

October 27, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO:

University of Hawaii at Hilo Faculty and Staff

FROM:

Debra Fitzsimons, Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs

SUBJECT:

Information regarding AED/Defibrillators on UH Hilo Campus

In 2007, when I arrived on campus, a major concern shared with me by various constituency groups was regarding the need to improve health and safety efforts for our faculty, staff, students, and community. Along with other security and safety items, we reviewed the AED/Defibrillators situation and locations on the UH Hilo campus.

AED's (Automated External Defibrillators) are portable electronic devices that can audibly prompt and deliver shock that will disrupt or stop the heath's dysrhythmic electrical activity. The shock will not start a dead heart, but it will stop certain lethal rhythms and give the heart a chance to spontaneously re-establish an effective rhythm on its own. According to the American Heart Association, CPR rescue attempts using electric defibrillation or AED's improves survival rates by as much as 49%. The U.S. Senate has passed S.1488, the Cardiac Arrest Survival Act, which has two purposes. First, it instructs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make recommendations to promote public access to defibrillation programs in federal buildings and other public areas across the country. This helps to ensure the health and safety of everyone by encouraging ready access to the tools needed to improve cardiac arrest survival rates. Second, the act extends good Samaritan protections to AED users and to those who acquire AED's in those states that do not currently have AED good Samaritan protections. This legislation will enable and encourage more placement and use of AED's in public places.

As such, at UH Hilo, we conducted an analysis and made phased—in plans for increased units to be placed in high traffic and priority areas throughout campus and off campus locations.

In 2007, we had only one AED unit. Now, we have 11 units and by the end of this year, we will finalize our program with 8 more units. The locations of the current 11 AED's are as follows:

- 1 unit for the Campus Security department
- . 1 unit for Campus Center
- 1 unit for the Residence Halls
- 1 unit for Library
- 1 unit for Theatre
- 2 units for Athletics (for both on and off campus events)
- 2 unit for the Student Life Center (at the front desk and at the pool)
- 2 units for Marine Science Program (both on campus, but primarily for field trips, boat/ocean activities, in and around Hilo and beyond)

The other 8 locations that will be in place shortly are:

- UCB
- College of Agriculture Farm (off campus site)
- · PACRC (off campus site)
- College of Pharmacy's Waiakea Research Lab (off campus site)
- K Hall
- The new Science and Technology Building
- North Hawaii Education Research Center (NHERC) (in Honokaa)
- Hoku Kea Telescope Facility (Mauna Kea, operated by Physics department)

We are pleased to be able to provide this information on this program for increased protection and safety for our faculty, staff, students, and the general public. We, in the administrative affairs unit, are listening to campus concerns and place a high priority on health and safety. This enhanced program is just one of several health and safety initiatives that you will see happening. Many new initiatives and improvements have been developed over the past few years. This project was done in coordination with Ken Ikeda. However, many of these improved safety and security efforts are results of team work and planning by Ken Ikeda, Lo-Li Chih, Warren Ferreira, Kolin Kettleson, Ted LeJeune, and others from departments such as Campus Technology. I commend them for the dedication to this high priority and working so well together to facilitate these multitudes of projects.

For more information or for further details on AED or other health and safety initiatives, please see the attached map of AED locations or go to the UH Hilo Environmental Health and Safety web page at http://hilo.hawaii.edu/uhh/ehso/ or the Campus Security web page at http://hilo.hawaii.edu/auxsvc/security/index.php. You may also contact our Director of Environmental Health and Safety, Ken Ikeda, at keni@hawaii.edu, our Campus Security Director, Warren Ferreira, at warrenjf@hawaii.edu or Dr. Debra L. Fitzsimons, Vice Chancellor of Administrative Affairs, at debra.fitzsimons@hawaii.edu or extension 47750.

I encourage you to share this and the map of the AED location with everyone within your units, as appropriate. We enjoy serving you and look forward to sharing additional updates as they become available!

Attachment

CC:

Director Ken Ikeda Director Warren Ferreira Chancellor Straney Vice Chancellors

