



Happy New Year from ‘Imi Ho‘ōla



Director, Winona Lee, MD & the faculty and staff of 'Imi Ho'ōla

Welcome to the first edition of the 'Imi Ho'ōla eNewsletter! As we approach 'Imi's 45th anniversary, I would like to take this time to thank the alumni, faculty, staff, and community donors that have contributed to the program throughout the years. With the support of the Queen's Health Systems and the Friends of 'Imi Ho'ōla, 'Imi has made great strides in offering educational opportunities to disadvantaged students from Hawai'i and the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands. In 2010, the 'Imi class size was increased to 12, allowing us to reach more deserving students who will enter JABSOM upon completion of our program. Our students continue to amaze us with their accomplishments in medical school and beyond, which will be highlighted in this and future eNewsletters. Please join us for the 'Imi Ho'ōla 45th reunion being planned for Saturday, August 25, 2018. More details to come!

Mahalo!



McGuire 'Ohana (Left to Right): Austyn, Emmett, Roxanne, & Tayler

Emmette McGuire, MD

'Imi Ho'ōla class of 1987 / JABSOM class of 1992

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and students of the 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program, we would like to express a heartfelt mahalo to Dr. Emmett McGuire and 'ohana for their continued support to the Friends of 'Imi Ho'ōla and to the students in the program. Their generous donations to the Friends of 'Imi Ho'ōla Tuition Assistance (FIHTA) program was a much needed gift to students that completed the program. These funds were given to students during the 'Imi Completion Ceremony to assist them with purchasing books and equipment before matriculation into JABSOM. As JABSOM's requirements expanded, so did their support. Beginning with the class of 2014-2015, he and his family have generously provided each of the incoming students with a brand new iPad. This donation has helped students familiarize themselves with the use of an iPad, which is now required of all incoming JABSOM students. Dr. McGuire and his family have been able to speak to each of the classes about the challenges of an 'Imi student, rigors of medical school, and practicing while trying to maintain a sense of balance. Their candid talks have both inspired and encouraged students. Many students have commented on how grateful they were to speak to the McGuires and of their support because they could not afford to purchase an iPad on their own.

Mahalo Dr. McGuire and 'ohana for your continued support and dedication to the 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program!

Student Highlight

Reflections of an Intern



Nash A.K. Witten, MD

'Imi Ho'ōla class of 2013

JABSOM class of 2017

I most definitely would not be where I am today were it not for the 'Imi Ho'ōla program ('Imi). I constantly find myself referring back to knowledge gained in 'Imi's PBL, biochemistry, anatomy, medical ethics, speech, and scientific basis of medicine courses. One of the amazing things about being an intern in the University of Hawai'i Family Medicine Residency Program is that I now get to interact with younger 'Imis in their third-year clerkships.

Thanks to the 'Imi pins that my 'Imi classmates made for our graduation in 2013, which have since been passed to all subsequent 'Imi graduates, it is easy to spot members of our 'ohana in the clinic. There is almost a constant "Wait, you're an 'Imi too?" When I have my white coat on, as the 'Imi lapel pin seems to catch everyone's eye. I've had both medical students and attendings, many of whom I didn't know were part of our 'Imi 'ohana, see the pin and comment as above. Of all the pins on my white coat, I wear the 'Imi pin with the most pride, as it represents successful completion of my most difficult academic year to date, which is only understood by those of us who have survived the 'Imi program.

Recently, I was presenting at the Pacific Health Gathering at Queen Medical Center's Conference Center and another 'Imi alumni connection was made. As with most conferences, prior to presenting, a brief biography was read, in which it mentioned that I was an 'Imi graduate. After completion of my presentation a physician from Palau came up and introduced himself saying, "Hey, I'm an 'Imi grad too!" A connection that we most definitely would have never made had it not been for me including that single phrase in my biography for the conference; go figure!

I am forever grateful to the 'Imi program for the opportunity to participate in the 'Imi program, to enter medical school, to be able to pursue my dream of being a Family Medicine physician in Hawai'i, and for the lifelong friends I made in the program. It is wild to think that in no time we will be finally joining the physician workforce in Hawai'i, carrying on the legacy of 'Imi, and encouraging patients interested in medicine to think about applying to the program!



'Imi Class of 2013 (from left to right):

Courtney Gaddis, Caleb Jeon, Nohea Leatherman-Arkus, Amanda Mesa, Yuho Ono, & Nash Witten

Class of 2013 completion video:

<http://jabsom.hawaii.edu/video-ohia-lehua-a-metaphor-forimi-hoola-class-of-2013/>



University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine

‘IMI HO‘ŌLA

POST-BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM

2017-2018 Class



Jester Galiza
‘Ewa Beach, O‘ahu



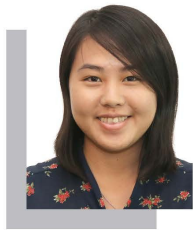
Andy T. Hwang
Kailua, O‘ahu



Arlene Parubrub
Kiyohara
Kalihi, O‘ahu



Maggie M.L. Kwok
Honolulu, O‘ahu



Jennifer Lau
Honolulu, O‘ahu



Kevin M. Martinez
Dededo, Guam



Rance Okudara
‘Ewa Beach, O‘ahu



Brittany Sato
Nānākuli, O‘ahu



Andrew "Ken" Stridiron
Kapolei, O‘ahu



Dillon Taddol
Wailuku, Maui



Christina Tse
Honolulu, O‘ahu



Kristine Vo
Barrigada Heights,
Guam

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- This class is comprised of students from ‘Oahu, Maui, & Guam
 - JABSOM & ‘Imi moved to Kaka‘ako in 2005
- Starting with the class of 2011 ‘Imi now accepts up to 12 students!



Need to update your contact information?

Contact Dr. Kelli-Ann Voloch at IHAlumni@hawaii.edu or call (808) 692-1030 to update your contact information (phone, email, address, practice location, etc.)



‘Imi wants to know...

We would like to know where you are and where you have been.

Email us at IHAlumni@hawaii.edu to let us know where your pathway has taken you after ‘Imi.

‘Imi Ho‘ōla website: <http://jabsom.hawaii.edu/ed-programs/imi/>

**Do you know of a former 'Imi who
should be highlighted in a future
eNewsletter? Contact the 'Imi Program**

Assistant, Kim Yamauchi at

kimy@hawaii.edu or

**(808) 692-1029 with their name and
contact information.**



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