



NEWS from

JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



NEWS FROM THE DEAN

These are exciting times at JABSOM. We have renewed interviews for the post of permanent Dean, while moving forward on strengthening our management team.

Jeffrie Jones is our full-time Director of Development. She comes to us from Hawai'i Pacific Health, where she served as Director of Philanthropy for Straub Clinic & Hospital.

Dr. David Curb is Director of Translational Research. He has articles in over 220 peer-reviewed publications and significant administrative experience.

Dr. Richard Kasuya, Director of the Office of Medical Education, will devote a significant portion of his time addressing issues relating to medical education from the Dean's Office.

Dr. Rosanne Harrigan is leading preparation for the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) accreditation. We will need everyone's participation for successful re-accreditation and I thank you in advance for your help.

Gary Ostrander, Interim Dean



MEDICAL SCHOOL PART OF LANDMARK CHILDREN'S HEALTH STUDY

[1,000 Oahu Children Involved](#)

KHON2 News image

The John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of Hawai'i will be involved in the largest study of child and human health ever conducted in the United States. The National Children's Study will track children and sample the air and chemicals around them for over two decades, from before birth until they turn 21. One thousand O'ahu families will take part.

"We are asking women to volunteer their time to help children in the future," said Dr. Lynnae Sauvage, principal investigator for the Hawai'i study. "We are asking them to let us into their homes and lives, to help us understand factors that affect child health and development."

Data will be collected on some of the nation's most pressing health problems, including autism, asthma, birth defects, diabetes, heart disease and obesity. JABSOM will work with community leaders, local hospitals, the Hawai'i State Department of Health and recruit door-to-door to find women who are pregnant or likely to have a child soon.

LABRASH WINS IN LAS VEGAS



The Director of the Medical School's willied body program has been awarded a professional Academy's certificate and he's believed to be the only recipient in Hawai'i.

The certificate designated **Steven Labrash** as a Certified Funeral Service Practitioner of the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice (APFSP).

Labrash was presented the award in September, by the APFSP's Diana Kurz in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Labrash works tirelessly to educate people about the

Willied Body Program at the John A. Burns School of Medicine. More than 4,000 Hawai'i residents have signed up to become what one student calls "silent teachers", upon their deaths. Bodies are willied to the anatomy department, where medical students learn both science, and how to pay respect for a donor's sacrifice. Every year, a ceremony honors donors, whose ashes are scattered at sea, or returned to their families.

Halloween at H.O.M.E.



JABSOM Students Bring Holiday to Next Step

They were doing *The Monster Mash* at the Next Step Transitional Shelter in Kaka'ako on Halloween. And those were just the *keiki* bouncing in the bounce pens. Milling around elsewhere were Dorothy, the Tin Man, Scarecrow, and the Cowardly Lion. Snow White was there. And there were scary things hanging from the ceiling.



The annual Halloween

Carnival for the kids at both the Kaka'ako and Wai'anae transitional shelters for the homeless are made possible by the hard work of medical students in the Homeless Outreach and Medical Education (H.O.M.E.) Project led by **Dr. Jill Omori**, who could easily be mistaken for Betty Rubble – or was it Wilma -- from the Flintstones on Halloween night.

Mahalo to the generous sponsors and partners, including the Hawaiian Electric Company, Wai'anae McDonald's, Tamura

Supermarket, Party City, Times, Sam's Club and Sodexo Food Service.

Recognize this fowl?

Third-year medical students in Dr. Alan Tice's class know this strutting chicken as Sasha. Dr. Tice invited Sasha to school one day, for a unique problem-based learning session. What might Sasha be worried about? How about antibiotics added to foods? Avian flu? And why are humans wary of Sasha's kind in some parts of the world? These and other questions were explored because a chicken named Sasha came to class. Sasha usually spends her day producing eggs for the Gosnell family.



PUBLIC HEALTH EARNS 7-YEAR ACCREDITATION



JAY MADDOCK

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Office of Public Health Studies has received a 7-year accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health. "This accreditation decision affirms the strength of our growing public health program and the outstanding achievements of our faculty, staff, students and alumni", said *Dr. Jay Maddock*, director of the Office of Public Health Studies. The office is part of the John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of Hawai'i.



OCEAN STUDY

The program offers Masters' degrees in Epidemiology and Social and Behavioral Health Sciences. You are likely to see its graduates out on the front lines of community-based health care. They're the ones promoting immunizations, investigating the 2002 dengue outbreak on Maui, measuring sun protection, assessing the safety of Hawai'i's rivers and ocean and developing media spots to ensure an informed public. The accreditation is the longest conferred by the Council of Education for Public Health, which recognizes 108 schools and programs nationwide.

GUBLER IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UH AND DUKE SINGAPORE

Duane J. Gubler, Sc.D, director of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine's (JABSOM) Asia-Pacific Institute for Tropical Medicine and Infectious Diseases (APIT MID) has joined the faculty of the Duke-National University of Singapore Graduate Medical School Singapore (Duke-NUS GMS). Dr. Gubler will lead a collaborative effort between Duke-NUS GMS and



JABSOM as director of the Signature Research Program in Emerging Infectious Diseases. He will also maintain a faculty position with JABSOM. Dr. Gubler will stay on as the Director of APITMID for an indefinite period. The institute is also in the process of filling 4 new faculty/research positions.

"At the heart of this new partnership is creation of a world-class infectious disease program that will be the regional center for reference and research in the Asia-Pacific area," says Dr. Gubler. "The vision is that this center will serve as the Asia Pacific region's Centers Disease Control."

Dr. Gubler was instrumental in securing funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to develop a biosafety level 3 (BSL) laboratory at JABSOM as part of the NIH regional network of research laboratories devoted to research and detection of emerging infectious diseases. A nationwide search will be conducted for Dr. Gubler's successor as Chair, Department of Tropical Medicine, Medical Microbiology and Pharmacology, and as Director of the Pacific Regional Biosafety Laboratory.



HEALTH FAIR

The annual student-run JABSOM Community Health Fair Nov. 2 attracted visitors from the public and organizations like HMSA, left, which offered a spinning wheel of health.





NEWS FROM NATIVE HAWAIIAN HEALTH

Dr. Marjorie Mau, Native Hawaiian Health Chair, has been working closely with the Alaska Traditional Healing Group in Anchorage. She attended the Alaska Federation of Nations meeting at the University of Alaska along with Hawai'i's Senior U.S. Senator, **Daniel Inouye**.

UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (GUMS) FROM JAPAN VISITS UH MĀNOA

Submitted by

Sheri M. Gon and Dick Y. Teshima

In mid-September, students and

faculty/administrators from Gifu University of Medical Sciences (GUMS) visited the University of Hawai'i Mānoa and Kapi'olani Community College campuses. Three 4-year degree academic programs were represented from GUMS: medical technology, nursing, and radiological technology. Their goal was to explore the possibility of establishing an exchange program with UH.

To find out more about Gifu University of Medical Sciences, visit <http://www.jinno.ac.jp/~gcmf>. To find out more about the JABSOM Division of Medical Technology, visit <http://www.hawaii.edu/medtech/Medtech.html>



GRANTS AWARDED

A multi-million dollar, 5-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control establishes the **Pacific Center of Excellence in Eliminating Disparities (CEED)**. Another new grant funds the web-based **Pacific Regional Central Cancer Registry**. Principal investigator for both grants is **Dr. Neal Palafox**, Chair of the Department of Family Medicine. "2007 is a milestone year in the fight to reduce Pacific Islander health disparities," said Palafox.

Dr. Lavonda Mee-Lee Nakamoto and **Dr. Samina Ahsan** of Geriatric Medicine have been awarded 3-year, \$64,000 grants to provide support for development of their careers as clinician educators. The grants will support a significant portion of their salaries and provide other funds for program expenses.

The Geriatric Medicine Department has also secured a new grant to support the **Geriatric Education Center**, to improve health in Hawai'i and the U.S Pacific Island Nations.



At Kulia Grille...

*Dr. Satoru Izutsu & Dr. Liz Tam
address the OHANA Gathering
for new employees
Fall 2007*

This newsletter is produced by the
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS,
John Burns School of Medicine.
Comments, tips & suggestions are
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