLULU – The University of Hawai`i Cancer Center has named Lynn Heirakuji, DSW, as its new Associate Director of Administration. Heirakuji's hiring comes shortly after the Center received a five-year extension of their National Cancer Institute designation and is preparing to open a brand new facility in early 2013.

"We are very happy to welcome Lynn to our Cancer Center family," said University of Hawai`i Cancer Center Director Michele Carbone, MD, PhD. "I am confident she has the skills and abilities to keep our Center moving forward and help us become an even more prominent leader of cancer research in Hawai`i as well as the Pacific Rim."

"I would like to thank Dr. Carbone and the search committee for entrusting me with the responsibility to help lead the Cancer Center during this exciting and historic time," said Heirakuji. "I am looking forward to working with our researchers, administrators, and consortium members to keep the Center at the forefront of cancer research not only here in Hawai`i but across the globe."

Heirakuji recently served as the Director of the Fair Share Initiative program which was established last year by Governor Abercrombie to maximize federal funds in the State of Hawai`i. Her overarching strategies of promoting collaboration and building capacity helped the Fair Share Initiative program function as a key source of support in the State's pursuit and management of federal funding.

Prior to serving as the Director of the Fair Share Initiative program, Heirakuji gained invaluable leadership experience while working in Washington DC. She previously served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Personnel Oversight, providing senior civilian oversight to a wide range of manpower programs. She was also the Deputy Director in the Office of Human Capital Management with the US Department of Agriculture. She has held other senior staff and leadership positions with numerous other federal agencies that include the US Department of Homeland Security, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, and US Department of Commerce.

Heirakuji received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Hawai`i, a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Denver and a Doctorate in Social Work from Howard University.

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The University of Hawai`i Cancer Center is one of 66 research institutions designated by the National Cancer Institute. A unit of the University of Hawai`i at Manoa, the center is dedicated to eliminating cancer through research, education, and improved patient care. Construction is under way on a new state-of-the-art research center, opening in 2013 to better serve the people of Hawai`i and the Pacific. Learn more about the Center's work at www.uhcancercenter.org.