

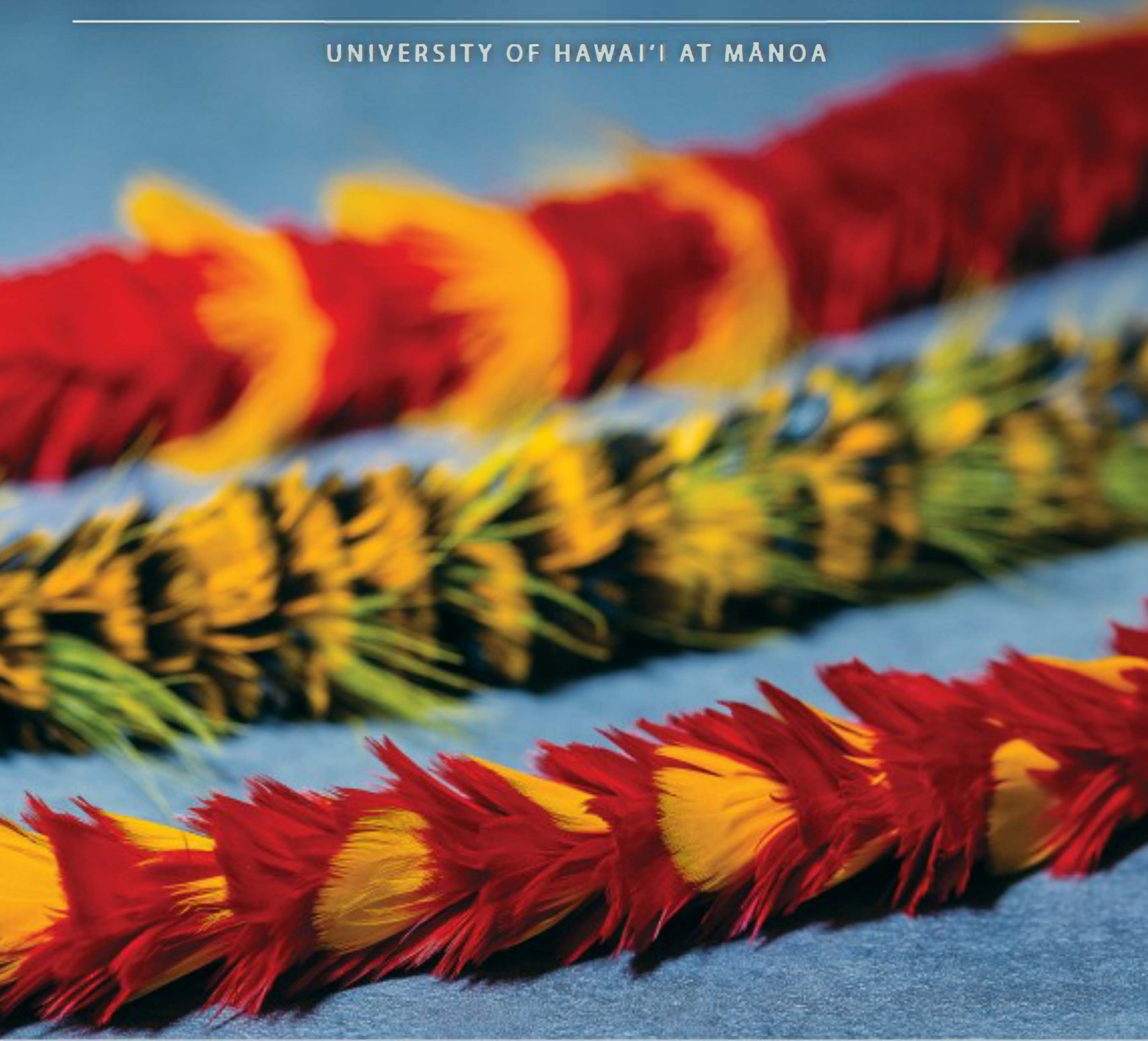
A decorative border at the top of the page featuring a repeating geometric pattern of dark teal and black triangles.

Myron B. Thompson

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

SOCIAL WORK • PUBLIC HEALTH • CENTER ON AGING

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MANOA





NOREEN MOKUAU

DEAN

Myron B. Thompson
School of Social Work

ALOHA

from the
Myron B. Thompson
School of Social Work!

Social Work, the Office of Public Health Studies and the Center on Aging are committed to social justice and health equity with a fundamental core established in human rights, respect for and inclusion of diverse peoples and environmental stewardship. Tumultuous events exist in our island homeland, the nation and the global community. While Hawai'i is one of the healthiest states in the U.S., health disparities continue to plague minority populations, including Native Hawaiians. In the nation, recent events of escalating violence diminish basic principles of social justice. In the world, international conflict and the potential of nuclear war threaten humanity.

These events remind us of the urgency to work collectively for a just and healthy world. In collective pursuit, there is an emphasis on relationships and connections to achieve social justice and health equity. In Native Hawaiian culture, a lei can be viewed as a symbol of relationships, connections and honor. Whether the lei is made of fragrant flowers, or yellow and red feathers prized by Hawaiian royalty, it projects a connection between the giver and receiver established in care and aloha.

We offer the image of lei noted on the cover as our symbol of collective strength. At the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work, our collective strength originates with our students, staff, faculty, alumni, donor friends and community partners, who continually work on behalf of the most vulnerable people. We believe that when we lift the most vulnerable among us, we lift the entire global community.



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII[®]
MĀNOA

MYRON B. THOMPSON
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA
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The success of the
school's programs
wouldn't be possible with-
out benevolent giving

ON THE COVER:

The three lei hulu, traditional Native Hawaiian feather lei, represent our collective strength anchored in social justice and health equity. It symbolizes our work over a continuum of time — past, present and future, and depicts the relationships of Social Work, Public Health and the Center on Aging.



BY THE NUMBERS: The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
MĀNOA

University of Hawai'i Motto:

"Ma luna a'e o nā lāhui a pau ke ola ke kanaka" (Above all nations is humanity)



18,000

The total number of students enrolled at UHM.

UHM is distinguished as the

4th

most ethnically diverse university in the U.S.¹

UHM is

63rd

in the U.S. for academic and research excellence.²

16%

The percentage of students at UHM who are Native Hawaiian.

67%

The percentage of in-state students attending UHM.

27%

The percentage of out-of-state students attending UHM.

6%

The percentage of international students attending UHM.

99

The number of **bachelor's** degree programs at UHM.

85

The number of **master's** degree programs at UHM.

58

The number of **doctorate** degree programs at UHM.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS



17 colleges and schools

The Carnegie Foundation designates UHM as having "very high research activity" as an R1 doctoral university.³

UHM is a land, sea and space-grant institution.⁴

UHM is a designated Native Hawaiian and Alaska Native serving institution.⁵

YEAR FOUNDED

1907

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) is the flagship campus of the University of Hawai'i system's 10 campuses.

¹U.S. News and World Report

²Times Higher Education World University Ranking in the U.S. for colleges

³Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education

⁴U.S. National Institute of Food and Agriculture

⁵U.S. Department of Education

AT A GLANCE:

The Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA

Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work

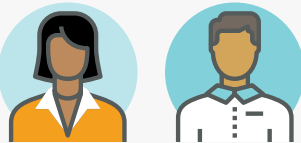
Vision Statement:

"Achieving social justice and health equity for the people of Hawai'i and citizens in a changing world."

PHOTO: CARL FUJIKAWA



\$4.6 million in total endowments of which \$1.1 million is in student scholarships.



592

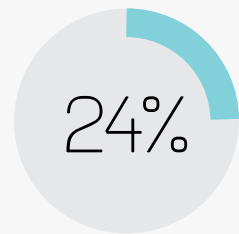
The total number of students enrolled at the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work.

275

The number of students enrolled in Public Health.

317

The number of students enrolled in Social Work.

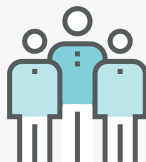


The percentage of students who are Native Hawaiian.



300

The total number of affiliated field agency partners.



22

The total number of staff.



51

The total number of faculty.

PROGRAM PROFILE:

The Department of Social Work

The mission of the Department of Social Work is to provide educational excellence that advances social work with its focus on social justice. The principal responsibility is the generation, transmission, and application of knowledge for the global enterprise with special attention to Native Hawaiian, other Pacific Islander, and Asian populations in our state and region. The Department is currently chaired by Dr. Meripa Godinet.

In 2016, the Department ranked in the top 26 percent of social work master's programs in the nation, according to the *U.S. News and World Report*.

The Department is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).



PHOTO: CARL FUJIKAWA



STUDENTS

92

The number of students pursuing a **BSW**.

217

The number of students pursuing a **MSW**.

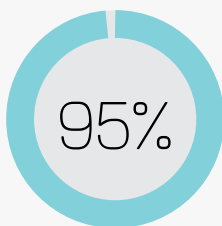
8

The number of students pursuing a **PhD in social welfare**.

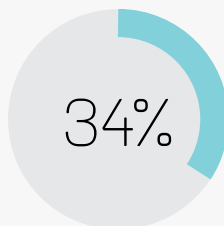


54,400

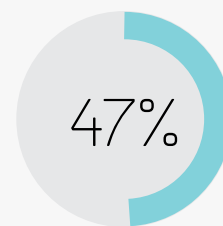
Hours of service students provide annually to the community. This service translates to over \$1.57 million each year.



The percentage of Distance Education MSW graduates that stay in their communities.



The percentage of licensed clinical social workers (LCSW) in Hawai'i that are Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work graduates.



The percentage of licensed social workers (LSW) in Hawai'i that are Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work graduates.

PROGRAM PROFILE:

The Office of Public Health Studies



The mission of the Office of Public Health Studies is to advance the health of the peoples of Hawai'i, the nation, and the Asia-Pacific region through knowledge, discovery, innovation, engagement, inclusion, and leadership.

The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) has accredited the Office through 2022. Dr. Kathryn Braun is currently the Director of OPHS.



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
MĀNOA

Office of Public Health Studies

\$3,831,029

The 2017 extramural funding amount for research, teaching and service at the Office.

FACULTY RECOGNITION FOR TEACHING AND MENTORING

Kathryn L. Braun, 1998 Regents Medal for Excellence in Teaching

Denise Nelson-Hurwitz, 2017 Frances Davis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Alan R. Katz, 1992, Regents Medal for Excellence in Teaching

Alan R. Katz, 2012, Distinguished Graduate Mentoring Award

Tetine L. Sentell, 2013 Regents Medal for Excellence in Teaching

Maile Tauali'i, 2016 Regents Medal for Excellence in Teaching



STUDENTS

165

The number of students pursuing a BA in public health.

75

The number of students pursuing a MPH (70) or a MA (5).

35

The number of students pursuing a DrPH (18) or PhD in Epidemiology (17).

3,700

The total number of alumni, from 77 countries.



COMMUNITY ADVISORS 2017

Therese Argoud, MPH
Judith Clark, MPH
Robert Hirokawa, DC, MPH, DrPH
Eleanor Huey, MPH, CPHQ
Trisha Kajimura, MPH

Lisa Kehl, MPH, MSW
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Katie Richards, MPH, JD
Doris Segal-Matsunaga, MPH
Jill Tamashiro, MPH

Jo Ann Tsark, MPH
Betty Wood, MPH, PhD
Jessica Yamauchi, MA
Deborah Zysman, MPH

PROGRAM PROFILE:

The Center on Aging

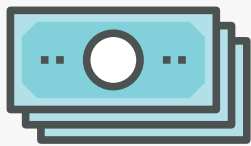


The mission of the Center on Aging is to be a catalyst of academic excellence in gerontology by advancing and helping to utilize gerontological knowledge to enhance the well being of older adults. The Center is committed to interdisciplinary and collaborative efforts in research, educational programs, and service to the community, with a focus on the multicultural populations of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region. Dr. Margaret Perkinson currently serves as the Director of the Center.



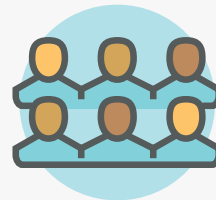
PHOTO: AARON YOSHINO

- The Center is a member of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE).
- The Center is affiliated with an interdisciplinary group of faculty at UHM representing 13 disciplines.
- The Center convenes a 22-member Hawai'i legislative task force on eldercare services.



\$1.7 million

The amount of extramural funding for research, teaching and service at the Center from 2013 through 2017.



60,000 to 70,000

The number of geriatric social workers needed by 2020. Less than 10 percent of that demand is currently being met in 2017.

Top Workforce Areas of Employment

- Nursing homes, adult day care centers
- Caregiver support programs
- Elder abuse programs
- Home health care and hospice agencies
- Senior centers and veterans' service agencies

Faculty Accomplishments

Over the past year, our internationally renowned faculty and staff have been hard at work. Here are some of the publications, presentations, conferences and promotions with which they have been involved.

Braun, K. L., Nelson-Hurwitz, D. C., Ono, M., Godinet, M., Perkinson, M. A., & Mokuau, N. (2017). Insights in public health: From Hale to Kauhale: Public health, social work, and aging. *Hawai'i Journal of Medicine & Public Health*, 76(5), 135–138. **PH, SW, COA**

Carr, S. J. (2016). Insights in public health: Building well-being: linking the built environment to health. *Hawai'i Journal of Medicine & Public Health*, 75(1), 22–24. **PH**

Cheung, C. K., & Zebrack, B. (2017). What do adolescents and young adults want from cancer resources? Insights from a Delphi panel of AYA patients. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 25(1), 119–126. doi: 10.1007/s00520-016-3396-7. **SW**

Choy, L. B., Maddock, J. E., Brody, B., Richards, K. L., & Braun, K. L. (2016). Examining the role of a community coalition in facilitating policy and environmental changes to promote physical activity: The case of Get Fit Kaua'i. *Translational Behavioral Medicine*, 6, 638–647. **PH**

Chung-Do, J., Bifulco, K., Antonio, M., Tydingco, T., Helm, S., & Goebert, D. (2016). Cultural analysis of the NAMI-NH Connect Suicide Prevention Program by rural community leaders in Hawai'i. *Journal of Rural Mental Health*, 40(2), 87–102. **PH**

Dela Cruz, M. R. I., Tsark, J. U., Chen, J. J., & Albright, C. L., & Braun, K. L. (2017). Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination motivators, barriers, and brochure preferences among parents in multicultural Hawai'i: A qualitative study. *Journal of Cancer Education*, 32(3), 613–621. **PH**

Fan, V. and the Global Burden of Disease Health Financing Collaborator Network (2017). Evolution and patterns of global health financing 1995–2014: Development assistance for health, and government, prepaid private, and out-of-pocket health spending in 184 countries. *The Lancet*, 389(10083), 1981–2004. **PH**

Godinet, M. T., & Stotzer, R. (2016). Juvenile perpetrators of race/ethnicity-based bias crimes. *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*, 15(1), 21–35. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15377938.2016.1261060>. **SW**

Hurwitz, E. L., Li, D., Schneider, M. J., Stevans, J. M., Phillips, R. B., Phelan, S., Lewis, E. A., Armstrong, R. C., Guillen, J., & Vassilaki, M. (2016). Variations in patterns of utilization and charges for the care of low back pain in North Carolina, 2000–2009: A statewide claims' data analysis. *Journal of Manipulative Physiological Therapy*, 39, 252–262. **PH**

Julien-Chinn, F. J., Cotter, K. L., Piel, M. H., Geiger, J. M., & Lietz, C. A. (2017). Examining risk, strengths, and functioning of foster families: Implications for strengths-based practice. *Journal of Family Social Work*, 1–16. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10522158.2017.1348111>. **SW**

Ka'opua, L. S., Tamang, S., Dillard, A., & Kehauoha, B. P. (2017). Decolonizing knowledge development in health research. Cultural safety through the lens of Hawaiian Homestead residents. *Journal of Indigenous Social Development*, 5(2), 20–42. **SW**

Kapaona, A., & Ono, M. (2016). Re-envisioning parental involvement in higher education: Shifting the paradigm of the helicopter parent. *NACADA: Academic Advising Today*, 39(2). Retrieved from <http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Resources/Academic-Advising-Today/View-Articles/Re-envisioning-Parental-Involvement-in-Higher-Education-Shifting-the-Paradigm-of-the-Helicopter-Parent.aspx>. **SW**

Katz, A. R., Komeya, A. Y., Kirkcaldy, R. D., Whelen, A. C., Soge, O. O., Papp, J. R., Kersh, E. N., Wasserman, G. M., O'Connor, N. P., O'Brien, P. S., Sato, D. T., Maningas, E. V., Kunitomo, G. Y., & Tomas, J. E. (2017). Cluster of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* isolates with high-level azithromycin resistance and decreased ceftriaxone susceptibility, Hawai'i, 2016. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, Epub ahead of print. **PH**

Kim, B. J., Linton, K., Cho, S., & Ha, J. H. (2016). The relationship between neuroticism, hopelessness, and depression in older Korean immigrants. *PLoS ONE*, 11(1): e0145520. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0145520. **SW**

Key:

SW – Department of Social Work
PH – Office of Public Health Studies
COA – Center on Aging

Faculty Accomplishments

McFarlane, E., Burrell, L., Duggan, A., & Tandon, D. (2017). Outcomes of a randomized trial of a cognitive behavioral enhancement to address maternal distress in home visited mothers. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 21, 475-484. **PH**

Mitchell, J. W., Lee, J.-Y., & Stephenson, R. (2016). How best to obtain valid, verifiable data online from male couples? Lessons learned from an eHealth HIV prevention intervention for HIV-negative male couples. *Journal of Medical Internet Research Public Health and Surveillance*, 2(2):e155. **PH**

Mokuau, N., DeLeon, P. H., Kaholokula, J. K., Soares, S., Tsark, J. U., & Haia, C. (2016). Challenges and promise of health equity for Native Hawaiians. *National Academy of Medicine*, Washington, D.C., 1-10. Retrieved from <https://nam.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Challenges-and-Promise-of-Health-Equity-for-Native-Hawaiians.pdf>. **SW,COA**

Moore, C., & **Browne, C.** (2016). Emerging innovations, best practices and evidence-based practices in elder abuse and neglect: A review of recent developments in the field. *Journal of Family Violence*, 32(4), 383-397. doi: 10.1007/s10896-016-9812-4. **SW, COA**

Nakaoka, S. (2016). The making of a community warrior: Donnie Chin and Seattle's International District. *Harvard Asian American Policy Review*, 26, 57-69. **SW**

Nelson-Hurwitz, D. C., Arakaki, L. A., & Uemoto, M. (2017). Training today's students to meet tomorrow's challenges: Undergraduate public health at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. *Hawai'i Journal of Medicine & Public Health*, 76, 89. **PH**

Nigg, C. R., Mateo, D. J., & An, J. (2017). *Pokémon Go* may increase physical activity and decrease sedentary behaviors. *American Journal of Public Health*, 107, 37-38. **PH**

Nishita, C. M., & Suga-Nakagawa, A. (2016). Intergenerational action on a global scale conference: A recap. *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*, 14(1), pp. 65-68. **COA**

Pirkle, C. M., Muckle, G., & Lemire, M. (2016). Managing mercury exposure in northern Canadian communities. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 188, 1015-1023. **PH**

Schweitzer, R. J., Wills, T. A., Behner, J. D. (2017). E-cigarette use and indicators of cardiovascular disease risk. *Current Epidemiology Reports* 4 (3), 428-257. doi: 10.1007/s40471-017-0118-8 **PH**

Sentell, T. L., Seto, T. D, Young, M. M., Vawer, M., Quensell, M. L., **Braun, K. L.,** & Taira, D. A. (2016). Pathways to potentially preventable hospitalizations for diabetes and heart failure: A qualitative analysis of patient perspectives. *BMC Health Services Research*, 16, 300. doi: 10.1186/s12913-016-1511-6. **PH**

Skinner, M., Hong, S., Herrenkohl, T. I., Brown, E. C., Lee, J. O., & Jung, H. (2016). Longitudinal effects of early child maltreatment on adult co-occurring substance abuse and mental health and problems: The role of adolescent alcohol use and depression. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 77(3), 464-472. **SW**

Stotzer, R. L. (2017). Data sources hinder our understanding of transgender murders. *American Journal of Public Health*, 107(9), 1362-1363. **SW**

Wu, Y. Y., Lye, S., & Briollais, L. (2017). The role of early life growth development, the FTO gene and exclusive breastfeeding on child BMI trajectories. *International Journal of Epidemiology*. online Jun 20, 2017. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ije/dyx081>. **PH**

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Albright, C., Saiki, K., Wilkens, L., Biddle, A., Devine, D., Pacheco, M., & Smith, P. (2017, March) *Undergraduates' designated organ donor status on their driver's license: Age, race/ethnicity, gender, and religion matter*. Society of Behavioral Medicine. **PH**

Arndt, R., & Sur, J. (2017, April). *Getting them and keeping them... the challenges and opportunities in recruitment and retention of distance education students*. Administration Seminar at the Social Work Distance Education Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX. **SW**

Key:

- SW** – Department of Social Work
- PH** – Office of Public Health Studies
- COA** – Center on Aging

Faculty Accomplishments

Bennett, K. (2017, January). *Mediation: An alternative to child-related litigation.* NASW Hawai'i Conference. **SW**

Braun, K. L., Browne, C., Furlow, N., & Carter, P. (2017, March). *Listening to the underserved: Techniques for gathering information to improve programming.* American Society on Aging. **SW, PH, COA**

Cooney, R. V., & Wagner, J. (2017). *Elevated levels of circulating gamma-tocopherol as a surrogate marker of mortality risk in populations of adult men stratified by health index score.* Experimental Biology. **PH**

Grandinetti, A. (2016, August). *Lipid profiles in the rural community of North Kohala: The Kohala Health Study.* Human Biology Association and Japan Society for Physiological Anthropology Joint Conference. **PH**

Guo, J. (2017). *Paid family leave for Hawai'i.* The 2.0 Social Policy Conference, St Louis, MO. **SW**

Hong, S., Park, K., & Park, M. (2017, August). *Emerging diversities and challenges faced by Korean American population in the U.S.: Focusing on income and health insurance disparities.* 13th ISKS International Conference of Korean Studies, Auckland, New Zealand. **SW**

Kreif, T. & Stotzer, R., Paglinawan, L., & Arndt, R. (2016, November). *Indigenous ways of knowing in education: Preservation and dissemination through technology.* Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, GA. **SW**

Lu, Y. (2016, October). *Water scarcity and global health: Challenges and perspectives.* International Symposium on Global Health Research and Policy. **PH**

Nowicki, E., Behan, D., Marks, A., Arndt, R., & Henkel, J. (2016, November). *Advancing quality continuing education without borders: Challenges with portability between states.* Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, GA. **SW**

Pirkle, C. M., & Wu, Y. Y. (2017, July). *Reproductive and parental correlates of cardiometabolic risk in global populations of older adults.* International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics. **PH**

Yontz, V. J. (2016). *Hawai'i Workforce Training Summary.* Western Region Public Health Training Center's Executive Management Meeting at Reno, Nevada. **PH**

SELECTED BOOK CHAPTERS

Albright, C. L., Mau, M., Choy, L., & Mabellos, T. (2017). *Physical activity among Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.* In M. J. Bopp (Ed.), *Physical activity and diverse populations: Evidence and practice.* New York, NY: Routledge. **PH**

Martin, T., Paglinawan, L. K., & Paglinawan, R. (2014). *Pathways to healing the Native Hawaiian spirit through culturally competent practice.* In H. F. O. Vakalahi & M. T. Godinet (Eds.), *Transnational Pacific Islander Americans and social work: Dancing to the beat of a different drum* (pp. 55-90). Washington, DC: NASW Press. **SW**

Walker, L., & Tarutani, C. (2017). *Restorative justice and violence against women: An effort to increase healing and decrease the victim-offender overlap.* In D. Halder & K. Jaishankar (Eds.), *Therapeutic jurisprudence and overcoming violence against women.* Hershey, PA: IGI Global. **SW**

Taulii, M. M. (2017). *(Re)building the lahui (Hawaiian nation).* In K. Ratteree & N. Hill (Eds.), *The great vanishing act: Blood quantum and the future of native nations.* (pp. 173-183). Fulcrum Publishing. **PH**

BOOK

Barney, K. F., & Perkinson, M. A. (2016). *Occupational therapy with aging adults: Promoting quality of life through collaborative practice.* St. Louis, MO: Elsevier Publishing Co. **COA**

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

DeMattos, M., & Mokuau, N. (2016). *Kākou – Strategic Plan 2016-2021.* Honolulu: Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work, Department of Social Work. **SW, COA**

Key:

- SW** – Department of Social Work
- PH** – Office of Public Health Studies
- COA** – Center on Aging

Many Helping Hands

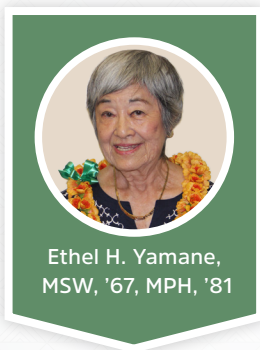
The success of social work and public health students is fueled by generous endowments and scholarships.

Contributors: Mari Ono, Mike DeMattos, Noreen Mokuau and Kathryn Braun



TIFFANIE KELIINUUI-MCCREADIE

Tiffanie Keliinui-McCreadie is the inaugural student recipient of the Ethel H. Yamane Endowed Scholarship.



Ethel H. Yamane,
MSW, '67, MPH, '81

Tiffanie Keliinui-McCreadie lives and breathes social work. The mother of a two-year old daughter, Tiffanie says she first became interested in the career field when she was volunteering at a youth group home. There she learned about trauma-informed care. Her volunteer work inspired her to enroll at UH Mānoa where she is currently working toward completing her MSW.

Tiffanie says the scholarship has further motivated her social work career goals. "I've gained a lot of confidence from the scholarship ... someone believed in me!" she says. After she graduates, Tiffanie wants to work in therapeutic foster care, addressing the continuum of care for teens aging out of the foster care system, and eventually become a program director.

¹UHF Because someone believed in me (2017). <https://www.uhfoundation.org/gift-impact/because-someone-believed-me>

The Ethel H. Yamane Endowed Scholarship is the name-sake grant of Ethel Yamane, an alumna who holds graduate degrees in social work and public health (MSW, '67, MPH, '81). Ethel says she established the scholarship for social work graduate students because she believes education is the foundation for becoming successful in life and she wanted to help others achieve the key benchmark of higher education. During her career in social work and public health she had leadership roles in the Hawai'i State Department of Human Services and the Department of Health.



PHOTOS: CARL FUJIKAWA

WYMAN "KALEI" BARROS

Wyman "Kalei" Barros is a recipient of the prestigious UH Mānoa Graduate Division Achievement Scholarship.

Wyman "Kalei" Barros was born and raised in Waimānalo, O'ahu. Growing up, school was challenging for him. "When I was young, I switched schools; my family put me in private school and I never fit in," he says. It wasn't long before Kalei started getting in trouble and got expelled. He eventually turned to alcohol and drugs.

Years later, after getting clean and sober, he wanted to give school another chance. Kalei enrolled at Windward Community College and then transferred to UH Mānoa where he began studying at the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work. For the first time in his education, Kalei says he finally felt at home at school. He received his BSW from the School and is currently pursuing his MSW. He has a 4.0 GPA and

says he sees his education as a privilege, and an opportunity. His goal is to help others on their journey to wholeness.

UH Mānoa has a long-standing commitment to high achieving students who are academically driven to excellence. The Graduate Division Achievement Scholarships are competitive with a limited number available to graduate students. These scholarships are merit-based and available to qualified graduate students who fulfill eligibility by being in a master's or doctoral program and having a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above.



LANDEN MUASAU

Landen Muasau is supported by the McComas-Kobayashi Endowment funds.



John McComas,
MPH, '71

Landen Muasau is committed to improving culturally-sensitive programs for Pacific Islanders like himself. Landon is a MPH student in Native Hawaiian and Indigenous Health. Grant funding from the McComas-Kobayashi Endowment allowed him to fly to Los Angeles, California and Auckland, New Zealand to learn how to tailor cancer patient navigation programs to Pacific Islanders.

"With the MPH, I am learning about cultural competency, social determinants of health, and population health," he says. "Now I have a much more holistic view of health. The MPH opens you to know more and builds your character and vision."

The McComas-Kobayashi Endowment is named after John McComas, an alumnus who holds a graduate degree in public health (MPH, '71) and his spouse Christine Kobayashi. The couple established the McComas-Kobayashi Endowment, awarding funds to students driven to improve health for underserved and needy populations.

"Individual and population health are influenced by many things, including housing, food, nutrition, education," he says. "We wanted to support the next generation of public health workers who are trained to see the big picture and can work to change society for the better." John says his interests in public health originated as a Peace Corps volunteer in western Africa. He has devoted his career to social change in Hawai'i, most recently as CEO of Aloha Care.



YVETTE AMSHOFF

Yvette Amshoff is the recipient of the 2017 Pauline Stitt Outstanding Public Health Graduate Student Scholarship.

Yvette Amshoff garnered an outstanding academic record during her MPH studies and served as President of the Hui Ola Pono, the public health student organization at UH Mānoa.

"I got my MPH in epidemiology because I saw the need for people that can analyze and interpret data. Also, public health people are out there shaping policy and doing research that improves population health and clinical practice," she says. Yvette wants to continue her education and someday conduct her own research studies to improve maternal and child health.

The Pauline Stitt Scholarship, first awarded in 2014, is intended to foster a spirit of excellence similar to that of its namesake founder. Dr. Stitt came to Hawai'i during World War II and worked as physician at the Shriner's Hospital for Children. After working on the Continental U.S. she returned to the Islands in 1972. Dr. Stitt became a UH Mānoa professor specializing in maternal and child health. An early advocate of life-course theory, she said "If we want healthy adults, we need to start with healthy children."

Center on Aging and the Barbara Cox Anthony Endowment

Contributors: Margaret Perkinson and Noreen Mokuau

The Barbara Cox Anthony Endowment supports the Center on Aging in its initiatives on gerontological teaching, research and service. Dr. Margaret Perkinson serves as the Director of the Center on Aging. With more than 30 years of experience and specializing in global aging, dementia care research, and cultural dimensions of aging, Dr. Perkinson brings an innovative perspective to the Center leadership.

In 2017, there were two new initiatives aimed at increasing gerontology courses offered at UH Mānoa, ultimately impacting families and communities. Dr. Catherine Pirkle developed and taught a new university-wide undergraduate writing intensive gerontology course called “Back to the Future-Aging in Today’s Society.” The course provides an introduction to gerontology for undergraduates, with a focus on demographic and epidemiological changes around the globe. Students in the inaugural class reflected on their improved understanding of the “older adults” in their own families, and its value for gaining an



appreciation for the dramatic trends in aging in Hawai‘i and the nation.

A competitive proposal for university faculty to develop and teach undergraduate courses in gerontology was also

an agenda on aging. Dean Noreen Mokuau and Director Kathryn Braun received the endowment in 2015. Under their leadership, the Center on Aging will shape research, education and service across multiple disciplines in the area of aging and serve as a vital community resource.

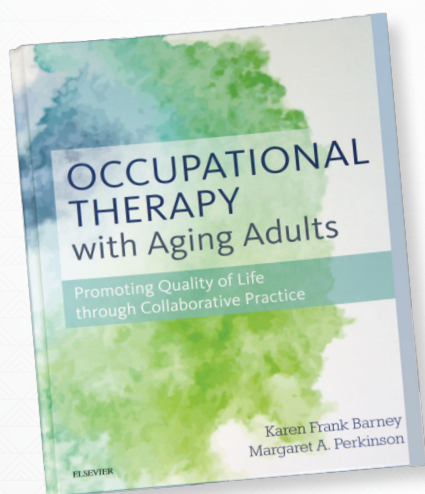
“This is an exciting time to enter the field of gerontology, especially in Hawai‘i, given its large and diverse older population and the ‘ohana spirit of those involved in the local aging network,” says Dr. Perkinson. “It is a

field of stimulating challenges and also of great opportunities to use your UH education to make a difference in the world.”

“This is an exciting time to enter the field of gerontology, especially in Hawai‘i, given its large and diverse older population and the ‘ohana spirit of those involved in the local aging network...”

issued in 2017. The new courses will be taught in 2018 and will contribute to the eventual reinstatement of the certificate in aging at UH Mānoa.

The Barbara Cox Anthony Endowment is a generous gift to UH Mānoa to support



Dr. Margaret Perkinson, along with her colleague, Dr. K.F. Barney edited a book, “Occupational therapy with aging adults: Promoting quality of life through collaborative practice” in 2016.

PHOTO: THINKSTOCK

Astonishing Alumni

Our talented alumni showcase how a career in social work and public health has made a difference in their communities.



JORGE DELVA,
PHD, '96, MSW, '92, BSW, '89

National Association of Social Workers; and co-author of the National Academies 2016 Report: "A Framework for Educating Health Professionals to Address the Social Determinants of Health." He is currently the incoming dean of the Boston University School of Social Work.

Dr. Jorge Delva is a national leader in the field of social work and is recognized as a high-impact scholar, an exemplary teacher and an engaged leader in professional service. A native of Chile, Dr. Delva has numerous and notable accomplishments, including roles as associate dean for research and associate dean for educational programs at the University of Michigan School of Social Work; editor-in-chief of *Social Work*, the flagship publication of the

Dr. Delva conducts research focusing on addressing and reducing health disparities and helping improve the lives of low-income, racial and ethnic minority populations. He began this much-needed research two decades ago in Honolulu, his work funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, a branch of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. His projects were aimed at improving the physical and mental health of Asian and Pacific Islander children and their families. He has

"I am eternally grateful for the high-quality education I received at the MBT SSW....."

continued his transdisciplinary research dedication in helping underserved communities with his current work, funded by the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Delva acknowledges his professional foundations at UH Mānoa and the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work. He received his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in social work from the university. "I am eternally grateful for the high-quality education and support I received at the UHM MBT SSW, across campus, and from the people of Hawai'i," he says. "My deep appreciation for these experiences is boundless as they provided me with the professional knowledge and skills, internal strength and wisdom to be a positive force in the world."



BROOKE EVANS,
MSW, '05

While much of her research and policy work addresses health and behavioral health on a national level, including her dissertation work in Vermont, Brooke says her personal and professional identity was molded by her previous clinical and policy practice experiences in Hawai'i and at the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work.

"(My) experiences with faculty, staff and fellow students, as well as my involvement in leadership, practicum and work positions helped me develop a solid professional sense of self and launch my career in social work and health policy," she says. "It was these experiences that guided me to become a clinician, policy practitioner, and now researcher."

Brooke Evans, LCSW, CSAC, is a dedicated social worker and champion for the social work profession. Brooke is currently a doctoral candidate at Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy and Management in Massachusetts. Her current research is supported by a National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Pre-Doctoral Training Fellowship.

"(My) experiences with faculty, staff and fellow students... helped me develop a solid professional sense of self and launch my career in social work and health policy."

Brooke says she aspires to help transform health and behavioral health policy, both at home in Hawai'i and nationally, and is incredibly grateful for the firm social work foundation that she gained during her time at UH Mānoa and early in her clinical social work career in the Islands.

Astonishing Alumni



**JO ANN TSARK,
MPH, '84**

Jo Ann Tsark is known for her unwavering commitment to public health and has dedicated herself to improving the health of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Hawai'i. Jo Ann is the former research director of Papa Ola Lōkahi—the Native Hawaiian Board of Health—as well as the project director of 'Imi Hale Native Hawaiian Cancer Network. In these roles, Jo Ann

led the development of culturally tailored health materials, producing more than 100 educational pieces for Hawai'i's unique communities. She also helped create and teach the state's first cancer patient navigation training program, with more than 220 graduates since 2007. Her work has led her across the state and the Western Pacific to build local capacity in research and program implementation.

As part of her work, Jo Ann plays leadership roles on research and training programs at the University of Hawai'i and The Queen's Medical Center. She also serves on committees associated with Na Limahana o Lonopuhā, Kahua Ola Hou, the Intercultural

"The program also challenged me to apply my new skills to improve the health of my community."

Cancer Council, and the Pacific Chronic Disease Coalition.

"Public health was a career path I didn't initially choose," she says. "But I knew it was for me when I started the MPH program at the University of Hawai'i. The program appreciated the values and experiences I already had and guided me to integrate these with new knowledge. The program also challenged me to apply my new skills to improve the health of my community."

PHOTO OF JO ANN TSARK: CARL FUJIKAWA



**VICTORIA NIEDERHAUSER,
DrPH, '99**

Dr. Victoria Niederhauser has been dean of the University of Tennessee Knoxville College of Nursing, the university's flagship campus, since 2011. Before becoming dean of the Tennessee nursing college, Dr. Niederhauser served on the faculty at the UH School of Nursing & Dental Hygiene, holding a variety of teaching and administrative roles, including Department Chair and Associate Dean. She was one of a number of UH Mānoa nursing faculty

members who earned their doctoral degrees in public health while teaching nursing students. "For those of us in nursing, advanced training in public health helped expand our skills beyond clinical care," she says.

In 2008, Dr. Niederhauser was selected as one of 20 nurses across the nation to participate in the prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellows Program, a three-year executive leadership development program for nurses. Her research focused on child

health promotion and disease prevention. She has also published a book and more than 60 peer-reviewed articles.

Dr. Niederhauser says she is thankful for the professional opportunities opened to her by earning her DrPH at UH Mānoa. "It is hard to quantify the positive impact that obtaining my doctorate in public health has had—and continues to have—on my career," she says. "Having the DrPH from UH Mānoa is like the gift that keeps on giving!"

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Contributor: Theresa Kreif

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Gartley Hall Naming Initiative

We can provide friends and partners an opportunity to name "spaces" in Gartley Hall for specific funding levels. There are a variety of spaces available for instructional, research, administrative and community engagement functions. The naming of spaces is a significant, highly visible and enduring honor that catalyzes instruction and research. Funding is to be used for diverse school needs, with attention to technology and special projects.

Student Scholarships

Student scholarships provide financial support to students who are interested in all areas of social work, public health and gerontology. Many students are the first in their

family to obtain a college degree. Through scholarships, we can provide access to the brightest students who might not otherwise have the financial means to pursue higher education.

Endowed Professorships and Endowed Chairs

Endowments for Professor and Chairships are intended to attract and retain distinguished researchers and institutional leaders. Examples include health education, health or social policy, epidemiology, Native Hawaiian and indigenous health, aging, community engagement, and global health and welfare. Funding supports the endowed faculty in achieving excellence and can include leadership development, research and community engagement.

For additional information please contact the following individuals:

For **Social Work**, contact Mark Fukeda, Director of Development at (808) 956-7988 or mfukeda@hawaii.edu

For the **Office of Public Health Studies and the Center on Aging**, contact Lori Admiral at (808) 956-5747 or lori.admiral@uhfoundation.org

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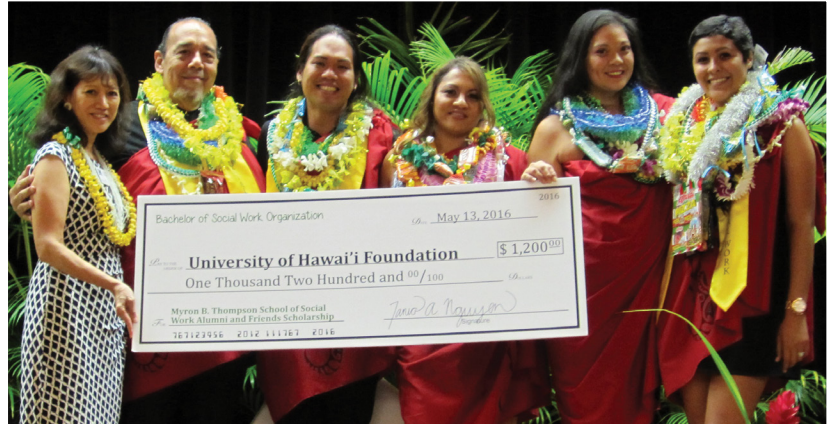


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