



'IMI HO'ŌLA

POST-BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM



651 Ilalo Street MEB 306 | Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
 Phone: (808) 692-1030 | Email: imihoola@hawaii.edu | www.jabsom.hawaii.edu/imihoola

HOW 'IMI HO'ŌLA IS ADAPTING TO COVID-19

'Imi Ho'ōla has been working closely with JABSOM administration to provide a safe learning environment for our students, staff, and faculty due to the health and safety requirements regarding COVID-19. During the Spring 2020 semester, students were moved to a larger classroom and a hybrid approach of online and in person teaching was implemented to limit the time students would be on campus. Unfortunately, the students were not able to participate in the Kalaupapa Service Learning Project or Rural Shadowing on the neighbor islands. The students were still able to create some meaningful memories and found creative ways to support the Kalaupapa communities on Moloka'i and on O'ahu.

The 'Imi Ho'ōla class of 2020-2021 began on July 14, 2020 and is comprised of students from O'ahu, Hawai'i Island, Maui, and Guam (see class photos on the right). 'Imi students and faculty will continue to use larger classrooms to provide social distancing and masks are required while in class and walking through the building. The resiliency and dedication of our students and the 'Imi program is demonstrated as we continue to modify our efforts to ensure the safety of all while providing the most effective learning environment. JABSOM has created a resource page that can be viewed at:

<https://jabsom.hawaii.edu/jabsomresources-coronavirus/>

'IMI HO'ŌLA CLASS OF 2020-2021



Left to Right - Top row: Eduardo Biala, Jr., Jessica Cabusog, Vanessa Freitas, & Sai Furukawa. Middle Row: Tiffany Kurozawa, Benjamin Lee, Baoxin "Hailey" Liang, & Louise Lu. Bottom Row: Frances Wella Chel Morana, Shantel Pascual, Marie Perez, & Katelyn Shirai

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'Imi Alumni @ KKV

by Drs. Nash Witten & Courtney Taum

Courtney Taum (formerly Gaddis) and Nash Witten ('Imi Class of 2013) completed their residency training at the University of Hawai'i Pediatrics and Family Medicine Residency Programs, respectively, in June. They both started work at Kokua Kalihi Valley

Comprehensive Family Services (KKV) this July.

Dr. Taum is working at KKV as part of her Native Hawaiian Health Scholarship Program repayment and works at the KKV Wellness Center and Charles Judd Community Health Center. Dr. Witten is working at KKV as part of his National Health Service Corps Scholarship



Dr. Courtney Taum & Dr. Nash Witten at KKV

Program repayment and works at the Ke Ola Hou Clinic at the Towers at Kūhiō Park (previously Kūhiō Park Terrace) and the Charles Judd Community Health Center. They are both forever grateful for the opportunity to participate in and complete the 'Imi program and are excited to be working together serving the community of Kalihi Valley!

'IMI HO'ŌLA: PROGRAM OUTCOMES

The 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program, recently conducted a formal comprehensive process and outcome evaluation to determine whether we are meeting the mission of increasing diversity of the physician workforce in Hawai'i. The infographic depicts key outcomes of a dissertation research project conducted by Dr. Mālia Purdy that looked at 20 years of student data.

The process evaluation highlighted preparation, support, and attitude as key components of the program. The most notable finding was that a significant factor for student success in the program was the attitude score on the Learning And Study Strategies Inventory (LASSI). The study found that for every 10% increase in the attitude score, a student is 20% more likely to complete the program. Those with lower Attitude scores were less likely to complete the program. LASSI attitude scale questions assess students' attitudes, sense of purpose, interests in college, and motivation in achieving academic success. As a result of these findings, the 'Imi faculty have reviewed and updated their curriculum to incorporate more activities regarding attitude and purpose throughout the year.

The outcome evaluation identified that 60% of 'Imi graduates choose a primary care residency, 40% complete residency in Hawai'i, and 45% of graduates complete residency in an underserved area. When compared to non-'Imi JABSOM graduates, we found that a higher percentage of 'Imi graduates choose to practice primary care (58% 'Imi graduates vs. 52% non-'Imi JABSOM graduates). When examining who stays to practice in Hawai'i and/or the Pacific Basin, about 40% of 'Imi graduates choose to practice in Hawai'i and/or the Pacific Basin, compared to non-'Imi JABSOM's 26%.

For more information regarding the results of this study see the infographic on page 3.

DEMOGRAPHICS

OF 'IMI HO'OLA PARTICIPANTS (1996 - 2016)



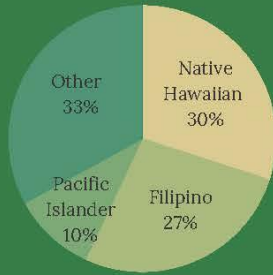
57%

MALE



43%

FEMALE



TARGET ETHNICITY



95%

FROM HAWAII /
PACIFIC BASIN



COMPLETION RATE

KEY COMPONENTS OF 'IMI HO'OLA

AS IDENTIFIED BY PAST PARTICIPANTS

"I think one good thing about 'Imi also is that they encourage leadership. We had a president of her class, vice president, and the historian. But we all had some sort of leadership position, and that kind of sets the tone for the class..."

PREPARATION

"'Imi, because it's a year-long program and it's set up pretty much like how first year is, it's PBL, it's anatomy, you get some of the biochemistry, it sets you up so that you have a nice foundation."

MENTORSHIP
"... they're role models and put things into perspective...this is so stressful, but look, they made it."

PEERS
"...if you can stick together, you guys can pretty much make it through everything."

STIPENDS
"That was more than I expected to get...You can't find that anywhere else"

SUPPORT

COMPLETER VS. NON-COMPLETER

PROFILE COMPARISON

ATTITUDE

was the only significant predictor between those who completed 'Imi Ho'ola and those who did not complete.

FOR EVERY 10% INCREASE IN ATTITUDE SCORE ON LASSI, A STUDENT IS 20% MORE LIKELY TO COMPLETE 'IMI HO'OLA

PRACTICE OUTCOMES

OF 'IMI HO'OLA GRADUATES (1996 - 2016)

"Even being part of the 'Imi network, it's a special bond. When you see people out at the hospitals and you're like, "Oh you're 'Imi." And it's just like a bond. It really does open opportunities for us to network with physicians and when we see them, you feel comfortable with what we're doing because they're from 'Imi."



40%

COMPLETE RESIDENCY IN HAWAII



6 OUT OF 10 STUDENTS CHOOSE A PRIMARY CARE RESIDENCY

45%

COMPLETE RESIDENCY IN AN UNDERSERVED AREA

'IMI ALUMNI - JABSOM CLASS OF 2020!



Congratulations to the JABSOM Class of 2020! We wish the following 'Imi alumni all the best as you continue on your journey: Drs. Gavin Ha, Carrie Ip, Christina Park, Eddy Leung, Jaymes Lonzanida, Kanoe Quibelan, & Keith Sablan! Click here to view the virtual convocation ceremony: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSxJ1CsLPKI>



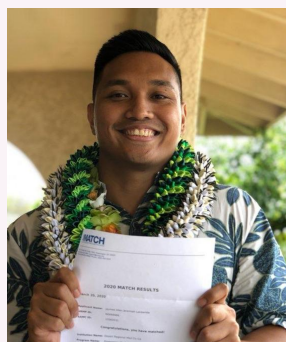
Dr. Carrie Ip
Pediatrics Resident,
Honolulu, HI

Many of my successes as a medical student can be attributed to the 'Imi Ho'ōla Program. Not only did I learn the basic sciences well, but I also learned how to strengthen my weaknesses, to be resilient, to be an integral part of a team, and to keep humanism alive in medicine.



Dr. Christina Park
Internal Medicine,
Resident, Honolulu, HI

Medicine is a field that requires life-long learning with new data popping up everyday. But that doesn't mean you can forget about what you already know! With a firm foundation of knowledge bases and studying strategies I developed in Imi, I was able to "study well" in medical school and I can still recall some things I learned in 'Imi.



Dr. Jaymes Lonzanida
Emergency Medicine
Resident, Palm Springs, CA

'Imi Ho'ōla was a rigorous program which gave me hope of getting into medical school. But earning the illustrious letter of acceptance was far from easy. I remember spending hours on end reading textbooks and constructing study guides which incorporated every detail about every cell in every biological pathway. I remember ending class in the afternoon, eating dinner in the classroom, and dragging myself out of the building when school closed at 1 in the morning. Even though I lost hours of sleep and precious moments from my family, I am thankful for the skills I earned in 'Imi Ho'ōla. Through 'Imi Ho'ōla I learned to be a critical thinker by viewing diseases in terms of mechanisms. I learned to appreciate the psychosocial aspect of disease and have begun to identify socioeconomic and cultural factors that affect a patient's viewpoint on medicine. Most importantly, I was broken but built back up again to affirm that I could do anything. Now that my dream of becoming a doctor has come true, I want to emulate the consolation of a strong support system by advocating for my future patients, helping them understand their disease, and strengthening the communities in which they call home.

'IMI STUDENTS AT THE STATE CAPITOL

Mahalo to all those that have supported SB 2392 to provide student stipends for our 'Imi Ho'ōla participants while they are in the program. We are happy to announce that the bill has passed through the Senate and has crossed over to the House. Due to all of the support in the form of written and oral testimony by our 'Imi 'Ohana and extraordinary JABSOM students, the bill has passed the House Committee on Lower and Higher Education. The bill passed the House Committee on Lower and Higher Education and was on its way to Finance. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the legislative session ended unexpectedly and all bills being considered could not move forward.



Left to Right: Christina Tse (MS2), Arlene Kiyohara (MS2), Linda Nguyen (MS1), Kanoe Quibelan (MS4), Dr. Winona Lee, Jester Gailza (MS2), Dillon Tacdol (MS2), Kevin Martinez (MS2), Maggie Kwock (MS2), & Ken Stridiron (MS2)

These stipends are crucial to our 'Imi students to assist them with funds to support tuition, books, and minimal living expenses. 'Imi is a non-degree granting program and our students are ineligible for federal financial aid which may cause a financial hardship for our students. Many of our students are first generation college students and have had to work throughout college to support themselves and/or their families. Please be on the lookout for more information about this exciting legislative process. We are hopeful that we can work with legislators to put forward another bill next session.

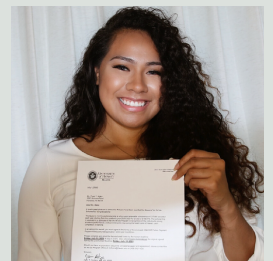
For the past 15 years, the Queen's Health Systems has generously provided these essential students stipends and we are grateful for their longstandng support.

Mahalo Queen's Health Systems

Mahalo to the Queen's Health Systems for your continued support of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health and the 'Imi Ho'ōla Program.

QUEEN'S 'IMI HO'ŌLA SCHOLARSHIP

The Queen's Health Systems awarded four-year JABSOM scholarships to three 'Imi alumni that have demonstrated excellence in academics, leadership, and professionalism, and have shown a desire to improve the health care within the state of Hawai'i. These scholarships help to address the growing physicians shortage in Hawai'i by supporting future Hawai'i physicians. Congratulations to the 2020 recipients: 1) Sarah Albrecht, from Captain Cook, Hawai'i Island received a BS in Bioengineering at University of Washington. 2) Piueti Maka, from Ewa Beach, 'Oahu, earned her BA in Biology from Pepperdine University, and 3) Melia Takakusagi, from 'Ele'ele, Kauai received a BS in Cell and Molecular Biology from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.



Piueti Maka



Sarah Albrecht



Melia Takakusagi

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Joseph Keawe'aimoku Kaholokula, PhD, MA

Dr. Kaholokula has been a Professor with the Department of Native Hawaiian Health at the John A. Burns School of Medicine since 2004 and has served as the Department Chair since 2011. He was raised in Honolulu and graduated from McKinley High School. He attended the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa where he received his BA, MA, and PhD in Psychology.

When asked what motivates him to support this student population, Dr. Kaholokula shared, "I feel strongly that we need a diverse physician workforce that reflects the demographics of Hawaii's larger society. We need to provide opportunities to our local students, especially those of Native Hawaiian ancestry and from socially disadvantaged backgrounds as a matter of social justice. Such students will be better able to relate to their patients and understand how medicine operates in a larger social and cultural context.



Chanley Mālia Purdy, PhD, MPH

Dr. Purdy is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Native Hawaiian Health, co-teaches Humanities in Medicine during Phase II of 'Imi and a Programs Consultant at Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center (FQHC on Maui). She was raised in Waiehu, Maui, attended Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Maui, and graduated from Kamehameha Schools Maui Campus. She received a BS in Biology from Pacific University and her MPH and PhD in Public Health from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

When asked about her motivation to support our 'Imi students, Dr. Purdy shared that, "Being raised on a neighbor island, I am passionate about growing our own everything, especially doctors and other healthcare professionals. The people of Hawai'i are capable, and we know what works in our communities. I am passionate about fostering, mentoring, and supporting local students along their educational journey, which is why I have so much aloha for my position in the Medical Education division of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health at the John A. Burns School of Medicine. Being able to shape, influence, and share perspectives to the future healthcare professionals of Hawai'i is a kuleana I deeply honor. Equally important is the work I get to do in my community. Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center is the island's go-to federally qualified health center (FQHC). In 2018 I was part of establishing a Community Engagement Department. This department came out of necessity in response to the shifting demographics of our community. As an FQHC, you see the diversity in patients and the need for physicians to be able to deliver culturally appropriate and safe care to our ever changing population. My vantage points give me unique perspectives from the beginning of a medical school journey, to the end of identifying the type of physicians our communities need and deserve. Straddling these two islands affords me the opportunity to bring lived experiences and real-life scenarios into the classroom. I am dedicated to the mission, the program, and the physician outcomes of 'Imi Ho'ōla and will forever be an advocate for all programs that support growing our own."

'IMI HO'ŌLA CLASS OF 2020!

Congratulations to the 'Imi Ho'ōla Class of 2020! This has been an unusual year. We are so proud of you and all you have accomplished. This year brought on challenges that we could not have anticipated and you have demonstrated resiliency and determination to succeed during the many changes that you have had to endure. We look forward to what you have in store for the future!

Click here to view the virtual 'Imi Completion Ceremony

<https://youtu.be/p8KenKW071o>



Left to Right: Melia Takakusagi, Piueti Maka, Peggy Su, Jennifer Wong, Dr. Winona Lee, Sarah Albrecht, Collin Liang, & Joshua Ilustre

DNHH RURAL HEALTH STUDY

The Department of Native Hawaiian Health is in the process of recruiting practicing primary care providers in medically underserved areas (MUA) and/or health professional shortage areas (HPSA) to participate in a study. This study provides an opportunity to share perspectives and offer solutions to address the physician shortage. **There are 2 ways to participate: survey and/or key informant interview.** Please contact Dr. Mālia Purdy at cmpurdy@hawaii.edu if you would like to participate or would like additional information about the study.

More information about this study can be found on the next page.



Where are you now?

Please complete the 'Imi Ho'ōla Alumni Contact Google Form at <https://goo.gl/forms/xSNHG2uF81zMxMYp1>. This is one of the ways we are able to learn more about all the things our 'Imi alumni have accomplished and a way to share 'Imi updates and future events.

RURAL HEALTH & PRIMARY CARE WORKFORCE STUDY

BACKGROUND

The Rural Health and Primary Care Workforce Study was developed as a partnership between the Department of Native Hawaiian Health (DNHH) and the Queen's Health Systems (QHS) in order to examine potential factors influencing the recruitment and retention of rural primary care providers in Hawai'i.

Practicing primary care providers located in Medically Underserved Areas (MUA) and/or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) are being recruited to participate in the study.

For more information

CONTACT

Dr. Mālia Purdy

Principal Investigator

Email: cmpurdy@hawaii.edu

RESEARCH TEAM

- Dr. Winona Lee, Director
- Ken Stridiron, MS2
- Taralyn Titus, MSW Candidate



**THE QUEEN'S
MEDICAL CENTER**

**SHARE YOUR PERSPECTIVES &
OFFER SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS THE
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE!**

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE:

Survey

Time Commitment: 20 minutes

The purpose of the survey is to quantify factors that have an affect on recruitment and retention of primary care physicians in rural parts and neighboring islands in Hawai'i and on O'ahu.

Key Informant Interview

Time Commitment: 1 hour

Interview question topics will include factors that influence primary care physician:

- recruitment
- retention
- practice in rural Hawai'i