



THE JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Research Portfolio



Did you know?

Research is critical to accreditation for a medical school. With strong research areas, we direct accredited residency and fellowship programs to train specialists in clinical shortage areas for Hawai'i. The investment in JABSOM's research enterprise is imperative to sustaining our physician training programs.



Dr. Mariana Gerschenson
Associate Dean for Research

"We have exciting basic, clinical, and translational research that benefits from our special location, our multiethnic population, our partners, and our cadre of nationally recognized investigators."

Meet a few of our faculty changing the future of medicine for the better



Key research areas include:

- Health Disparities
- Infectious Diseases
- Heart Disease
- Metabolic Diseases
- Neurological Disorders
- Aging
- Mental Health
- HIV/AIDS



Native Hawaiian Healing Plants chosen by our kauka, Native Physicians, to symbolize Hawaii's history of healing

JABSOM Research & the Community

We Achieve More Through Clinical Research PARTNERSHIPS



We focus on centers of excellence with collaborative partnerships to address diseases that disproportionately affect our local community.

“Through collaboration with stakeholders we pursue research excellence to enhance diversity and achieve equity in our JABSOM ‘Ohana and communities we serve. We actively seek new knowledge to improve health outcomes for the people of Hawaii.”

- Dr. Lee Buenconsejo-Lum
JABSOM Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Residency Programs

- Family Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Pathology
- Pediatrics
- Psychiatry
- Surgery

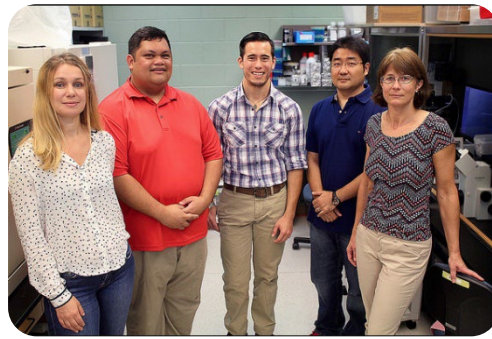
Fellowship Programs

- Addiction Medicine
- & Addiction Psychiatry
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
- Geriatric Medicine
- Geriatric Psychiatry
- Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Sports Medicine
- Surgical Critical Care

Our residents and fellows lead projects to improve the quality of care in our partnering clinical settings.



Axel Lehrer, PhD
(Tropical Medicine) successfully demonstrated that his team’s proposed Ebola vaccine is heat-resistant, a plus in delivering the vaccine to rural arid Africa.

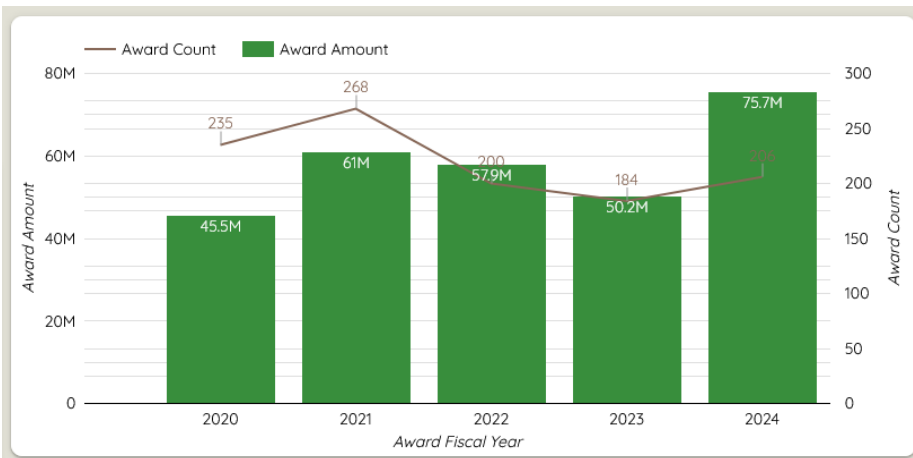


Breakthrough research in assisted reproduction by **Monika Ward, PhD** (Anatomy) and her team in the JABSOM Institute for Biogenesis Research demonstrated assisted reproduction of mice is possible without a Y chromosome gene.



Jesse Owens, PhD (Cell and Molecular Biology) is an early career stage investigator studying therapeutic gene delivery to the human genome awarded top tier funding for scientific discoveries from NIH. As a Hilo High School graduate, we are deeply proud of “growing our own” nationally spectacular scientists in Hawai‘i.

Over the last 5 years, award dollars have increased by over 50%.



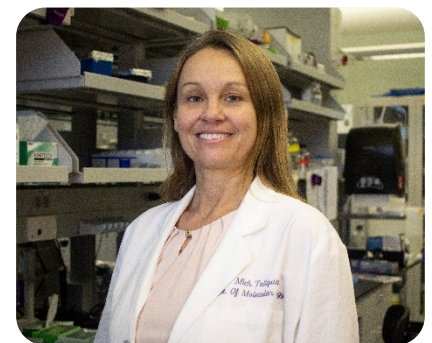
RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



Youping Deng, MD, PhD (Quantitative Health Sciences) increased JABSOM’s number of top-tier R01 grants with two awards investigating biomarkers in human blood for the early detection of lung cancer and breast cancer.



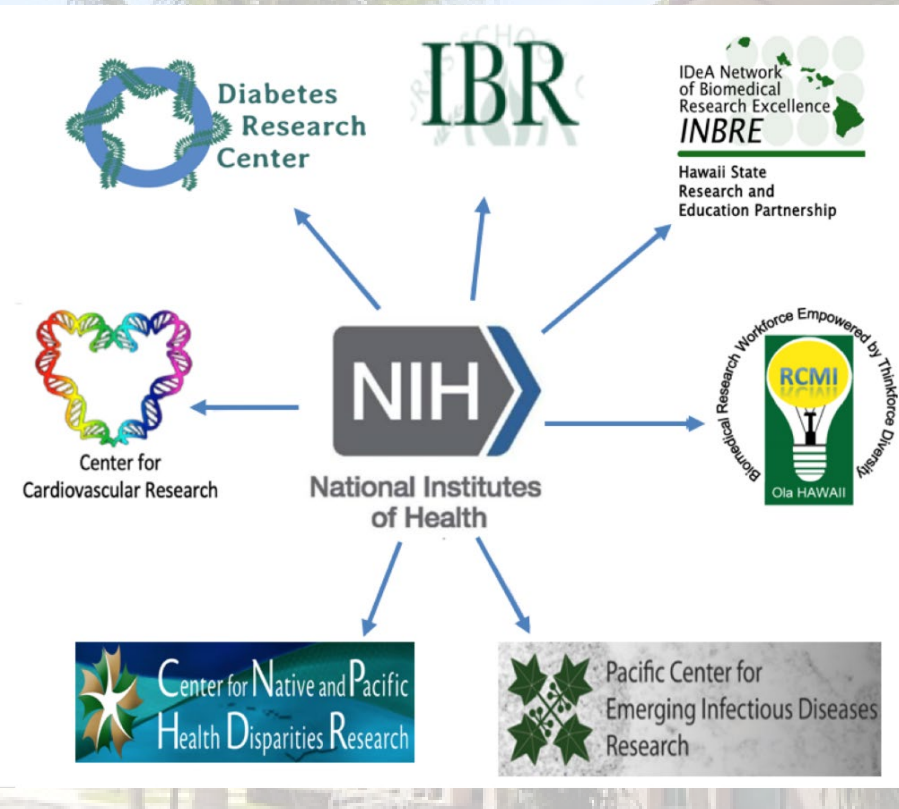
Marjorie Mau, MD (Native Hawaiian Health) specializing in Endocrinology and Diabetes, is Director of the Center for Native & Pacific Health Disparities Research. She has sustained independent funding for over 20 years and passionately mentors clinical researchers dedicated to improving the health of Native Hawaiians.



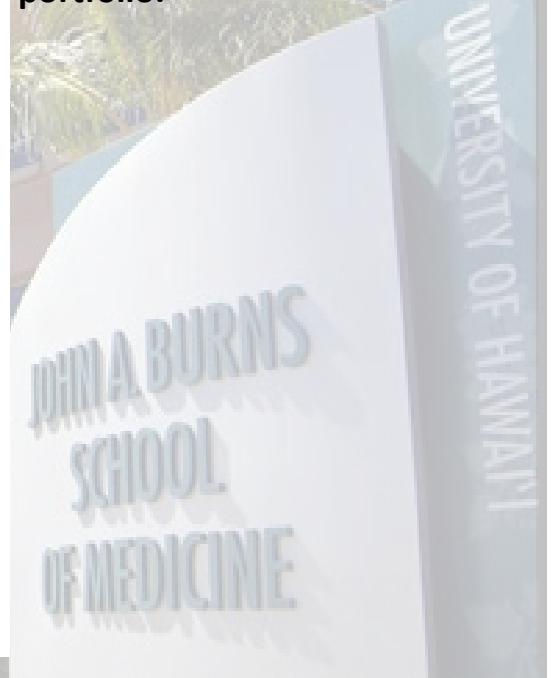
Michelle Tallquist, PhD (Medicine) and her team in the Center for Cardiovascular Research aim to repair fibrosis in the heart. The ability to repair damaged organs is improved through her team’s focus on the fibroblast populations present within the heart.

JABSOM Grants & Awards

UH benefits from our acquisition and management of several large infrastructure grants.



The National Institutes of Health is a key sponsor in our research portfolio.



JABSOM secured \$75.7 million in funding during fiscal year 2024, the highest amount recorded in JABSOM history.

We stimulate the economy and create jobs in Hawai'i by bringing funds into our state.

The research spending of JABSOM generated \$46.2 million in added income for the regional economy, which is equivalent to creating 399 new jobs, in 2019.

FY2024 Total Award by Sponsor Type

