



>>> HUAKA'I HUB <<<



**Everyone has a unique journey...
let us help you navigate yours.**



Aloha!
With summer winding down and students heading back to school, the classrooms are buzzing with activity! As many of you know, the JABSOM Huaka'i Initiative was launched in 2023 with a very simple purpose: to encourage and inspire youth to pursue careers in healthcare and science by connecting students, educators, and advisors with JABSOM faculty and community health partners to strengthen pathways for those interested in health and science.

As we jump into a new school year, we encourage your students to continue exploring and try something new! Whether it be attending a JABSOM tour with your class, checking out a teen health camp, volunteering in the hospital, or trying your hand at a research project, there is something for everyone! Check out our latest issue to see what's been going on around campus!



Jaimie Tom, M.D.
Associate Director of Admissions,
University of Hawai'i
John A. Burns School of Medicine
Lead, JABSOM Huaka'i Initiative
tomj@hawaii.edu



ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

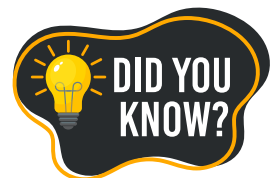
Summer may be ending, but not the opportunities to get involved! Take a look at some volunteering opportunities in store for you!

CLICK HERE



DID YOU KNOW?

When considering what health career is right for you, be sure to take into consideration the following: patient interaction, science requirements, and frequency of encountering bodily fluid!

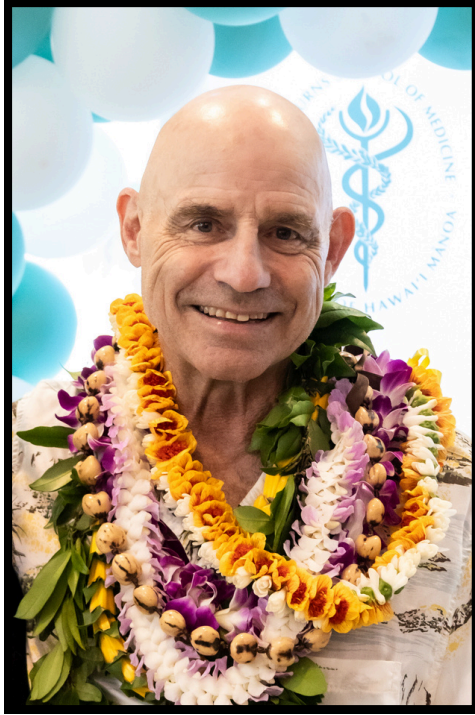


By: Lauren Nakamine
Senior Peer Leader
UHM PAC

Use [PAC's career grid](#) to better visualize where your desired health profession is on these scales

JABSOM NEWS

JABSOM's New Dean: Dr. Sam Shomaker



"This is a special place," Shomaker said. "It trains the healthcare workforce for this state and the whole Pacific region, so it's a crucial piece of the healthcare system of the state, and it's very gratifying and a great honor for me to have been asked to come back and assume the deanship."

On July 1, 2024, the John A. Burns School of Medicine welcomed its sixth Dean: Dr. Thomas Samuel Shomaker. Dean Shomaker is no stranger to the unique culture and opportunities here in Hawai'i. He is a 1986 JABSOM graduate and former vice dean of JABSOM from 2000 to 2005. He also served as the interim dean of the medical school from 2005 to 2006. He returns to the UH medical school after leading the Austin campus for the University of Texas Medical Branch and the Texas A&M Health Science Center.

During a public presentation, he outlined his top goals for JABSOM as he takes the reins: 1. To make JABSOM the best medical school in the Asia-Pacific region 2. To make JABSOM the best indigenous-serving medical school in the world and 3. To leverage JABSOM's unique location to develop research, business and health care connections with Asia and the Continental U.S.

"I am excited by the great potential of JABSOM, both in training the next generation of physicians for Hawai'i and in contributing to the diversification of our economy through our research program," said Shomaker. "I look forward to working with the faculty, staff and students of our school and our important clinical partners to make JABSOM all it can be for our state and its people."



Dean Shomaker is welcomed by the Department of Native Hawaiian Health with a traditional oli.



Dr. Lee Buenconsejo-Lum is acknowledged for her service during her term as the interim dean, after Dean Jerris Hedges retired in 2023.

JABSOM NEWS:

JABSOM Welcomes its 59th class: The Class of 2028!

WHITE COAT CEREMONY 2024



On July 26, 2024, the John A. Burns School of Medicine inducted the class of 2028 into the field of medicine with a time-honored tradition: The White Coat Ceremony. Seventy-seven students, surrounded by family, friends, and JABSOM faculty, celebrated this milestone in their academic journey in the auditorium at Kaimuki High School.

The White Coat Ceremony, founded in 1993, is a rite of passage for medical students across the country. During the ceremony, first-year students are donned with a prestigious white coat, formally signifying their entrance into the medical profession. To culminate this great accomplishment, students also recite the Hippocratic Oath. First attributed to the ancient Greek physician Hippocrates, this oath of ethics dictates the obligations of the physician to students of medicine and the duties of student to teacher. In this oath, a physician pledges to “prescribe only beneficial treatments, according to his/her abilities and judgment, to refrain from causing harm or hurt to patients, and to live an exemplary personal and professional life.”

Receiving the white coat means something different for each student. For some, it signifies the reward after a long road of studying and preparing. For others, the coat represents the beginning of a new chapter. Surely for all, the white coat is more than a badge of honor; it is a symbol of something much greater: a commitment to a lifetime of learning and service.

HUAKA'I SPOTLIGHT

Kauai Medical Training Track



The Kaua'i Medical Training Track (KMTT), established in 2022 through the generosity of Dr. Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg, is a unique scholarship opportunity granted to six incoming JABSOM medical students each year. This grant allows students to have an immersive learning experience on the island of Kaua'i. During this longitudinal program, students spend over a third of their medical training living and learning on the island of Kaua'i. They are able to establish deep connections with the patients and learn first-hand the unique needs and challenges facing rural communities. This scholarship program covers the cost of tuition as well as housing and travel expenses for students. In exchange, students are required to return to Kaua'i to serve the community as healthcare providers once they have completed their training.

Now in its third year, the KMTT has already made a significant impact on the residents of Kaua'i. During their time on Kaua'i, the students are engaged in activities both in and out of the medical facilities. From teaching kupuna about blood pressure monitoring at community health events to educating keiki about the importance of healthy choices, these students are all in! However, the benefits are mutually beneficial. The students also gain a lot from their patients. "The patients are always eager to let us learn from them, letting us practice our clinical skills on them," says Darcy Tokunaga (MS2). "They even offer to help us outside the clinic. They offer to fix things at the student house, bring us food, or give us rides." The local physicians also enjoy mentoring these doctors-in-training, showing them what makes working in this tight-knit community so special. As one provider shared with a student, "You can't serve a community until you serve in the community." This special bond comes from getting to know one another intimately as human beings, not just as physician and patient.

The majority of the students in the KMTT program are not from Kaua'i; in fact, only three students in the entire cohort are from the Garden Isle. So, what motivates these students to have a heart to serve rural communities? Many have family members that have been directly impacted by the physician shortages on the neighbor islands and are driven to make a



Kauai Medical Training Track

First year KMTT students



"The Kauai Medical Training Track provides a remarkable opportunity for medical students to learn about their patients in a longitudinal and holistic manner, allowing them to truly immerse themselves in Kaua'i's community and become part of the solution to Kaua'i's healthcare shortage," says Dr. Travis Hong, Director of Rural Health and a Kaua'i native himself.



Darcy Tokunaga MS2

(During her cardiology elective on Kaua'i)

"KMTT offers a unique opportunity to make a profound impact on individuals and communities where resources are often limited but the need is great. You get to know families and their histories, and your work often extends beyond the clinical setting to become a vital part of the community fabric. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn from the patients and physicians in Kauai and forge personal connections, leading to more meaningful and effective care."



Dylan Lawton (MS3)

"This program has allowed me to immerse myself in rural medicine and learn from a variety of individuals about how to provide the best care to the Kaua'i community— from various physicians to my own family members, whom I was able to reconnect with while training on island."

Jamie Emoto (MS3)

"I am honored to be a part of a program that allows for me to learn from the very community that I am to serve as a physician one day. The Kaua'i Medical Training Tract (KMTT) is a unique opportunity for those interested in Kaua'i's rural community to be able to integrate themselves into Kaua'i's way of life and culture early on in their medical education. The KMTT is built for students to learn and appreciate the needs of the people of Kaua'i to best serve them now as a student and in the future as a physician. Even as someone who was born and raised on Kaua'i, I have learned a great deal from this program in seeing my community through the lens of medicine, and I am excited to continue growing into a physician who will be able to help the people of Kaua'i."



HUAKA'I SPOTLIGHT

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Project Hōkūlani is an educational research project funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Native Hawaiian Education Program Grant. Their research team is housed at the Pacific Inclusive Education Research and Resources Institute on the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa campus. They serve Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Filipino youth and their families throughout Hawai'i, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. Their goal is to support middle and high school students into science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields through a year-long, culture-based and work-based program. Project Hōkūlani is available to high school students on O'ahu, Moloka'i, Lana'i, Kaua'i, and Hawai'i islands, including a summer program.

This summer, Project Hōkūlani collaborated with the Department of Native Hawaiian Health and JABSOM Huaka'i to provide a one-day workshop on campus. Students from around the island came to campus and had an opportunity to learn more about traditional healing and the healthcare field through medical problem solving, case simulation, and CPR/AED training.



Project Hōkūlani Summer Program students learning from traditional healers in the JABSOM Mala

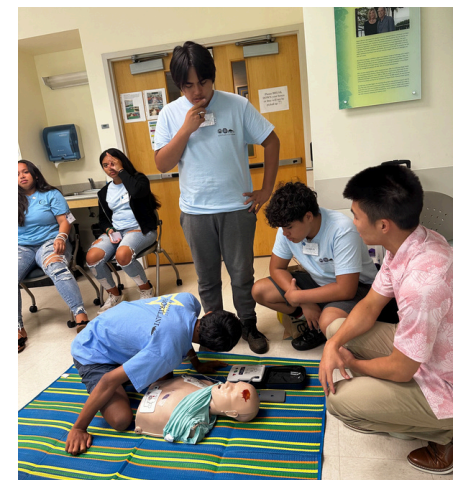


Project Hōkūlani Students practicing their critical thinking skills during a PBL session

**PROJECT
HŌKŪLANI**



**For more info, check
out their website**



Project Hōkūlani Students learning about healthcare roles and CPR/AED training with hands-on activities during their campus visit

JABSOM's Medical Student Mentorship Program (MSMP)

By: Lauren Nakamine
Senior Peer Leader
UHM PAC



Founded in 2002, JABSOM's Medical Student Mentorship Program (MSMP) is a student-led organization that pairs current JABSOM medical students with undergraduates interested in pursuing a career in medicine.

Together, pairs can meet virtually or in-person and attend various events throughout the year. These events include, but are not limited to, the annual student mixer/JABSOM tour, vital signs workshops, and medical student panels.

Through one-on-one meetings and interactions with their mentor, undergraduates feel more confident in their application and are reassured knowing they have a support system that has been through the rigorous application process. In addition to mentoring, the MSMP website includes helpful resources from MCAT strategies to shadowing opportunities.

Over the years, MSMP has paired more than 600 mentees with medical student mentors and hopes to continue to assist future generations of medical students and doctors.

click
here

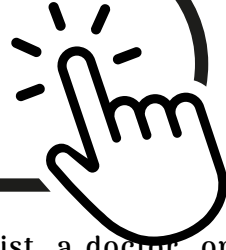
MSMP



STUDENT OPPORTUNITY!



ANATO-BEE



Have you ever wondered if you could become a nurse, a physical therapist, a doctor, or a clinical researcher? Well, you can, and the Anato-Bee can help! The Anato-Bee is a free high school outreach initiative aimed to promote education in anatomy, embryology, and histology. This national competition in the anatomical sciences is open to all high school students. The competition format makes for a fun, collaborative experience!

- Registration to participate is free.
- Online study resources are free.
- Bimonthly virtual tutoring sessions facilitated by second-year medical students are free.
- Virtual Human Dissector Software app (valued at more than \$250) will be provided to all students that register for free.

You can register and access these resources at www.anatobee.org.



There are two levels of competition. The first qualifying exam is a multiple-choice online exam held on January 25, 2025. Students who pass the qualifying exam will be invited to participate in the second level at one of four regional in-person competitions. The regional competitions will be held on March 8–9, 2025. Travel scholarships are available for students qualifying for the regional competition.

The top two students in each regional competition will receive a stipend (\$3,000 or \$1,500) to attend a summer STEM experience of their choosing. Last year's winners attended summer STEM programs at Harvard Medical School, Georgetown University, Stanford Medical School, and Drexel University College of Medicine.

“The Anato-Bee changed the course of my future, I would never have been able to attend this STEM experience at Harvard this summer. In addition, winning the Anato-Bee regional competition in Omaha this past spring, was pivotal in me being awarded a full tuition scholarship to the undergraduate institution I will be attending this fall in Texas, where I will be a pre-med major. “

2024 Northern Region winner



JOIN THE ANATO-BEE

An online virtual competition in anatomical sciences for high school students across the U.S.

Who should participate in the Anato-Bee?

Any high school student with a desire to be a Nurse, Doctor, Physical Therapist, Research Scientist, or more!

Registered participants will receive free tutoring, a free anatomy software study program, AND a chance to compete in the regional competitions for a \$3,000 scholarship for a summer STEM outreach experience.

We invite you to register for the Anato-Bee Competition January 25, 2025

GET CONNECTED...

By: Lauren Nakamine
Senior Peer Leader
UHM PAC

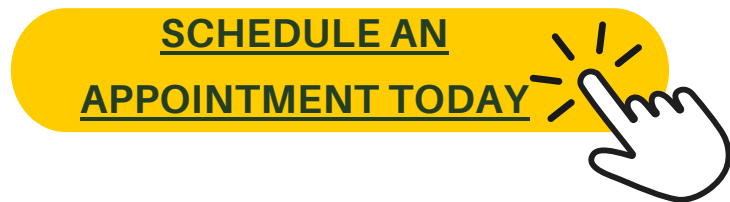
UH MĀNOA PRE-HEALTH/PRE-LAW ADVISING CENTER (PAC)



Whether you are looking to apply to UH Manoa or looking at other universities, **anyone** can schedule an appointment with a peer advisor! Together we will discover the best route to your career goals, choose classes and extracurriculars, and more!


Unable to find a time that works best for you? Get your questions answered via email uhpac@hawaii.edu

Check out our website for information on all pre-health careers and upcoming workshops and opportunities.



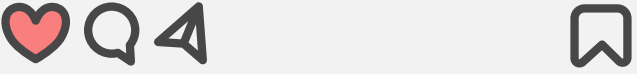

Click the link!





JABSOM GROUP TOURS 2024-2025

JABSOM Campus Tours are more than a walk around campus: it is an immersive experience where students get to participate in a wide range of hands-on activities that will get their creative juices flowing! Simulation lab, anatomy demos, PBL cases, forensic science activities, vital signs, suturing, and much more!



SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR TODAY!

Scan the QR code or
click the link
[JABSOM TOURS](#)



 <https://www.ahec.hawaii.edu>

PHCC

Hawaii Pre-Health Career Corps

Join Now



**TO BECOME A MEMBER:
PHCC WEBSITE**



<https://www.ahec.hawaii.edu/phcc/>
E: phccehawaii.edu
P: (808)375-7996

The Hawaii Pre-Health Career Corps is a free year-round program for individuals interested in pursuing careers in health.

Its purpose is to increase awareness about health careers, provide mentoring, shadowing, and research experiences, and provide campus exposure to health careers. This program is for students of any age who live in Hawaii or have ties to Hawaii.



We'll guide you through scholarship application and ways to pay for medical school



Academic advising, resume reviews, MCAT prep, and mock interviews



Learn clinical skills like suturing and casting at our workshops



Help finding research, volunteer, and internship opportunities