



University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

THE JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Maximum Accreditation Granted
EIGHT YEARS AWARDED BY LCME

DR. MAU'S LEADERSHIP CELEBRATED Stepping down to focus on research



Dean Jerris Hedges, Dr. Ed Cadman, Dr. Marjorie Mau

Dr. Marjorie Mau helped create and then led the Native Hawaiian Health Department for eight years.

She was physician aboard the *Hokule'a*.

But when she was a college graduate applying to the John A. Burns School of Medicine, she wasn't accepted. (She attended Creighton University SOM instead, plus Harvard for an MS in Public Health.)

Mau recalled that fact at a party the school held in her honor last month.

"I'm sharing the story because what seem like random events actually have meaning that you are unaware of when they happen," Mau said. "You just take them as they come, and it's wonderful."

"Actually, it's a lot like research," she continued. "You don't know where the science will take you, and behold, you make a discovery and you can help people. That's the wonderful part of it."

It is that love for research that has led Dr. Mau to step down from the department's leadership position.

"It will be a hard act to follow in terms of identifying the next chair of the department," said Dean Jerris Hedges. "Hard to find someone who will lead with the amount of passion and energy that Marjorie has put into this," he said.

Some of Dr. Mau's mentors and supporters came to salute her at the gathering, including Art Ushijima of The Queen's Medical Center, Diane Paloma, Director of Queen's Native Hawaiian Health Program, Dr. Dean Cadman, former JABSOM Dean, and Dr. Ric Custodio, Medical Director at Wai'anae Comprehensive Health Center, among others.

"If it were not for The Queen's Medical Center and The Queen's Health System giving us the opportunity to jump-start our department," Mau said, "we could never have gotten as far."



Dr. Nanette Judd and Dr. Dee-Ann Carpenter adjust a kihei for Dr. Mau

She also recognized Dr. Ted Mala (from Anchorage, Alaska) as a key supporter.

A search committee of notable Hawai'i residents will interview candidates to succeed Dr. Mau as Chair, while she toils away in that research laboratory—the community—she loves.

Dr. Kalani Brady is interim chair.

The Department of Native Hawaiian Health is the only department within a US medical school focusing on the health needs of indigenous people.



Mau's mentors and supporters listen as she speaks at a party in the Kulia Grill held in her honor