History-making business leader to headline fall commencement

by Ken Hupp

Sherry Menor-McNamara, the youngest and first female president and chief executive officer of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai‘i, will deliver the keynote address at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo’s fall commencement. The event will be held on Saturday, December 19, at 9 a.m. in Vulcan Gymnasium.

Students have petitioned for a total of 290 degrees and/or certificates from the colleges of Arts and Sciences (217), Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management (24), Business and Economics (31), Pharmacy (1), and Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language (8), while nine others are candidates for various post-graduate honors.

Menor-McNamara was born in Tokyo, Japan, raised in Hilo, and graduated from Waiakea High School. Her history-making appointment as head of the 164-year-old Chamber came in September 2013 after serving as Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President of Government Affairs. She joined the organization in 2006 as Director of Business Advocacy and was promoted to Vice President of Business Advocacy and Government Affairs the following year.

She previously served as events manager for ESPN Sports’ Sheraton Hawai‘i Bowl and is a member of the event’s Executive Committee. Menor-McNamara has worked for various companies across the globe, including Sony Corporation and Sony Pictures Entertainment, Estee Lauder, Field Group, Elton John Production, and the CBS News magazine 60 Minutes. Her political experience includes positions with the state legislature, former U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka, and the Executive Office of the President.

Menor-McNamara earned a bachelor’s degree in political sci-
ience from the University of California at Los Angeles, a juris doctorate from the William S. Richardson School of Law, and an MBA from the Shidler College of Business at UH Manoa. She was awarded a certificate in Expanding Impact in Advocacy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Executive Education and pursued graduate study in public administration at the University of Southern California.

Zachary Tman, an anthropology and cell and molecular biology major, who is also pursuing a minor in chemistry, represents the class as student speaker.

Tman, a native of Yap in the Federated States of Micronesia, has maintained a cumulative 3.62 GPA since coming to UH Hilo in Fall 2010. His academic achievements have earned him numerous honors, including the Yap State and FSM National Scholarships, which he has held since his freshman year. He has also been an Asian Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund Scholar since 2013.

His community activities have focused on efforts to combat the high rate of suicide among Hawai‘i’s youth. He has served as a student representative for the New York-based JED Foundation since 2014, working on special projects involving mental health awareness, suicide prevention, and young adult health on both the local and national level. Tman also serves as a member of the Big Island’s Youth Leadership Council for Suicide Prevention.

Tman’s campus work has been two-fold, beginning with his scientific research work in the Natural Sciences Department. He has been working with Dr. Norbert Furumo on designing a biotechnology lab course, which he hopes will eventually lead to a biotechnology degree program. Next spring, he’ll be assisting Dr. Misaki Takabayashi in her research on coral bleaching.

His post-graduation plans include a trip this summer to Heidelberg, Germany to work at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory before joining Takabayashi on her coral bleaching research.

(Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)

Role

Continued from page 1

of Hawai‘i Island and the state. For example, faculty do research on indigenous languages that helps promote the revitalization of the Hawaiian language and culture. Environmental scientists are studying ways to mitigate climate change. Marine scientists are researching coastal pollution and the effects of recent major storm surge.

Diversity

UH Hilo seeks to better reflect Hawai‘i, its people, history, cultures, and natural environment in all that it does. As a member of the UH System, we embrace our responsibility to serve the indigenous people of Hawai‘i and to support Hawai‘i’s indigenous language and culture.

We are integrating the Hawaiian experience into many of the ways in which we teach, conduct research, and do outreach to the community. For example, cultural practitioners at our Ulu‘akea program teach faculty in various academic disciplines an authentic and practical understanding of indigenous ways of knowing the world.

UH Hilo also is the most ethnically diverse four-year public campus in the country, according to a recent ranking. This creates a beautiful global community on campus and prepares our students well for an increasingly global society.

This place-based yet global campus community is of great benefit not only to the students from our island and state, but also to students from elsewhere, most notably the Pacific region. Students who hail from elsewhere in the Pacific are responding well to our invitation to come study with us. Pacific islanders can learn while immersed in our island community, and then return to their homelands highly skilled in their chosen field, ready to teach, start nonprofits, address health care, protect the environment and more.

In addition to ethnic and cultural diversity, Hawai‘i Island itself is one of the most geographically diverse places in the world. The land, sea and sky create an environment unsurpassed for exploration and inquiry, foundation blocks of learning.

With the combined ethnic, cultural and environmental diversity of our campus and island, we promise our students and our researchers a location that no other campus in the UH System can.

Stewardship

I believe UH Hilo should be a responsible steward for this unique place—the people, the land, the culture—that is a role to which we can aspire. We offer and expand access to higher education to the people of our island and region, we do applied research that is of benefit to the people and the place, and we reach out to strengthen communities where they need it most (think health care, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy).

We are a university where students are challenged to do their very best work, inspired to think critically about topical issues and to discover practical solutions, and nurtured to find meaning in their lives through community connection and response.

This is what we aim to be within the UH System. It’s a role I know we all take to heart and I look forward to working with you on ways to grow and strengthen UH Hilo in the new year ahead.

Happy holidays to you and yours,

[Signature]
UH Hilo, Yokohama University of Pharmacy sign exchange agreement

The UH Hilo Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) recently signed a partnership with Japan’s Yokohama University of Pharmacy that will expand the horizons of students in both countries.

The agreement states that it covers the fourth-year of experiential training for pharmacy students, called Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPEs), as well as pharmaceutical care, pharmaceutical sciences research and the organization of joint research projects.

“This is a great example of how Hawai‘i Island acts as a logical bridge between the United States and Asia as a whole,” said DKICP Interim Dean Carolyn Ma. “UH Hilo already has several agreements with universities in Japan, from Meio University in Okinawa to Matsuyama University in Matsuyama, Ehime, Japan. We are optimistic that this is a continuation of an already strong educational relationship.”

The “International Exchange Program on Pharmaceutical Education, Research and Practical Training” will allow students at UH Hilo to set up six weeks of training during their fourth year in a four-year program with an approved licensed pharmacist in Japan. Likewise, students in Japan can come to UH Hilo to earn their academic requirements.

Yokohama University of Pharmacy is part of the Tsuzuki Education Group, a consortium of more than 20 universities and colleges in Japan, including three colleges of pharmacy. Representatives from the consortium visited DKICP in May to tour the campus and discuss possibilities for partnerships.

Natural disaster trainings for Hawai‘i Island community

The College of Continuing Education and Community Service (CCECS) is pleased to announce a partnership with the Natural Disaster Preparedness and Training Center (NDPTC) to offer free FEMA certified natural disaster education classes for the Hawai‘i Island community.

The first course being offered is Natural Disaster Awareness for Caregivers of Senior Citizens on Monday, December 7 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at the West Hawai‘i Civic Center, Building G in Kona, and on Tuesday, December 8 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Aupuni Center in Hilo. Additional training courses will be announced as they are finalized. A certificate of completion will be provided to all participants who complete various training courses.

The upcoming course is designed to enhance the caregiver’s awareness of vulnerability factors associated with senior citizens, who are particularly vulnerable to natural hazards. Factors such as physical limitations, mental ailments, and medication requirements are also issues of concern for caregivers of senior citizens. Participants will learn how to identify, prepare, and perform a number of support activities that will ensure the safety and security of senior citizens when a natural hazard event occurs. Particular attention is directed toward developing an awareness of the preparedness and response needs of all senior citizens, inclusive of economic, medical, cognitive and mobility determinants.

Online registration is now open at [https://ndptc.hawaii.edu/training/delivery/1351](https://ndptc.hawaii.edu/training/delivery/1351) for Kona and [https://ndptc.hawaii.edu/training/delivery/1350](https://ndptc.hawaii.edu/training/delivery/1350) for Hilo. Phone registration is also available.

The training is on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, call CCECS at 974-7664 or email ccecs@hawaii.edu.
Hats off to...

Armando Garcia-Ortega, Assistant Professor, Aquaculture, was awarded a certificate of Outstanding Contribution in Reviewing by the editorial Elsevier, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, in recognition of his contributions made to the quality of Aquaculture, the top journal in the field. He was also invited to join the Editorial Board of the Journal of the World Aquaculture Society.

Chris Frueh, Professor, Psychology, authored “Solving mental healthcare access problems in the Twenty-First Century,” The Australian Psychologist 2015; 50; 304-306. He also gave an invited presentation on “Labeled disabled: An update on the Independence Project” at the Annual Meeting of The Philanthropy Roundtable, Las Colinas, TX.

Charmaine Higa-McMillan, Associate Professor, Psychology, was senior author of “Does a Scientific Epistemology Matter? Undergraduate Students’ Beliefs about Science and Evidence-Based Practices” and “Young Dogs, New Tricks: Examining Changes in Undergraduate Knowledge of Evidence-Based Practices,” and co-author of “Case Manager Attitudes of Standardized Assessment and Implementation of the Ohio Scales Measurement Feedback System in a Public Mental Health System,” “Changes in Evidence-Based Practice Utilization following Modularized Workshop Trainings: Differential Patterns Across Externalizing/Internalizing Techniques,” and “Utilization and Outcomes of Exposure Therapy for Child Anxiety in a System of Care,” which she presented last month with colleagues at the Forty-Ninth Annual Convention of the Association of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Chicago, IL.

Sulma Gandhi, Program Director, Student Health and Wellness, was selected to participate in the 2016 Alice Manicur Symposium for Women Aspiring to be VPSAs, to be held in January in San Antonio, TX. The symposium is specifically designed for women in middle management who aspire to become vice presidents of student affairs.

Jiren Feng, Assistant Professor, Chinese, received a publication contract from Zhejiang People’s Fine Arts Press, China, to publish a two-volume annotated English translation of the 12th Century Chinese text Yingzao Fashi (Building Standards), which is commonly regarded as the primary source for the study of traditional Chinese architecture. It has 34 chapters and covers literary tradition in architecture, terminology, building technology, and government regulations on materials, manpower, and working hours. Feng’s translation will provide the first-ever full English translation of this text in the world.

Elizabeth Ackerman, Assistant Professor, Pharmacy Practice, had “Hepatitis C in 2015: Recent Advancements and Current Challenges” published in the November issue of Hawaii Journal of Medicine and Public Health.

Mahavir Chuogule, Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, served as a reviewer on the Nanotechnology peer review panel as well as on the Therapeutics, Treatment and Resistance peer review panel of the 2015 Lung Cancer Research Program for the Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs.

Karen Pellegrin, Director, Strategic Planning/Continuing Education, was co-author on “Association between sugar cane burning and acute respiratory illness on the island of Maui,” published in Environmental Health, and “Recruitment of rural healthcare professionals for live continuing education,” published in Medical Education Online. She also was an invited speaker at last month’s Employers’ Forum of Indiana All-Stakeholder Meeting on care transitions in Indianapolis, IN.
Art meets science in UH Hilo talk

The UH Hilo Faculty Congress and the College of Continuing Education and Community Service (CCECS) hosts a free public presentation on a unique and collaborative effort between the UH Hilo Art and Marine Science Departments. The Art and Science of the SEM (Scanning Electron Microscope) will be held on Wednesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. in UCB Room 100.

Dr. Jason Adolf, associate professor of marine science, and Colleen Cannon-Karlos, lecturer, art, will discuss highlights of the Art, Science and Technology (AST) course developed by Cannon-Karlos that explores the creative process through the arts and sciences by incorporating STEM principles in math, science and technology.

Students in the Fall 2014 AST class participated in a SEM lab where they prepared and scanned their specimens. The SEM imagery was then digitally dissected, merged, reconfigured and used as design elements in an art project using Photoshop. The resulting imagery has been described as “a perfect blending of Art and Science.”

For more information, call CCECS at 974-7664. For disability accommodations, call 974-7664 (V) or 974-7002 (TTY).

Great Leaps adds Special Preview show

Due to increased popularity, the UH Hilo Performing Arts Department’s dance concert, Great Leaps, has added a Special Preview show on Friday, December 4 at 7:30 pm at a discounted ticket price. The regular performance is scheduled for Saturday, December 5 at 7:30 pm. Both shows are in the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center.

“This semester’s Ballet classes will dance to the beautiful Spanish Concerto de Aranjuez by Drigo, hip-hop dance styles will energize the stage with the Jazz class and guest performance by the INT Dance Squad, Hawai‘i Community College’s Aerial Dance classes will fly through the air in mesmerizing skills of beauty and control, and the Modern Dance and the new edition of Environmental Dance taught by Annie Bunker will bring surprises to the stage and outside of the PAC,” noted PAC Manager Lee Dombroski.

There will also be an innovative Senior Project by Kawai Soares that will explore his Hawaiian heritage and his passion for dance. Guest choreographers for the Dance Ensemble, Lawrence Mano and Scott Wuscher, will provide a range of concepts that will showcase dancing Ninjas and expressions of losing a loved one.

Ticket price for the Special Preview is $3 for all seats. Ticket prices for December 5 are $7 General, $5 Discount, UH Hilo / HawCC students (with a valid student ID) and children, up to age 17. Seating for both shows is open seating.

Tickets are available by calling the UH Hilo Box Office at 932-7490 or ordering online at artsceneter.uhh.hawaii.edu.

Ka Lono Hanakahi is published by the Office of University Relations during the academic year for faculty and staff of the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. News and submissions are welcome with priority given to current faculty and staff members. Deadlines are on the fifteenth of each month for the following first of the month publication. Contact Alyson Kakugawa-Leong, Director Media Relations, (808) 932-7669 or alyson@hawaii.edu.
UH Hilo’s Zappa 3 is Dec 9, 10

The UH Hilo’s Jazz Orchestra presents its 3rd Annual Frank Zappa tribute concert at the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, December 9, and Thursday, December 10, at 7:30 pm.

Following its two previous sold-out Frank Zappa tribute concerts, the UH Hilo Jazz Orchestra returns to the stage with a new show of Zappa music.

The concert will feature songs from throughout Zappa’s recording career with an emphasis on his bestselling albums from the 1970s such as Joe’s Garage, Apostrophe’ and One Size Fits All.

Musical Director Trever Veilleux said, “Zappa’s music can be very difficult to play and students in the band rise to the challenge, putting in countless practice hours in order to play this stuff correctly. I think that when people see this show they will be genuinely surprised by the musicianship and performance skills of these young musicians. It’s an incredible thing to witness.”

This year, the Jazz Orchestra will be joined by special guest performers. Former Saturday Night Live musical director Cheryl “Quack” Moore will be on piano and Justin Chittams, a Jazz Orchestra alumni and current member of Medicine for the People, will perform. Other guests include St Joseph School’s band director Randy Skaggs and UH Hilo Drama Professor Jackie Pualani Johnson.

Tickets are $10 General, $5 Seniors, Students & Children. Advance ticket purchase is recommended. Seating is open seating.

For more information or to order tickets, contact the Box Office at 932-7490 or artscenter.uhh.hawaii.edu.

Santa Claus is coming to town and to UH Hilo

UH Hilo celebrates the holidays with a special yuletide concert on Sunday, December 13 at 2 p.m. in the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center.

Holiday Card to Hilo: Santa Claus is Coming to Town showcases the combined talents of the UH Hilo Kapili and University Choirs under the Direction of Amy Horst, the Orchid Isle Orchestra directed by Cathy Young, the Hilo Community Chorus under the direction of Tom McAlexander, and the Mountain View Elementary Chorus directed by Jennifer Tsurui.

Joint and separate performances will include renditions of “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” to “Here Comes Santa Claus” and new classics such as “The World for Christmas.”

The concert will also feature solo appearances by soprano Amy Horst, tenor Mark Sheffield, virtuoso organist Walter Greenwood, and Rodney Wong with an arrangement of his own “A Hawaiian Style Christmas.”

Tickets are reserved seating and priced at $20 General, $15 Discount and $7 UH Hilo/Hawai‘i CC students (with a valid student ID) and children, up to age 17, pre-sale, and $25 General, $20 Discount and $12 UH Hilo/Hawai‘i CC students (with a valid student ID) and children, up to age 17, at the door.

To purchase tickets, call the UH Hilo Box Office at 932-7490 or order online at artscenter.uhh.hawaii.edu.
Campus Events

December

1  Last Day to Apply for Spring 2016 Classified Admission
4, 5  Great Leaps, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission
9  Chancellor’s Holiday Celebration, 3-4:30 p.m., UCB 127
   The Art and Science of the SEM, UH Hilo Faculty Lecture Series, 6:30 p.m., UCB Room 100
9, 10  Zappa 3, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission
10  Last Day of Instruction
   Graduate Form 3: Thesis/Dissertation to Library & Ofc of the Registrar Deadline
   Last Day to Completely Withdraw with a “W”
13  Holiday Card to Hilo: Santa Claus is Coming to Town, 2 p.m., PAC, Admission
14-18  Final Examinations
19  Fall Commencement, 9 a.m., Vulcan Gymnasium
21  Final Grades Due in MyUH, Noon

Chancellor’s Holiday Celebration

The Chancellor’s Holiday Celebration will be held on Wednesday, December 9, from 3-4:30 p.m. in UCB 127.
   Administrators, faculty, and staff are invited to enjoy ice cream and other goodies with their colleagues before Winter Break.