



Na Leo Ola

Newsletter of the Hawaii Medical Association

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Hawaii Medical Foundation

Supporting Education That Benefits

Hawaii's Physician Community *by Jerry Van Meter, MD*

Chartered in 1968, the Hawaii Medical Foundation (HMF) was created to be the charitable arm of the Hawaii Medical Association. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, HMF solicits and collects donations that are



to be used exclusively for charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes.

HMF seeks to better the health of Hawaii's people by supporting the education of current and future physicians. As a way of showing support for our medical school and our future physicians, HMF annually presents each incoming JABSOM medical student with a brand new stethoscope during the White Coat ceremony. HMF also supports JABSOM graduation ceremonies through sponsorship.

The Hawaii Medical Foundation is run by a dedicated group of volunteers who are committed to the mission of HMF. The Board of Directors are elected by HMA members to three

year terms, and all physician directors must be HMA members in good standing. The current board consists of eight HMA physicians and one attorney; while non-physicians may potentially add significant value to the HMF mission, physicians must always be a majority of the Board of Directors.

The current Board of Directors are:

President: Jerry Van Meter, MD
Vice-President: Cindy Goto, MD
Secretary: Patricia Blanchette, MD
Treasurer: Franklin Young, MD
Directors at Large:

Myron Shirasu, MD
Gary Okamoto, MD
Jerris Hedges, MD
Francis Pien, MD
Mr. Clarence Kekina

The Hawaii Medical Foundation strives to develop an impactful educational benefit for our Hawaii physicians. To do so, we seek strategic partners who share our vision and who are willing to contribute financially in order to bring that vision to fruition. As future projects become reality, HMF will engage the HMA membership to be active participants.

President's Message

*by Angela M. Pratt
MD, FACOG, MBA*



Aloha kakou,

The month of May gives us many reasons to gather and celebrate. In Hawaii, May Day,

Mother's Day, and Memorial Day all hold special meaning in our community. May also marks the beginning of graduation season, where young minds prepare to make the leap to adulthood.

Not as significant to the general public is May 17th. Known as Match Day, it's the moment when fourth-year medical students find out where they will spend the next three to seven years in the residency part of their medical training. According to the National Resident Matching Program, 42,952 applicants vied for 40,395 spots this year; I am happy to report that 72 JABSOM students were in the mix, and

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Executive Director's Message *by Marc Alexander*



The 2023 Legislative Session closed on May 4, 2023. We've been reporting on the status of key bills throughout the session on our members-only webpage, "Legislative Updates." Members can view the status of bills, including those signed by Governor Green, on that webpage. These "members-only" resources are another benefit of HMA membership. In early June we will publish our final report which will be available to members and the general public.

HMA's leadership - Drs. Angela Pratt (president), Lisa Ignacio (president-elect), and Tom Kosasa (secretary) - authored another article, "HMA applauds legislative healthcare progress," published in the Sunday, March 14, 2023, edition of the Honolulu Star-Advertiser. In this Island Voices submission, our leadership highlighted several legislative actions of particular importance to physicians, patients, and community health, including Medicaid reimbursements, the medical licensure compact, loan repayment program for healthcare professionals, and taxation of electronic smoking devices. The closing of the article expresses well HMA's philosophy of engagement: "It does happen that people of good will have different positions on bills and issues; this is part of the democratic process, listening and learning from each other. It's what Hawaii does when we're at our best."

President's Message *... continued from page 1*

100% of them matched into residency programs! Better still, 31% of the class will remain in Hawaii!

We are so proud of our recent JABSOM graduates, and we wish them well as they begin their residencies. Graduates - when you're ready for your first assignment after residency, we hope you'll choose to remain in or come back to Hawaii. Our island community desperately needs more physicians, and your time at JABSOM has uniquely prepared you to serve here.

As a proud graduate of JABSOM, it gives me great pride to make my home, practice medicine and serve my community in Hawaii. As a native Hawaiian, I'm humbled to have the opportunity to care for the people in this very special place. And as a member of HMA, I'm privileged to serve with my fellow physicians to improve and nurture the healthcare landscape of our island home.

HMA physicians - if you engage with any residents, consider sponsoring them with a membership in HMA. The Resident rate is just \$25.00 annually, and the more they get involved in the community, the more likely they will stay here after residency. Want to know how? Call the HMA office at 808.536.7702 and they'll get it done quickly and easily!

Membership Hero of the Month

This month's Membership Hero Award goes to **Dr. Tom Kosasa**. As HMA's Secretary, Dr. Kosasa has shown his dedication to HMA with his outstanding service and through his generosity. He's now adding top-notch recruiter to his list of accomplishments; Dr. Kosasa has brought in six new HMA members in the past month alone!

Thank you, Dr. Kosasa for your dedication and commitment to HMA! Let's all take a page from Dr. Kosasa's playbook; engage your colleagues in conversation and let them know how a high percentage of physicians being members of HMA impacts our advocacy and educational programs for the better.

Member Enrichment Programs Continue

Our first member enrichment program - wine tasting - was very well received, and members are asking if there are more enrichment events on the horizon.

You'll be glad to hear that we're planning two new events in June and July! The first event will get us outdoors for a little exercise as we partner with students from JABSOM and participate in Walk with a Future Doc! We'll gather at Kaka'ako Waterfront park on Sunday, June 25th for a brisk morning walk with our medical students.

We're planning our second wine tasting event in July, this time exploring white wine varietals.

Watch our website for details and registration.

Conversations AT HMA

Changing National Standards for
Breast Cancer Screening:
How Hawaii can reduce
breast cancer mortality in our
population

Thursday, June 1, 2023 • Register at hawaiimedicalassociation.org

Conversations at HMA is hosting a panel discussion on the latest USPSTF Breast Cancer Screening Recommendations and Hawaii's response in order to reduce breast cancer mortality.

Confirmed panelists include:

- **Scott Grosskreutz, MD, FACR**
Hawaii Radiologic Associates
Lead panelist
- **Brenda Hernandez, PhD, MPH**
UH Cancer Center
- **Elizabeth Ignacio, MD, FSIR, FACR**
HMA President-Elect
- **Laeton Pang, MD, MPH, FACR**
Hawaii Radiological Society
President

Conversations at HMA will be presented in-person at the HMA

office and virtually via Zoom. Due to the popularity of our Conversations Series, in-person attendance will be limited to the first 15 reservations, with preference given to HMA members.

HMA Members:

- Free for virtual attendance via Zoom
- \$25.00 in-person

non-HMA Members:

- Free for virtual attendance via Zoom
- \$50.00 in-person

Reserve your spot and register online at hawaiimedicalassociation.org for this important discussion. Deadline for in-person reservations is Tuesday, May 30 at 5:00 p.m. Deadline to register for virtual attendance is Thursday, June 1 at 5:00 p.m.

Both in-person and virtual attendees are encouraged to be active participants. After the initial presentation, there will be time allotted for questions. As a matter of protocol, all questions will be entered into the chat or Q&A function on Zoom and presented by our moderator. We will get to as many questions as time allows; in-person attendees will have the opportunity to continue conversations after the live presentation is completed.

Conversations at HMA will feature guest speakers and timely topics that impact the healthcare landscape of our island home. If you have ideas for topics or speakers, please send them to info@hawaiimedicalassociation.org.



Save the Date

Ola Pono Ike

Saturday, October 14, 2023
Hilton Hawaiian Village
Tapa Ballroom • 5:00 p.m.

watch hawaiimedicalassociation.org
for updates and registration.