Global Health at the John A. Burns School of Medicine
Annual Report 2021

Office of Global Health and International Medicine
The John A. Burns School of Medicine's Office of Global Health and International Medicine (OGHIM) is directed by Gregory G. Maskarinec, PhD, within the Office of the Dean. OGHIM seeks to ensure that all international medical education activities of JABSOM faculty, staff and students are aligned with the school's mission, compliant with all accreditation body requirements, and within relevant legal parameters. We promote student appreciation of global issues that impact the health of patients and communities in Hawai'i and, pandemic permitting, we encourage students to gain experience in international health care settings.

As aspired to in the 1948 United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights (article # 25) we advocate that "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services."
OGHIM agrees with Lancet editor-in-chief Richard Horton that "Global health is about the universal nature of our human predicament. It is a statement about our commitment to health as a fundamental quality of liberty and equity."

Currently, 31 medical institutions in Pacific Rim countries have international student exchange memoranda of understanding (MOU) with JABSOM, though because of new UH administrative decisions, those that were "evergreen" (with no explicit expiration dates) must all now be terminated or renewed with a new memoranda of agreement (MOA) that includes additional legal provisions.

Our office has notified the following partner institutions that UH requires that we terminate our existing MOUs on 2/28/22 and hopefully establish a new MOA with:
- Akita University (Japan)
- Gifu University (Japan)
- Jikei University (Japan)
- Kanazawa Medical University (Japan)
- Kitasato University (Japan)
- Kobe University (Japan)
- Saga University (Japan)
- Showa University (Japan)
- St. Marianna University (Japan)
- Tokai University (Japan)
- Pusan National University (South Korea)
- Thammasat University (Thailand)
- The University of Newcastle (Australia)

We are renewing our agreements with the following institutions:
- Hamamatsu University (Japan)
- I-Shou University School of Medicine (Taiwan)
- Keio University (Japan)
- Kochi Medical School (Japan)
Nippon Medical School (Japan)
Noguchi Medical Research Institute (Japan)
Osaka Medical and Pharmaceutical University (Japan)
Tokyo Women's Medical University (Japan)
University of Ryukyus (Japan)
University of Tokyo (Japan)
Wakayama Medical University (Japan)
Mahidol University/Siriraj Hospital (Thailand)
Kaohsiung Medical University (Taiwan)
Taipei Medical University (Taiwan)
Universidad San Pablo-CEU (Spain)
University of Otago (New Zealand)
Jeju National University (South Korea)

Agreements have been renewed this fall that will expire on 11/9/26
   Hallym University (South Korea)
   Juntendo University (Japan)

Agreements have been renewed this fall that will expire on 12/6/26
   Kanazawa University (Japan)
   University of Santo Tomas (Philippines)
   Udayana University (Indonesia)

Our office will terminate the existing agreements on 2/28/22 with no plans to renew, as for the past ten years we have never sent to them nor received students from:
   Toho University (Japan)
   St. Luke’s College of Medicine (Philippines)

Major Issues
1. In response to the current coronavirus pandemic, OGHIM seeks to expand the options available to JABSOM students, residents and faculty to participate in virtual exchange rotations at medical schools and health care facilities throughout Asian Rim Countries and the Pacific.
2. OGHIM fosters cooperation with other divisions and departments in the UH System, including public health, nursing, social work, pharmacy and social sciences to develop an interdisciplinary community engaged in global health issues. Active JABSOM participation in the UH Systemwide Committee on Global Health and Social Justice and the Manoa International Committee advances this cooperation.

Goals
We are now organizing the second "Humanism, Empathy, Social Justice and Global Health" symposium for 16-18 February 2022 during Gold Humanism Week, with the generous financial support from Dr. Yoshihisa Asano and the Noguchi Medical Research Institute (NMRI), Japan. Attendance at the invited lectures on Wednesday afternoon will be required for all primary care residents (FM, Psych, OB and Peds) as well as all first and second year medical students.
On Friday 18 February we will host a poster session, for which Dr. Asano is providing cash prizes: One first prize for best poster; one second prize; two additional prizes,
divided by subcategories:
   Senior (UH Faculty, Fellows, MD/DO Residents, PhD Students, Out-of-State or International submissions), and
   Junior (UH Students (MD, RN, or Public Health (MA or BA)), or other In-State submissions).

Dr. Takami Sato, Chairman of the NMRI board of trustees (who will come from Philadelphia with Dr Pohl), will, in the possible absence of Dr Asano himself, award the prizes.

Invitations to participate, in person if the pandemic is well controlled, otherwise virtually, have been accepted by our four keynote speakers:

1) Dr Paul Farmer MD, PhD

Medical anthropologist and physician Paul Farmer has dedicated his life to improving health care for the world’s poorest people. He is Co-founder and Chief Strategist of Partners In Health (PIH), an international nonprofit organization that since 1987 has provided direct health care services and undertaken research and advocacy activities on behalf of those who are sick and living in poverty. Dr. Farmer and his colleagues in the U.S. and abroad have pioneered novel community-based treatment strategies that demonstrate the delivery of high-quality health care in resource-poor settings.

   His most recent book is *Fevers, Feuds, and Diamonds: Ebola and the Ravages of History*.

2) Dr. Kalamaoka'aaina Niheu MD

Dr. Kalamaoka'aaina Niheu is a Kanaka Maoli Family Physician and Associate Medical Director for COVID Response at LifeLong Medical Care. She is the Co-founder of the Standing Rock Healer’s Council and the Mauna Medic Healers Hui, and physician for Onipa’a Na Hui Kalo, a Hawai‘i-wide coalition for the revitalization

3) Dr. Charles Pohl MD

Dr. Charles Pohl MD

Executive Director, Jefferson Japan Center City Campus Chancellor; Director, The Asano-Gonnella Center for Research in Medical Education and Health Care.

Dr. Charles Pohl is the Executive Director of the Jefferson Japan Center, aimed at promoting medical education and humanistic care in Japan and the United States. As Center City Campus Chancellor, he is responsible for developing and executing campus strategy and overseeing the breadth of campus life with a particular focus on the multi-dimensional student experience, community and external engagement, alumni relations, philanthropy and legislative affairs.

Dr. Pohl, a professor of pediatrics, is also Vice Dean for student affairs at Sidney Kimmel Medical College (formerly known as Jefferson Medical College) and Director of the Asano-Gonnella Center for Research in Medical Education and Health Care. He is the Chair for the Group of Student Affairs (GSA) for the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), Chair of the AAMC GSA Medical Student Performance Evaluation Effective Practices Working Group, and previous Chair of the National Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) Advisory Council. His impact on medical education, pediatrics and medicine has been lauded by his induction to the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society and the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.

4) Dr. Sheryl Recinos MD

Sheryl Recinos, MD, MAEd, is a Family Medicine hospitalist working in Los Angeles, California. She is a graduate of Ross University School of Medicine and completed her
residency training at Riverside University Health Systems in California. She holds bachelor's degrees in Cell and Molecular Biology, Sociology, and a Master's degree in Education. Dr. Recinos is the author of an award-winning memoir about surviving youth homelessness, *Hindsight: Coming of Age on the Streets of Hollywood*. She advocates for young people in foster care, the juvenile justice system, and youth experiencing homelessness.

**Additional Goals of OGHIM**

1. Continue to develop a cross-residency didactic curriculum on global health to support a "global health experience" available to all primary care residents, including pre-departure training and post-rotation debriefings.
2. Support faculty positions with expertise in global health to accompany students and residents on international rotations.
3. Support capacity-building at clinical sites in Asia and the Pacific Rim, through bidirectional exchanges, shared education, and research partnerships.
4. Increase research opportunities across the UH System on global health topics, including implementation of protocols in low-resource settings across vast geographic areas with emphasis on tropical diseases.

**Significant Achievements of JABSOM OGHIM in 2021**

1. In February, Drs. Ben Berg and Gregory Maskarinec were featured along with Dr. Akiyoshi Ogimoto of Uwajima Hospital in a NKV Japanese Television special regarding the 20th anniversary of the catastrophic sinking of the Ehime Maru fishing training vessel by a US submarine off the Hawaiian coast near Kaka'ako that resulted in the deaths of four high-school students, two teachers, and three crew members. Uwajima is now a partner city with Honolulu, and OGHIM along with SimTiki, OME, and GHHS is working to strengthen ties with the hospital there.

2. Inter-residency Global Health Didactics, for residents of JABSOM Departments of Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Psychiatry and OB-GYN continue twice a year. Presentations in 2021 were:
   24 March
   - COVID-19 and Mental Health, Anthony Guerrero, MD.
   - Overview of Infectious Disease in Hawai‘i and the Pacific, Joel Brown, MD.
   - COVID-19 Vaccine Equity, Joshua Freeman, MD.
   - Overview of Health in Burma, Dr. Mya Moe Hla and Seiji Yamada presenting on behalf of a Burmese physician.
   22 September
   - "Trailblazing a Path in Global Women's Health: Mentorship, Partnerships and Passion," Roopan Gill, MD
   - HIV Treatment Technical Advisor in the Division of Global HIV and TB at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Rituparna Pati, MD MPH; co-speaker Dr. Eunice Mmari, Associate Director of CDC Programs in Tanzania.
   - "The Long Voyage to TB Elimination in the Marshall Islands," Richard Brostom, MD; co-presenting with Dr. Frank Underwood, RMI (Public Health Medical Chief).
3. Virtual International Medical School Exchange with Showa University, Japan on 24 September, including an overview of both schools' methods of teaching and an introduction to PBL by students of JABSOM's "Global Health Interest Group" (GHIG).

4. We supported Hawaii Tokai International College Medical Student training in August 2021. The JABSOM "Partnership in Social Justice" organized volunteer MS-1s to serve as standardized patients each of four nights, 16-19 August, earning the group an honorarium of $1344 for their participation.

5. Dr. Junji Machi continues to oversee the Hawaii Medical Education Program (HMEP) for the sixth year, in which 13 Japanese Medical Schools participate, with 899 students registered. On 30 Saturdays throughout 2021, using ZOOM, the HMEP Open Cross Classes were held. Online e-learning materials were provided to HMEP students, while Dr. Machi remotely visited 10 Japanese medical schools over one year to do conferences and promote HMEP. Approximately 20 students from various schools did JABSOM-style HMEP Clinical Clerkship in Japan at the International Hospital in Japan (Shizuoka Medical Center) this year.

6. Dr. Machi continues to oversee the Okinawa Chubu Hospital (OCH) UH Postgraduate educational program, with a contract between UH and the Okinawa government to continue this program for 2 years (2019-2021). The 54th Graduation ceremony was held on March 19, 2021. Dr. Machi participated by video. A total of three short-term consultants (US board certified) visited Okinawa for teaching from the mainland of Japan. Three consultants from UH or other US institutes did Web (Zoom) interactive conferences for Okinawa Chuburesidents. OCH Residency Future Advisory Committee meeting is held once or twice a year (by Zoom) and the OCH Alumni seminar was held twice this year in Okinawa (by Zoom). Dr. Machi is supposed to visit Okinawa twice a year (March and October); however, actual visits were not possible during this period and Zoom meetings were held instead.

7. Resident/physician visitor support (observation at UH) through JABSOM - JrSr Corporation: one Japanese resident had observation training in Internal Medicine. There were no visitors from March 2020 to October 2021 due to Covid-19.

8. There was continuing collaboration and support by way of Zoom conferences between several OGH and Japanese organizations, including JADECOM, Muribushi Group, Nichiiken Group, and Gumma Paz.

9. UH faculty and US mainland Zoom seminars on general Internal Medicine by Dr. Gerald Stein (University of Florida) for Japanese residents in February, June and November 2021.

10. Three short-term physician consultants were sent to Okinawa Chubu Hospital.
11. During the pandemic, OGH established a solid distance-learning platform with overwhelmingly positive feedback from both the lecturers and the participants. We successfully increased the number of overall enrollments across all programs, as well as the number of participants attending each seminar/class, compared to in-person classes that we offered in the past.

12. Hawaii International Teaching Hospital in Shizuoka saw more medical students participating in credited clinical rotations (20 students). Postgraduate specialty training saw a sharp increase as well (10 residents). Two graduates started UH Surgery and UH IM residency, and one started SUNY FM residency.

12. We started Fiscal year 2021-2022 with 30 planned HMEP Open Cross Class lectures, with several newly recruited lecturers from JABSOM and Oregon Health & Science University. Average registration for each live class is around 100, ranging from 1st year medical students to clinical professors. Post lecture videos are distributed to each registered school or hospital, resulting in thousands of viewers for each lecture. HMEP lecturers who are U.S. physicians and Hawaii alumni include: Dr. Keiichi Kobayashi (St. Luke's clinic, UH Internal Medicine), Dr. Miki Purnell, Dr. Gautam Deshpande (UH/Kuakini hospitalist), Dr. Joel Branch, Dr. Shinji Ito (UH IM and Geriatrics alumni), Dr. Makoto Uchiyama (relocating to Hawaii Pacific Health next year), Dr. Shigeki Fujitani (UH IM alumni), Dr. Masayuki Nogi (QMC hospitalist), and Dr. Emi Saegusa-Beecroft.

13. In collaboration with JrSr, free seminars were offered by U.S. faculty volunteers (e.g. Emergency Medicine and a PBL workshop by former UH faculty Dr. Gerald Stein.)
14. JrSr - OGH Special Lecture series provides a glimpse into U.S. Medical Education (medical School, residency, and fellowship), healthcare system, Emergency Medicine System, PBL Clinical Reasoning workshops, Global Health topics, Cultural differences in Healthcare, Medical English Workshop, Diversity and Inclusion, Healthcare disparity in the world, art in medicine, communication skills, etc., with an emphasis on humanism and empathy. Invitations are shared with over 3,000 medical students, residents, staff physicians, and faculty across Japan through the JrSr Mailing list.

Drs. Saegusa-Beecroft & Machi meeting with former UH geriatric fellows.

15. As part of the youth-outreach objective to encourage young junior high school and high school students to consider pursuing a career in the medical field, we created a JrSr YouTube channel where Dr. Machi interviews physicians, other healthcare providers, and non-medical colleagues who share their personal experiences, including failures and triumphs throughout their careers. Dr. Machi’s seminar is titled "A message for young physicians, including goal-oriented career planning and pursuing medical residency in the U.S."

16. We offered two free seminars, with approximately 600 registrations (max capacity of our Zoom subscription plan is 300), signifying the high demand for informational sessions on international training.

17. As there is applying to the U.S. Residency informational sessions is based on high demand, we offered two interactive small-group based USMLE preparation seminars. We also offered two career-planning seminars with a one-on-one interview opportunity with Dr. Machi.

18. Dr. Miki Purnell provided a zoom lecture for the Japanese general public titled "Planetary Health" on 4/10/2021.

Publications
- 2020f. 'What are the practical steps that we in medicine can take against racism?' Seiji Yamada and Gregory G. Maskarinec. Medicine and Social Justice blog, https://medicinesocialjustice.blogspot.com

Office of Medical Education (OME)
The Office of Medical Education’s International Programs, formerly the Program for Medical Education in East Asia (PMEEA), works with a broad network of medical educators throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Through workshops, personal consultations, visitations, and other educational opportunities, OME fosters professional development of medical faculty and the enhancement of medical students’ total educational experience.

Significant Achievements/Highlights of the Year
1. The on-going global pandemic has significantly impacted the Office of Medical Education’s international programs. The following annual international activities were cancelled in response to the COVID-19 crisis: Learning Clinical Reasoning student workshop, usually held in March at JABSOM, the MD5 Pacific Basic Experience, and the Japan elective. Usually this elective is held for two weeks in July at three different sites: Kochi Medical School, Osaka Medical College, and Saga University School of Medicine. Eleven JABSOM MS2 students are usually selected for this elective. Also cancelled were the Summer Medical Education Institute student workshop, usually scheduled for one week in August at JABSOM, our Problem Based Learning (PBL) Hawaii Style faculty workshop, usually held for 3.5 days in October at JABSOM and the Hawaii International Clinical Teaching Workshop for Ibaraki Prefecture physicians, usually held for 2 days in October at JABSOM.

2. As the 2020-2021 Hawaii-Okinawa Medical Education Fellowship Program in person final project & closing session at JABSOM was cancelled, we held a modified version via Zoom in May 2021. As the 2021-2022 Hawaii-Okinawa Medical Education Fellowship Program opening session at the University of the Ryukyus, in June was also cancelled, we held a modified version in July 2021.
3. Other activities now on hold include in-person international activities at JABSOM and Yokohama City University School of Medicine (YCU). We collaborated a pilot, virtual two half day PBL Hawaii Style activity in March 2021 for four YCU students and 6 JABSOM MS1 students. The activity was a success, and we plan to hold a similar virtual activity in March 2022.

4. There were two Dr. Yoshihisa Asano Humanism in Medicine Speaker Series talks with the MS1s during MD2:
   - Dynamic Community Solutions for the homelessness panel;
   - A patient panel from Hawaii’s National Alliance on Mental Illness spoke to the MS2s in October during MD6 on mental health awareness.

Hawai'i/Pacific Basin Area Health Education Center (AHEC)
AHEC’s mission is to improve the health of the underserved through education. There are three main activity areas:
(1) Recruiting students to health professions from kindergarten through second
careers;
(2) Educating health professions students in the rural and underserved communities of Hawai‘i and the Pacific, often in inter-professional teams;
(3) Recruiting health care professionals to rural and undeserved areas and providing continuing education.
We also conduct the physician workforce assessment for the state of Hawaii, as well as assist with workforce assessments for other medical professions and other parts of the Pacific Basin.

![Image of healthcare professionals](MD5_AHEC_2019_photo_of_Tyler_Thorne_and_Maiya_Smith_with_Dr._Greg_Dever)

**Significant Achievements/Highlights of the Year**
The ongoing global pandemic put a pause on the Rural Health Training Initiative/Pacific Experience that allows interprofessional groups of students from the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Social Work, Public Health, Pharmacy, and Family Medicine Residency to work in the Pacific Basin and Neighbor Islands together for a month or more. In the past year, students have not been able to travel to the Pacific but have traveled to neighbor island sites on solo rotations.
AHEC is currently developing interprofessional simulation experiences for students and professionals to train together for rural experiences. We expect to restart the Pacific Experience during the summer of 2022. Student teams should be able to travel to American Samoa, Guam, Taiwan, Palau, and Pohnpei to perform community research projects and preceptorship experiences.

**SimTiki Simulation Center**
SimTiki is the accredited simulation-based healthcare education center at JABSOM. SimTiki is an Educational Support activity conducted under the Office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Office of the Dean.

**Mission**
Providing Local and Global Healthcare Leadership for Turning Technology into Teaching.

**Vision**
SimTiki is the technology enabled learning simulation center of the John A Burns School of Medicine. SimTiki supports excellence in simulation-based education for healthcare students and professionals through teaching and operation of an academic simulation center. We pursue alliances locally, nationally, and in the Asia Pacific.
region. SimTiki promotes improvement in Teaching, Educational Research, and Training for Patient Care Best Practices.

SimTiki Simulation Center supports international participants in three program categories:
1) SimTiki Courses: Short-Term International group programs/Courses [2 to 14-day duration]
2) Sim-Tiki Academy: intermediate term individual participant programs [1-12 weeks]
3) J1 visa programs:
   a) SimTiki in-residence Fellowship [1-2 year]
   b) SimTiki in-residence International Scholar Program [1 Year]

International programs include a variety of short courses for educators and healthcare providers, and an in-residence research scholar fellowship of 1-2 year duration under the J1-Visa program. Short term in-residence programs of one week to several months duration are focused on faculty development in simulation based education methods, and clinical skills training for international learners. Outreach educational programs have been conducted throughout the Asia-Pacific region, including Philippines, Japan, China, Thailand, Korea, and Malaysia.

**Significant Achievements/Highlights of the 2021 year**
1. International fellows from Korea (5) and Japan (4) were enrolled in the J1 visa fellowship program during 2021. Despite significant COVID restrictions the program expanded to the greatest # of participants in any one year since inception in 2007.
2. During 2021 a second J1 Visa international scholar pathway was announced and recruited a full cohort of 5 registrants for matriculation in early 2022.
3. International fellows participated in research and curriculum development projects which produced 4 published manuscripts during CY 2021.

Dr. Yuka Eto, a SimTiki fellow from Hokkaido, Japan, was awarded a competitive scholarship to attend the International Meeting of Simulation in Healthcare (IMSH) in January 2022 where she will present her work on transitioning a face to face international faculty development program for Japanese educators to an on-line hybrid
format. She has a UH IRB protocol pending approval.

Dr. Juok Park a SimTiki fellow from South Korea mentored a JABSOM Medical Student, Krystal Anderson, in a Scoping Review project regarding distance facilitation. An abstract is accepted for IMSH. Dr. Park has completed a Linguistic and Cultural Validity Testing of a Korean translation of the PEARLS debriefing framework. The project has been published on the www.debrief2learn.org website and is a UH IRB approved protocol.

Dr. Eri Sato is a SimTiki fellow from Tokyo Japan. She has completed a IRB approved project regarding harmonization of cultural differences in the Promoting Excellence and Reflective Learning in Simulation (PEARLS) Debriefing Tool for Japan; a linguistic and cultural translation of the PEARLS debriefing framework. It is published to the www.debrief2learn.org, is an approved UH IRB protocol and an abstract is accepted for IMSH.

Machiko Yagi RN, PhD is a SimTiki fellow from Tokyo Japan who developed a comprehensive Japanese Language learning management platform system for the new SimTiki collaborative FunSim-J Online faculty development curriculum. Her grant funded research from Japan supported this endeavor.

**SimTiki On-site International Programs**
The SimTiki simulation center had a curtailed on-site international program schedule this year due to COVID restrictions abroad and in Hawaii. Fellowship activities highlighted in this report constitute the on-site international programs which were sustained.

**SimTiki Off-site International Programs**
The SimTiki simulation center had a curtailed off-site international program schedule this year due to COVID restrictions abroad and in Hawaii. No off-site international programs were conducted in the face to face format. Dr. Berg, the SimTiki Director, participated in four remotely conducted international conferences as an invited speaker:

- Taipei Medical University Conference for Education in Medical Simulation
- Malaysian Society for Simulation in Healthcare
- Japan Society for Medical Education annual Conference – Keynote
- Maruko General Hospital Annual Simulation Symposium

**SimTiki Distance Learning International Programs**
Monthly international academic Journal Club by Sim-Tiki by video conference included participants from Japan, Korea, China, Vietnam, and Thailand. 15-20 participants joined on a regular basis.

**Fundamental Simulation Instructional Methods**
“FunSIM” is a 2-day faculty development course for healthcare instructors seeking to improve simulation-based education skills. FunSim has been conducted 35 times in Japan by SimTiki JABSOM faculty and University of the Ryukyus colleagues in Japan including graduated SimTiki fellows. Due to COVID restrictions no face to face courses
were conducted this year. The program was transitioned to a pilot on-line program in 2020. In 2021 the program was conducted three times and attracted more participants than we have ever had in a single face-to-face course over the past 13 years. To maintain quality and appropriate faculty to student ratios the course size for each iteration was limited to 15 participants in 2021. 45 participants and 6 Japanese faculty joined the blended learning program, including SimTiki fellows who played several key roles, as instructors, coordinators, and standardized learners for remote role play exercises. This program was originally designed as a contingency program born of necessity but proved to be a highly successful model which is now incorporated in our regularly scheduled International program offerings.

Remote Facilitation & Debriefing

SimTiki Studios - video production for FSJO e-learning
Department of Native Hawaiian Health (DNHH)

Significant Achievements/Highlights of the Year
In NHH 545 (Senior Elective in Native Hawaiian Health) four students did their elective on Hawai‘i Island, after properly quarantining. Because of the pandemic, many talks were recorded and are now online and available to the students, with much richness in Native Hawaiian history, culture and traditional medicines. These recordings were not available prior, but include many of the main kumu (teachers), the holders of cultural knowledge, and now accessible to all. There were also another group of three students who were able to work in Hilo and on Oahu at both the North Shore as well as the new Kaiser clinic in Kapolei, Kipukaoha. There was also one who did his reading while on Oahu and put together a huaka‘i to Kahoolawe, to include eight of his senior classmates, six of whom are Native Hawaiian. Their reflections as well as those of the faculty who went, Drs. Martina Kamaka and Dee-Ann Carpenter, will be included in the next NHCOE newsletter.

Because of the pandemic, DNHH was unable to hold the usual community sessions, including Ho‘okuikahi i Pu‘ukohola, Ka Moku o Keawe Makahiki, first aid at the Aloha Week Parade or Papakolea health and blood pressure screenings (as lomilomi sessions were also put on hold) or the Papakolea Health Fair.

Department of Psychiatry

Significant Achievements/Highlights of the Year

Grants/Contracts
1. Dr. Sara Haack, Dr. Caitlin Engelhard, and their team have collaborated with providers at the Kosrae Community Health Center in Kosrae, Federated States of Micronesia on a behavioral health integration project. This is Department of Psychiatry’s fourth year working with Kosrae on Behavioral Health Integration. The aims of the project include:
   - Completion of World Health Organization’s Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP training);
   - Implementation of the Collaborative Care Program in Kosrae Community Health Center, with psychiatric consultation by University of Hawai‘i psychiatrists;
   - Training in Motivational Interviewing.

   They hope to initiate a behavioral health integration program with the Wa‘ab Community Health Center in Yap, Federated States of Micronesia.

2. Mr. Davis Rehuher was awarded a grant for “Preparing for College: Practices, Strategies, and Tips from Micronesian College Students,” from the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access and Success (IDEAS), Office of Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity (SEED), University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. The objectives of the grant are:
   - Identify activities, practices, and strategies recommended by Micronesian college students on preparing for and staying in college;
   - Develop a Getting into College 101 type guide for Micronesian families, based on objective 1;
• Using this research project as a vehicle, recruit, train, and mentor University of Hawai‘i students who are sensitive and knowledgeable about NHPIs, including Micronesians.

  Tulpe Timothy (KCHC behavioral health nurse) and Dr. Caitlin Engelhard

  KCHC team members with Dr. Sara Haack and Dr. Asad Ghiasuddin

  Completion of World Health Organization’s Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP) training

  One of the KCHC clinic locations (Utwe)
They hope to initiate a behavioral health integration program with the Wa‘ab Community Health Center in Yap, Federated States of Micronesia.

**Peer-Reviewed Publications**


**Book Chapters**


Presentations
• Goebert, D., Agustin, M., & Garcia, B. (2021, September 22). Inspiring hope though sources of strength among a Pacific Islander community. Presented (virtually) at the International Association for Suicide Prevention 31st World Congress, Queensland, Australia.
• Sugimoto-Matsuda, J., & Goebert, D. (2021, September). 25% by 2025: Story of the design, implementation and evaluation of Hawai‘i’s Suicide Prevention Plan. Presented (virtually) at the International Association for Suicide Prevention 31st World Congress, Queensland, Australia.

Non-Peer-Reviewed Publications

Other Noteworthy Initiatives
Drs. Sugimoto-Matsuda and Goebert are working with the Pacific Team of the International Association for Suicide Prevention (Lead: Greg Armstrong) to engage countries globally around strategic planning. They will help countries establish a strategic plan for suicide prevention, or strengthen it, if they already have one.

Department of Geriatric Medicine
Significant Achievements/Highlights of the Academic Year (July 2019 to present)
1) Department of Geriatric Medicine faculty were co-authors on five abstracts presented at international conferences, including the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference in Amsterdam, Netherlands in July 2020; the Sleep 2021 Conference held Virtually in June 2021; the International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society Congress held Virtually in September 2021; and the International
Symposium on Atherosclerosis in Kyoto, Japan in October 2021.

2) Department of Geriatric Medicine faculty published manuscripts based on work in the Pacific Islands:


3) Faculty in the Department of Geriatric Medicine participated in *Tausi Feagaiga* (Covenant Keeper), a five-year project in American Samoa funded by the Administration for Native Americans from 2015-2020. The goal of this project is to increase the capacity of family and non-family caregivers to properly care for their own loved ones in the home and empower them with additional skills and knowledge to obtain employment in the home healthcare field. Monthly webinars were conducted to promote distance learning. The Hope House, an old aged home, operated by the Catholic Diocese, serves as a practicum site for participants to practice their skills. In January 2019, geriatrics faculty provided a 5-day Caregiver Training to 19 participants in American Samoa. The previous cohort served as co-trainers. Training was also conducted January 10th to 16th, 2020, and 30 community caregivers were trained in family caregiving. This included a caregiver creativity workshop, where a video was produced featuring caregiver poems and songs. Technical assistance was provided on developing a certified nursing assistant (CNA) certificate with American Samoa Community College for the participants. Technical assistance and advocacy were provided for sustainability of Hope House to be reimbursed under Medicaid. Multiple meetings in Years 3 - 5 were conducted with the Department of Human Services with the goal of making Hope House a Medicaid provider under Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The American Samoa State Medicaid plan would need to be expanded to include long-term support services. The state plan amendment would add assisted living facilities and personal care services coverage, which would include home care giving in American Samoa. In 2020, Hope House was registered as a Medicaid Assisted Living Facility Provider. Reimbursement and coverage of services would include activities of daily living (ADLs) and instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs) such as assisting with ambulation, bathing, dressing, meal preparation and home making services. Data over 5 years have been analyzed and a manuscript is in process for submission to the journal *Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health*.

4) Our Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP, HRSA grant) has been extended for additional years of funding. Through this grant, we provided training in geriatrics in the Pacific Islands:

- We have created a Dyphagia training video for patients and caregivers. In
addition to English, the video has been translated into Ilocano, Samoan, and Chuukese, and all are available on YouTube. Our partners at Mountain Pacific Quality Health (MPQH) are helping to disseminate publicity about these videos to the Pacific Islands area. Video links: 
http://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/gwep/

- We have a strong collaboration with MPQH on their Diabetes Curriculum by enhancing the geriatrics and dementia content. MPQH has conducted trainings using this curriculum in Hawaii, Guam, and American Samoa.
- We have built a partnership and collaboration with the Palau Community College, and they have agreed to offer 2 courses per year of the Family Caregiver Training Certificate in 2020 and 2021. Unfortunately, the 2020 courses were postponed because of COVID-19 and were moved to 2021. They also plan to produce a video in Palau about hands-on caregiving skills.
- We have built a partnership and collaboration with the Yap AHEC, and they have agreed to offer 2 courses per year of the Family Caregiver Training Certificate in 2022 and 2023.
- GWEP faculty have continued to work with the AHEC on educational activities. The Geriatrics ECHO monthly tele-education series has been very successful, with participants from Guam and Palau.
- GWEP faculty and staff have been actively working with the Guam GWEP, offering advice and assistance. Guam faculty and staff are also invited to all our ECHO series.
- Dementia Friends training to the Guam GWEP is in progress via Zoom. Dementia Friends champion training has been postponed because of COVID.

Department of Anatomy, Biochemistry and Physiology (ABP)

Webinars in Forensic Anthropology
Dr. Robert Mann, Adjunct Professor of ABP, organized four webinars in Forensic Anthropology using the Mann-Labrash Osteological Collection in the Bioscience Building, JABSOM. Researchers in Thailand, Italy, Germany, Cyprus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Germany, Greece, Kosovo, Sweden, Thailand, and United Kingdom, participated in the webinars.

- March 17, 2021. “Introduction to Forensic Anthropology and Odontology.” Key speaker, live webinar from JABSOM, for the Faculty of Medicine, Department of Forensic Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Thailand.
- August 2-4, 2021: “The Human Skeleton in Forensic Anthropology and Medicine: An Introduction to our Bones.” Live webinar from JABSOM. International participant from Germany.
- September 27-29, 2021: “Advanced Forensic Anthropology and Clinical Orthopaedics.” Live webinar from JABSOM. Co-taught with orthopaedic surgeon Dr. Paul Moroz. International participants from Cyprus, Bosnia and
The International Hawaii Cardiovascular Symposium (IHCVS) in 2021 was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We plan to have the 5th IHCVS in February, 2022.

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Women’s Health

**Significant Achievements/Highlights of the Year**
The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Women’s Health has continued to maintain and foster relationships with providers in American Samoa, Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia. Given the travel limitations due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the department is working on strategies to expand telehealth capacity to continue to work with other providers across the Pacific.

Drs. Shandhini Raidoo and Bliss Kaneshiro worked with the American Civil Liberties Union to challenge two laws that restricted access to medication abortion via telehealth in Guam, where there have been no abortion providers since 2018. A federal court issued a preliminary injunction blocking these laws, and Drs. Raidoo and Kaneshiro will begin providing medication abortion via telehealth to people in Guam in 2022.

Department of Medicine

**Significant Achievements/Highlights of the Year**
Dr. Deshpande zoomed in from Tokyo, to compare the approaches -- and the outcomes -- in the US and in Japan.

Distance learning will give us an opportunity to learn from many more speakers. We hope to schedule some of the speakers from GH inter-residency conferences to address our audience.
Department of Tropical Medicine, Medical Microbiology and Pharmacology

Significant Achievements/Highlights of the Year
The Northern Pacific Global Health (NPGH) Research Fellows Training Consortium (sponsored by the National Institutes of Health [NIH] Fogarty International Center): This five-year program, from 2012 to 2017 was renewed for additional five years (2017-2022). Renewal application (2022-2026) was submitted in August 2021. This program led by Dr. Vivek R. Nerurkar has provided fellowship and scholarship funding for international training in Thailand, Cameroon, Liberia and India to JABSOM postdoctoral trainees, JABSOM scholar trainees, international postdoctoral trainees, and international scholar trainees since 2012. The NPGH research projects have included clinical studies on dengue virus, malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and qualitative research on transgender populations in Thailand. One Tropical Medicine graduate student was awarded the NPGH fellowship to conduct Lassa virus research in Liberia.

The department was awarded a NIH/Fogarty International Center D71 grant entitled, “SUSTAINABLE RESEARCH TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR EMERGING EPIDEMIC VIRUSES IN LIBERIA” to conduct collaborative research training with faculty and researchers at the University of Liberia (UL). The goal is to develop sustainable research capacity for early identification and control of emerging viral diseases with the potential for regional and global pandemics. UH faculty, Dr. Vivek R. Nerurkar (JABSOM), Dr. Axel Lehrer (JABSOM) and Dr. John Berestecky (KCC) traveled to Liberia in early February 2018 to jump start the funded grant related activities. Additional coordination was conducted organized in conjunction with annual GID (Fogarty International Center) and PREVAIL (NIAID) sponsored meetings in Monrovia attended by Drs. Lehrer and Berestecky in early 2019 and 2020. In early 2019, Drs. Berestecky and Lehrer also helped coordinate installation of the new mobile laboratory units on the University of Liberia Fendall campus. Further activities sponsored by this planning grant included several research/coordination trips by Dr. Berestecky including two summer research projects conducted by graduate student Brien Haun during the summers of 2018 and 2021 to train Liberia students and operationalize the new laboratory site on the University of Liberia Fendall campus (in 2021).

Puipuia le Ola: Among the highest COVID-19-associated morbidity and mortality rates in the United States are found in non-Native Hawaiian Pacific Islanders (PI), defined as the indigenous people of the three territories of the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands (Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa) and persons of the sovereign nations that have a Compact of Free Association treaty with the U.S. (the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Republic of Palau). PI also suffer from higher rates of medical co-morbidities (obesity, hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular disease) known to increase the risk of poor COVID-19 outcomes. Moreover, PI suffer from poor access to health care, lack medical insurance, live in multi-generational, overcrowded housing, and have low-paying service jobs that put them in frequent contact with the
infected public. Hawaii is now experiencing another surge in COVID-19, with a doubling of positive SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic tests from 1% to 2%. From the very onset of COVID-19 in Hawaii, PI have been disproportionately affected, leading all other ethnic groups. The latest figures, available from the Hawaii Department of Health on May 3, 2021, show that while PI comprise only 4% of the State’s population, they account for 20% of COVID-19 cases (Fig. 1), 29% of COVID-19 hospitalizations (Fig. 2), and 22% of COVID-19 deaths (Fig. 3). Of great concern is that many of the COVID-19 cases are among individuals younger than 50 years of age (Fig. 4). On Guam, indigenous Chamorro and immigrant Micronesians represent the majority of COVID-19 cases. These underserved PI communities are in urgent need of culturally appropriate COVID-19 response measures.

https://manoa.hawaii.edu/puipuia/about

STEP-UP (Dr. George Hui): Short-term research experience for underrepresented (STEP-UP) minority high school students (sponsored by National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases: This NIH funded grant in its 14th year was successfully renewed for the third consecutive 5-year cycle (2017-2022). The goal of the program is to raise awareness of biomedical research and career pathways in underrepresented minority high school students in the Pacific region, specifically US affiliated territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Palau. Seventy-five (75) mentors from Hawaii and the Pacific who have tirelessly mentored our high school students to create a pipeline of future researchers.

Advancing Infectious Disease Detection and Response in Liberia (CDC cooperative agreement). The 2014-16 Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) epidemic had a devastating impact in West Africa resulting in 10,678 suspected, probable and confirmed cases and 4,810 deaths in Liberia. As not all individuals infected with Ebola virus (EBOV) sought medical attention or received laboratory confirmation of EVD, the full magnitude of the outbreak is still unknown. While the West African outbreak permitted advancement of scientific inquiry into the natural history, sociobehavioral context, and effectiveness of countermeasures for EVD, significant gaps in knowledge remain about post-Ebola sequelae, immune responses to Ebola virus infection and disease, and durability of immunity over time. Another subject of concern is the persistence of EBOV in immunologically protected sites of EVD survivors (and potentially undiagnosed Ebola virus infections). Persistent infection has resulted in sexual transmission of the virus and subsequent clusters of disease following the end of widespread transmission. This viral persistence combined with minimal available seroepidemiological surveillance data for Ebola and other viruses with epidemic potential in West Africa poses a continued risk for resurgence of Ebola virus infection or disease cases and the possibility of new clusters or large-scale outbreaks originating from previously reported or unrecognized infections. In line with the mission of CDC, this project is aimed at establishing a serological baseline for a future surveillance platform, allowing the study of underlying etiologies, characteristics, and response to emerging infections. This will advance our combined knowledge on priority epidemic-prone viral diseases in Liberia, allowing development of strategies to prevent future outbreaks through a combination of conventional, targeted
serosurveillance and disease and intervention modeling. An expansion of the scope in the spirit of epidemic and pandemic preparedness has already been shown by adding coronavirus-serology to the assay menu. This grant was initiated in late 2019 and after an initial meeting of Drs. Lehrer and Berestecky with the Liberia partners in early 2020 (including site visits to learn about ongoing other CDC-sponsored infectious disease surveillance) suffered some setbacks due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated travel and supply chain disruptions. However, regular coordinating calls (at least two every month) via Zoom have allowed the project teams in Liberia, Atlanta and Hawaii to stay connected and physical activities to resume in Liberia. The majority of the research is being conducted with partners in Liberia to develop a sustainable workforce trained and ready to do research on emerging epidemic viruses. This will better prepare Liberia and its life science and healthcare professionals to handle Ebola or similar epidemics in the future. TRMD/UH faculty are part of the CDC funded project: Axel Lehrer, Vivek Nerurkar, Wei-Kung Wang, John Berestecky (KCC), Alan Katz (UH Manoa, School of Public Health)

Continuing Projects

- **Hantavirus Discovery** (Dr. Richard Yanagihara): Collaborations with museum curators and field mammologists from Poland, Russia, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Myanmar, Philippines, Ecuador and the United States.
- **International Neuro-HIV Cure Consortium (INHCC; Dr. Lishomwa Ndhlovu)**: Collaborations with the INHCC seek to provide cutting-edge neurological and immunological expertise in the exploration of HIV cure strategies in the blood and sanctuary sites like the central nervous system.
- **Impact of hepatitis in Egypt** (Dr. F. Dewolfe Miller): Ongoing studies in Egypt are defining the prevalence and social impact of Hepatitis C. Recent findings revealed a high prevalence of Hepatitis C in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients and the need to screen RA patients for Hepatitis C. These studies are in collaboration with Ain Shams University and Ahmed Maher Teaching Hospital.
- **Clinical rotation in the Philippine** (Dr. Kenton Kramer): The Philippine Medical Association of Hawaii in conjunction with the University of Santo Tomas Medical School annually offers 4 second-year medical students the opportunity to learn about the practice of medicine in the Philippines. The goal of this 4-week elective is to develop, in these future physicians, a better understanding of the social and medical needs of Filipinos living in Hawaii and the Philippines. Three students participated in 2019. Due to Sars-CoV 2 this experience was not offered in 2020.
- **The Department conducts the Minority Health Research Training (MHRT) program** (2T37MD008636-08, NIH, National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities). Undergraduate and graduate students apply and after competitive selection they receive research training and participate in local, national, or international research projects in tropical medicine, infectious diseases, public and community health, and related health sciences. The goal is to increase underrepresented students to conduct biomedical research. The program takes place beginning in the Spring semester, followed by a May pre-research workshop, a 2-month research training experience in June and July where MHRT students conduct research training in labs or in the community, a post-research workshop in August, and a final E Ho`oulu Haumana
presentation of students’ research in August. In 2021, 12 students in the undergraduate and graduate program conducted research locally (on Oahu due to COVID-19 travel restrictions) on various research topics addressing community and mental health, and basic science, and health disparities research related to their dissertation topics. Nine (9) UHM faculty mentored the MHRT students. The MHIRT program has trained a total of 85 students since 2014. MHIRT students are from various academic disciplines at UH and represent diverse ethnic, geographic, and socio-economic backgrounds. The 2021 research projects included studying production of autoantibodies in COVID-19 infected and vaccinated Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders, testes-associated pathogenesis in COVID-19 patients, studying the clinical presentation in COVID-19 long haulers, role of pre-existing immunity against common-cold viruses and cross-protection against COVID-19 among the African population, SARS-CoV-2 vaccine elicited IgG in human milk, characterization of the microbiota in pregnant Puerto Ricans with viral infections, flow cytometry analysis of circulating fibrocytes in people living with HIV, reducing the risk of Alzheimer’s disease and other related dementias in Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders through a hula-based intervention, differences in pre-migration food consumption behaviors between Filipino non-migrants and migrants to the United States, racial and ethnic disparities in health outcomes and deaths in Tri-County Charleston Metropolitan Area (Tri-County Area) in South Carolina, sharing of needles and/or drug injection preparatory equipment among people who inject drugs, and sleep interventions to improve sleep during postpartum in women with a history of gestational diabetes. (Drs. Vivek R. Nerurkar, J. Keawe‘aimoku Kaholokula and Angela Sy).

- Lethal Cubozoan Envenomation (Box Jellyfish Sting) pathophysiology and translational research (Dr. Angel Yanagihara, DOD and NIH PI, Fulbright Specialist) has resulted in fully commercialized federal regulatory compliant therapeutic products. Recent and ongoing international collaborations include fieldwork in the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Australia, Ireland, Micronesia, Puerto Rico, Florida. The objectives of these efforts are to provide lifesaving therapeutics, as well as to improve public health.
knowledge of sting management, sting prevention and field ecology-based sting-danger predication capacities. The ASEAN outreach efforts continues despite COVID travel prohibitions via Zoom presentations and stand alone, public health PowerPoint presentations with embedded movies and prepared lectures for on-site leaders to present in Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines. Recently, appointed chair of a Special Program entitled "Cubozoan Envenomations in the Philippines: Field Ecology, Venom Biochemistry and Sting Management” with undergraduate and graduate students at Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

- Serological tests for arboviruses in Brazil (Dr. Wei-Kung Wang): Funded by NIH, National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (R01AI149502-01, 6/5/2020–5/31/2024). Collaboration with researchers of the University of Bahia at Salvador, Brazil to develop sensitive and specific sero-diagnostic tests in multiplex formats to discriminate pathogenic arbovirus infections in Brazil.

### Recent publications

**2021**


- Maison DP, Cleveland SB, and Nerurkar VR. Research methodology to define the introduction of the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.429 variant in Hawaii. Res Square July 2021, Preprint (Version 3); doi: https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-378702/v3], Link: https://www.researchsquare.com/article/rs-378702/v3 [submitted to Plos One on June 16, 2021]


2020


2019


- Tyson J, Tsai WY, Tsai JJ, Mässgård L, Stramer SL, Lehrer AT, Nerurkar VR, Wang WK. A high-throughput and multiplex microsphere immunoassay based on non-


**Department of Pediatrics**

**Significant Achievements/Highlights of the Year**

The UH Pediatric Residency Program, until the COVID pandemic struck, had been offering three Global Health rotations to pediatric residents in their third year of training under the direction of Drs. Maya Maxym and Anna-Lena Lueker. Unfortunately, with travel restrictions due to the ongoing pandemic, activities have been significantly curtailed for the past nearly two years, and the majority of Global Health education has been didactic rather than clinical during this time period. As we seek to restart Global Health rotations in 2022, the same rotation goals – to provide residents with graded autonomy in the setting of unique learning opportunities, including exposure to pathology unlike that seen in the Hawaiian Islands or North America and their management in resource-limited environments – remain in place.

Due to ongoing travel restrictions in place for American Samoa, the 2-4 week rotation at LBJ Tropical Medical Center in Pago Pago, American Samoa remains unavailable at this time.

The 2 week elective in musculoskeletal medicine in cooperation with Shriner's Hospital for Children has also been unavailable during the pandemic, but we hope that in the future it will allow pediatric residents to accompany orthopedic attendings on their outreach trips to various sites across the Pacific, including American Samoa and Samoa, Guam, the Marshall Islands, and Fiji, among other sites.

We are exploring possibilities for rotations in Saipan and/or Palau for Spring 2022, as travel regulations are less restrictive and COVID rates have, at least thus far, remained low.

We continue to incorporate Global Health material into the residents’ curriculum,
including (when away rotations are possible) pre-departure preparation seminars and online modules, on-site educational assignments, and post-return debriefs for rotating residents. We also sponsor biannual inter-residency Academic Half Days devoted to Global Health topics for residents from programs including pediatrics, psychiatry, OB-GYN, and family medicine.

Drs. Maxym and Lueker are also co-directors of Hawaii’s only Pediatric ECHO, a form of tele-education geared towards empowering clinicians to provide better specialty care to patients while focusing on community pediatricians without immediate access to subspecialist consultation, including those in rural and underserved areas, by providing knowledge and support to manage complex conditions. We have had participants from several sites in the Pacific and are continuing our outreach to our Pacific colleagues to engage them in this free CME opportunity.

**Shriners Hospitals for Children Honolulu**

**Significant Achievements/Highlights of the Academic Year**

Shriners Hospitals for Children Honolulu, out of State Outreach Programs were again affected in 2021 by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020 a single clinic in the Northern Marianas (to Saipan) was done safely by the Outreach Team, but in 2021 we managed 2 trips, each 2 to 3 weeks long, Guam, with a shorter side-trip to Saipan.

For more than three decades, the Shriners Hospital for Children in Honolulu (SUCH) has annually sent teams out for short-term Outreach missions to countries and US territories in the Pacific Basin.

Pacific Rim countries and US associated territories visited include: Fiji, Tonga, Western Micronesia (Guam, Tinian, Saipan, Palau and Yap), American Samoa, Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia (Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk), the Marshall Islands (Majuro and Ebeye), and Kiribati (Christmas Island).

Typically, surgical residents from either the University of Hawaii orthopedic program or the Tripler Army Medical Center orthopedic program, accompany the Shriners surgeons. Shriners orthopaedic surgeons are all JABSOM faculty members. For many of the surgical residents it is the first time they are visiting a low or middle income country. However, for 2022, it is anticipated that no University of Hawaii or Tripler residents will accompany the team following institutional precautions.

In 2021, Shriners Outreach outside of the State of Hawaii consisted of two trips to Guam and Saipan, one in April 2021 and a second in Oct of 2021. Dr. Craig Ono and two Nurse Practitioners, Vena Joco, APRN and Mike Nishimoto, APRN, saw 350 patients in Guam and over 100 in Saipan in April.

In Oct, 2021, Dr. Jonathan Pellett and Vena Joco APRN saw 186 patients in Guam and 112 in Saipan. Full-on COVID 19 testing both there and back kept teams safe. One COVID19 case in Saipan promoted a federal team (in Hazmat suits) to chase down Dr. Pellett in Guam, after he had left Saipan, to double check on him with a PCR test since he was exposed to a positive child in the hospital in Saipan. He was negative.
Outreach is being planned in January 2022 to American Samoa if restrictions allow and if plane space is available. Limited flights allow for limited repatriation of American Samoans and Samoans who have not been home, in some cases, for more than 18 months. The barriers at present for travel clearly include not only disease acquisition and transmission, but Outreach Team utilization of scarce plane seats to and from Pacific countries stress country nationals either repatriating to their homes or travelling abroad for healthcare. Moreover, Outreach Team members risk an extended stay in a host country if travel restriction changes occur.

**Hawaii Center for AIDS**

HICFA has not done much primarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic but currently has a MD PhD candidate from the University of the Philippines working under Dr. Iain McPherson for one year on his PhD project.

**Department of Family Medicine and Community Health**

**Significant Achievements/Highlights of the Year**

1) **Ongoing implementation**

Ongoing of the US Affiliated Pacific Island (USAPI) Pacific Regional Central Cancer Registry for 2017-2022, as well as the Pacific Regional Comprehensive Cancer Control program. These activities and programs, funded continuously by the CDC since 2007, includes providing technical assistance and guidance to each USAPI jurisdiction on the implementation of their local comprehensive cancer control plans and cervical cancer screening improvement efforts. Region-wide strategies focus on health system strengthening for cancer control, cancer surveillance, cervical cancer screening, and telehealth. The Cancer in the Pacific 2007-2018 monograph was completed and shared on the pacificcancer.org website and with key USAPI policymakers in August 2021. Significant technical improvements have occurred with the assistance of the CDC. The 2007-2019 Cancer in the Pacific Monograph is targeted for completion by June 2022.

Travel was limited due to COVID-19, thus our Cancer Council of the Pacific Islands (CCPI) meetings continued to utilize the Zoom’s virtual platform.
Since our last report, two CCPI meetings have been held virtually. One in 2020 December, and the other in 2021 April. Our next meeting, scheduled to take place between November 28 – December 3, 2021, will still use Zoom. However, the following CCPI meeting planned for April 2022 will hopefully be an in-person conference. At the upcoming meeting, the CCPI will provide guidance on the new 5-year Regional CCC plan and the Registry program activities, in preparation for the renewal application for these programs. Topics will include the continuum of cancer control, cancer surveillance, non-communicable prevention, and telehealth.

Dr. Neal Palafox worked closely with the palliative care professionals from Kokua Mau to create a resource-specific pain management-oriented guidance document for RMI, Approaches to Cancer Pain Management: A Guidance that was shared with RMI in September 2021.

Plans were developed but postponed due to COVID-19 for on-site Palliative Care Training to each USAPI in 2021-2022. We anticipate some on-site training to occur in 2022, if travel is allowed by the individual jurisdictions. The Pacific Regional Central Cancer Registry staff have established a Pacific-wide cancer registrar virtual training platform utilizing the ‘Fundamental Learning Collaborative for the Cancer Surveillance Community’ (FLccSC) virtual platform. Our aim is to provide quality, relevant, and resource specific training and educational opportunities for our cancer registrars working at various island locations.

Dr. Lee Buenconsejo-Lum, alongside Dr. Ann Chang, re-engaged the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) States regarding cervical cancer screenings. An initial kick-off virtual meeting was held in November 2021, with all of the cervical cancer screening providers in each FSM State (Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, Yap) participating. Current services, quality assurance and training opportunities were discussed with follow-up meetings scheduled for 2022.

Dr. Lee Buenconsejo-Lum facilitated five Lyndon B. Johnson Tropical Medical Center
Grand Rounds emphasizing goals of care, colorectal cancer screening, prostate cancer prevention and screening, oral cancer, and stomach cancer.

Drs. Neal Palafox and Seiji Yamada continue to participate in ongoing discussions with the University of Hawai’i System Global Health and Social Justice Work Group.

The Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation grant (2018-2021, extended to 2022) to increase local capacity for cancer prevention, screening, and treatment in the USAPI. There were monthly, didactic case-based sessions educating USAPI healthcare providers about the cancer control continuum - prevention, screening, treatment, palliative care, and survivorship - throughout 2021. This year, we started the community health worker and health educator cancer education sessions to staff in American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam.

The ASPIRE: Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) grant (2020-2023) focuses on strengthening smoke-free policies at worksites, increases access to safe active-friendly routes, and improves community-clinical linkages in Guam, Federated States of Micronesia (Kosrae and Pohnpei), Republic of Palau, and Republic of the Marshall Islands.

We Increased Cervical Cancer Screening Capacity in the USAPI (2020-2024) in Guam and Yap, Federated States of Micronesia to increase high risk HPV screening through provider collection and self-collection in the target populations.

2) Publications


3) Invited Presentations

• Drs. Neal Palafox and Seiji Yamada participated in a virtual presentation at the March 12-14, 2021 Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) Conference titled "Global Health in Hawai‘i and the US Affiliated Pacific Islands”.

• Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum and Mr. Christopher Yates of the WHO gave a brief presentation on the Pacific Regional Central Cancer Registry to the International Association of Cancer Registries (IACR) Virtual Scientific Conference, as part of the session on regional overviews on October 12, 2021.

• Dr. Neal Palafox was a panel speaker at the October 25-26 2021 World Cancer Leadership Summit (WCLS). This session focused on the role of implementation science in adapting national cancer control plans to respond to disruptions and innovation in today’s world.

• Dr. Neal Palafox presented at the October 27-29, 2021 Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation Grantee Summit. He was one of three panelists discussing delivering oncology care in a virtual setting.

• From November 15-19, 2021, the International Papillomavirus Society held a virtual conference. Dr. Palafox was one of the seven speakers presenting on “Caught between a Rock and a Hardplace: The US Pacific Islands and cervical cancer prevention.”

• On November 20, 2021, Dr. Palafox presented on the impact, diverse effects, and implications on cancer screening at Guam’s Health Providers Cancer Symposium: Pacific Region – COVID-19 and Cancer.

4) Organizational Work

• Dr. Palafox is currently a member, representing Oceania, of the International Cancer Control Partnership (ICCP), of which he is a founding member (2012) and former steering committee member (2013- 2018). The ICCP works with NCI-Global Health, the Union of International Cancer Control (UICC), and other international cancer control partners, with monthly meetings to plan, develop and review country specific international cancer prevention and control plans globally.

• Dr. Palafox works with Republic of the Marshall Island (RMI)’s National Nuclear Commission (NNC) 2020- 2022 to strategize, develop, research, and implement a plan towards an appropriate and sustainable health and health care response to the history and consequences of the US nuclear weapons testing in the RMI.
Department of Quantitative Health Sciences - Nothing to report for the year.

Department of Pathology - Nothing to report for the year.