

Director's Message New Year, New Changes

Dear Friends,

The talent and dedication of our people are what drives the CRCH and the work we do. We start 2008 by saying aloha to those who are coming into new positions and to those who are moving on, while remaining committed to our mission.



Dr. Carl-Wilhelm Vogel

The John A. Burns School of Medicine welcomes **Dr. Jerris Hedges** as its new dean, and we look forward to future opportunities to collaborate with him and his faculty to strengthen the research component of the University of Hawai'i health sciences complex. As we prepare to build the new cancer center beside the medical school in Kaka'ako, we are striving to strengthen our current programs and develop new ones, and we hope to accomplish this with new faculty joining our Center.

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to two key members of our team. **Dr. Laurence Kolonel** has contributed tremendously to the growth of our cornerstone Epidemiology Program during his tenure as its director. While remaining as the CRCH Deputy Director, he is handing the reins of the Program to **Dr. Loïc Le Marchand** in order to focus on his own research.

Mahalo also to **Dr. Cheryl Albright**, who took over the leadership of our Prevention and Control Program as its interim director when Dr. **Carolyn Gotay** joined the University of British

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Three Projects Funded with Friends' Help Hawai'i Cancer Research Attracts \$40 Million in Annual Funding

The faculty and research staff of the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i (CRCH) brought in \$40 million in contracts and grants as of December 31, 2007 to support 18 new and continuing projects, including five new developmental projects for innovative research. The majority of the funds come from national sources such as the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Department of Defense (DOD), and institutions such as the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

"The grants and contracts allow us to advance our studies in prevention and treatments for cancer," said CRCH Director **Dr. Carl-Wilhelm Vogel**. "In addition, these funding sources support our 300 employees, help local businesses with the purchase of goods and services, and bring in new dollars to Hawai'i's economy."

Friends support new research. "It's especially gratifying to receive support for new research because funding for pilot studies is limited in availability," Dr. Vogel continued. "Last year, we were able to support five pilot project proposals, three of which were funded by the Friends of the CRCH."

Throughout history new discoveries in science and technology have improved the quality of life for mankind. In the health arena, progress can be attributed to curious and talented scientists unceasingly developing novel ideas in search of cures and better treatments. In order to pursue these novel ideas on a large scale, scientists must justify their research with supportive preliminary findings either from previous studies conducted by other scientists or by conducting their own pilot studies. Supportive preliminary data help to justify funding for larger peer-reviewed studies supported by significant funding sources such as the NCI, NIH, DOD, or private

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President's Message Supporting Discovery

On behalf of the members of the board of the Friends, the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i and the countless people who have benefited from its work, thank you so much for your continued support.

When you join the Friends of the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i, you are enabling crucial work that could save the lives of cancer victims and improve the quality of life for many of the disease's survivors. The Friends raise money to support pilot studies for which there are limited funding sources, provide funds to buy research lab equipment, and start-up funds for labs, form partnerships to encourage support and understanding from the community, and promote cancer education and awareness.

This year, the Friends welcomes new board members **Anton Krucky**, CEO of Tissue Genesis, Inc., and **Mary Worrall**, principal of Mary Worrall Associates Sotheby's International Realty. They bring a fresh perspective and expertise to our organization.

It is with deep sadness that we say goodbye to our long-time Board Member **Vi Dolman**. We join her family in mourning her passing on February 26 and celebrating her life of service to the community. Vi co-chaired last year's major annual fundraiser *Mauka Makai* and received many community service awards from organizations such as the Rotary Club, Junior Achievement, and YWCA. Many knew her as a leader in Hawai'i's real estate industry, but she was also very knowledgeable about the CRCH as she was involved in cancer research while working on her graduate studies.

I also want to send special thanks to our retiring Board Members **John Aube**, **Charlie Bocken**, and **Ann Simpson**. Deepest condolences go to Ann on the recent loss of her husband, **Jack**. Jack and Ann Simpson's personal contributions to the State's business and civic arenas cannot be adequately measured. Both offered their expertise to many local non-profit groups. Both had been stalwart supporters of cancer research and prevention. Jack, who suffered from cancer, served with the American Cancer Society and, of course, Ann made an indelible mark during her many years on the Friends Board.

Rick Humphreys

Rick Humphreys
President



Rick Humphreys



In loving memory:
Board Member Vi Dolman

Mauka Makai raises over \$150,000 Proceeds Fund More Research in Cancer Prevention and Treatment in the State of Hawai'i

The Friends of the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i raised more than \$150,000 at its 6th annual fundraising event, *Mauka Makai... Voyage of Discovery*, held October 2007 at the Waialae Country Club. More than 300 supporters attended the sold-out event, including **Senator and Mrs. Daniel Akaka**, former First Lady **Jean Ariyoshi**, and the Foodland staff and family, who came to see company matriarch **Joanna L. Sullivan** receive the 2007 *Mauka Makai* Award. Mrs. Sullivan, whose support for the CRCH has allowed the creation of two endowed research chairs, was honored with her late husband **Maurice J. Sullivan** for their significant contributions to the progress of cancer research, treatment, and education.

Dr. Kalani Brady, the Hawai'i Medical Association's 2007 Physician of the Year, performed the *oli* or prayer to open the evening's program, and entertained guests with a repertoire of songs. Radio and TV personality **Kimo Kahoano** was the event emcee.

More than 200 businesses made generous donations to a live and a silent auction, which grossed \$40,000 for CRCH. Among the great prizes: a chance to dine with **Senators Daniel Akaka** and **Daniel Inouye**; a large party catered by **Murphy's Bar & Grill**; and a vacation at a Malaekahana beach house. *Mauka Makai* proceeds will fund the CRCH's efforts to remain at the forefront of cancer research.



The Mauka Makai... Voyage of Discovery



Mahalo: Dr. Kalani Brady hands the microphone over for Mrs. Sullivan's acceptance remarks.

Research Attracts Millions

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foundations and individual donors. Pilot projects provide baseline preliminary data. The challenge is often in getting the preliminary data if no previous studies on a specific research area have been conducted. Scientists often struggle to get the initial funding to conduct pilot studies for their innovative research, and this kind of funding is limited in availability.

In 2007, the CRCH selected five pilot project proposals for developmental funding. The scientists and their projects were:

Maarit Tiirikainen, Ph.D., "Evaluation of methods for expression profiling from formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) samples," \$33,266, 3/1/07-2/29/08. Funded by the Friends.

Gordon Okimoto, Ph.D., "Development of bioinformatics tools for molecular biomarker discovery and pathway analysis of breast cancer," \$27,900,

3/1/07-2/29/08. Funded by the Friends.

Loïc Le Marchand, M.D., Ph.D., "Feasibility of establishing a fresh-frozen tissue repository for translational genomics," \$65,618, 11/1/07-10/31/08. Funded by the Cigarette Tax Special Fund.

André Bachmann, Ph.D., "Proteasome inhibition and cell signaling induced by novel natural product Syringolin A," \$34,636, 11/1/07-10/31/08. Funded by the Friends.

Gertraud Maskarinec, M.D., Ph.D., "Supplement to developing a soy-based intervention among healthy men," pilot grant funded 2003-2005, \$7,087.64, 3/16/07-3/15/08. Funded by the Research Training and Revolving Fund.

The Sullivan women (left): Jenai Wall, mom Joanna, and Kitty Wo.

Board members (below, left to right) Friends of CRCH Board members Dr. Jonathan Cho, George W. Sumner, Rick Humphreys, and Charles Bocken with former Board Member Larry Rodriguez.

Scientists often struggle to get the initial funding to conduct pilot studies for their innovative research.



Honored guest (above, left to right) Dr. Lawrence Tseu, Joanna Sullivan, Dr. Carl-Wilhelm Vogel, Millie Akaka and Senator Daniel K. Akaka.

Good deals (right): Mauka Makai's silent auction raised \$40,000 from pleased participants like Cecilia Kramer.



Recognitions

Kevin Cassel Receives CIS Spirit Award

Kevin Cassel, Partnership Program coordinator of the Cancer Information Service (CIS) Pacific Region, received the Spirit of the CIS Award for exemplifying the qualities of caring, leadership, service, team spirit, and knowledge over the past year. The award was presented by CIS Associate Director **Mary Anne Bright** at the CIS National Meeting last September 25 in Bethesda, Maryland. Cassel was honored along with 14 awardees from CIS regional, project, and central support offices.

Cassel first joined the CIS in 1993 as a bilingual information specialist and outreach coordinator at the Fox Chase Cancer Research Center in Philadelphia. In 1995, he transferred to the CIS Hawai'i regional office, then part of the CRCH and now known as the CIS Pacific Region office. Cassel has become its consummate Partnership Program coordinator. In the words of his supervisor, CIS Program Director **Hali Robinett** and Partnership Program Manager **Paula Higuchi**, Cassel exemplifies TEAMwork:

Tactically implements educational programs for partners, having taken the lead in implementing various trainings and workshops, including Using What Works, Body and Soul, and Using Data to Support Comprehensive Cancer Control;

Eternally enthusiastic in his praise and belief in the NCI's Cancer Information Service;

Adept in his ability to identify and negotiate strategic partnerships; and

Mindful of his teammates, always offering his assistance despite the load he carries.

Dr. Vogel congratulates Kevin Cassel.



Senator Rosalyn Baker Receives National Honor

In recognition of her participation in and contribution to the cancer health arena, **Senator Rosalyn Baker** received the Exemplary State Elected Official Comprehensive Cancer Control Leadership Award from **President and Mrs. George H.W. Bush** in Washington, D.C. on October 12, 2007. The award



Senator Rosalyn Baker receives award from President and Mrs. George H.W. Bush.

was presented by C-Change, an organization of the nation's key cancer leaders. She was also honored by her peers at the Fall Hawai'i Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition meeting on October 25, 2007.

Senator Baker has distinguished herself as a champion of and friend to the CRCH through her unwavering efforts to secure a steady stream of funding through the tobacco tax increase law in 2006. As vice chair and now chair of the Hawai'i Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition, she has also been a relentless leader in the move to promote and

advocate for a cancer control plan for the entire State.

Former President George H. W. Bush and former First Lady Barbara Bush are co-chairs of C-Change; **Senator Dianne Feinstein** serves as vice chair. The more than 130 member leaders share a vision of a future where cancer is prevented, detected early, and cured or is managed successfully as a chronic illness.

An important underlying principle of C-Change is to leverage the combined leadership and expertise of all sectors of society to eliminate cancer as a major public health problem at the earliest possible time. C-Change serves as a forum and catalyst for identifying issues and major challenges facing the cancer community, and for initiating collaborative actions to complement the efforts of individual C-Change members

whose missions are related to cancer research, control, and/or patient advocacy. The development of state, tribe, and territory comprehensive cancer control program plans has been a strategic priority of C-Change since its founding in 1998.

Transitions

Leadership Change in Epidemiology Program

After 30 years of outstanding leadership of the CRCH's cornerstone Epidemiology Program, **Dr. Laurence Kolonel** has stepped down as director to focus on his own research as an epidemiology faculty member. Dr. Kolonel will continue to serve as the CRCH's Deputy Director.



Dr. Laurence Kolonel

Dr. Loïc Le Marchand is the new director of the Epidemiology Program, effective January 1, 2008. Le Marchand has enjoyed significant success in his research endeavors, having received major funding for his work.

"Dr. Le Marchand has been with the Epidemiology Program since 1987, and is very familiar with the program and its research goals. A seasoned cancer scientist in his own right, Dr. Le Marchand will undoubtedly continue

to provide very capable leadership to the Epidemiology Program," said CRCH Director **Dr. Carl-Wilhelm Vogel**.

During Kolonel's tenure, the Epidemiology Program achieved national and international recognition and played a major role in the CRCH's overall success. In 2005, Kolonel received a MERIT Award from the National Institutes of Health at the recommendation of the National Cancer Institute for his sustained track record of high quality cancer epidemiology research. As a benefit of this significant recognition, Kolonel was assured five years of successive funding to continue his ongoing research project, the well-known Multiethnic Cohort Study, without having to submit the usual required paperwork. There is no other scientist on the UH faculty who has attained this recognition.



Dr. Loïc Le Marchand

Dr. Michele Carbone Heads UH Pathology Department

Dr. Michele Carbone, director of the Cancer Research Center's Thoracic Oncology Program, is now also chair of the Department of Pathology of the John A. Burns School of Medicine. He officially began his tenure on January 1, 2008. Carbone will retain dual appointments at the medical school, where he will report to



Dr. Michele Carbone

the new Dean, **Dr. Jerris Hedges**, and the CRCH, where he reports to Director **Dr. Carl-Wilhelm Vogel**.

Carbone came to the UH from the Loyola University Medical Center's Cardinal Bernadin Cancer Center and is in charge of developing the fledgling Thoracic Oncology Program.

Hali Robinett Chairs Tobacco Trust Fund Advisory Board

Hali Robinett, program director of the Cancer Information Service (CIS), Pacific Region, is the new chair of the 11-member Hawai'i Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund Advisory Board. She was elected chair in November last year after serving on the Board since April 2007. Robinett was appointed to the Board by **Governor Linda Lingle** as one of three members representing populations at risk for tobacco use. Robinett has been program director of the CIS at the CRCH since 1995.

Tobacco Advisory Board members **Margery Bronster**, **Fred Hirayama**, and **Dr. Elizabeth Tam** have provided leadership since the Board first convened in November 1999. Other members of the volunteer Board include **Mark Levin** and **Healani Chang** of the University of Hawai'i, who were appointed by the State Senate and Governor, respectively; **Drs. Charles Kelley** and **Thomas Vogt**, Department of Health appointees; **David Randall** and **Julian Lipsher**, representing the Department of Education and the Department of Health, respectively; and **Kainoa Kaumeheiwa-Rego**, representing the Governor's Office. All Board members are serving through June 2008.

The Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund Advisory Board, with the State Department of Health, is developing a strategic plan for tobacco prevention and control.

"In taking on this new responsibility as chair, I look forward to working with fellow members of the Board as we continue to seek input and advice from the community regarding strategic directions in tobacco control and the administration of Hawai'i's tobacco prevention and control trust fund," said Robinett.



Hali Robinett

Transitions

Aloha Dr. Gotay

Dr. Carolyn Cook Gotay, CRCH's director of the Prevention and Control Program, bid aloha to Hawai'i on January 1. She is now a professor and founding Canadian Cancer Society Chair in Primary Cancer Prevention at the Department of Health Care & Epidemiology, University of British Columbia in Vancouver. In her new position, Dr. Gotay will be responsible for developing research and training programs directed at preventing cancer.

During her more than 15 years at the CRCH, Dr. Gotay received numerous peer-reviewed grants and contracts from the National Cancer Institute, National Institute of Aging, National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and the Department of Defense. Much of her CRCH research focused on cancer survivorship and the quality of life of cancer survivors—identifying and addressing the long-term effects of cancer and its therapies—and her work has been published in leading journals, including the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, Cancer, and the Journal of Clinical Oncology.

"Hawai'i is a rich natural laboratory for cancer research. The CRCH provides a wonderful resource for interaction with inspiring and dedicated world-class scientists," said Dr. Gotay. "Right now, the Center is at an exciting time in its development as it builds research programs and a new facility that includes outpatient cancer care. Both science and the people of Hawai'i will benefit from these new advances, and I wish the CRCH and my former co-workers the best of luck!"

With the departure of Dr. Gotay, **Dr. Cheryl Albright** was appointed interim director of the Prevention and Control Program, effective January 1, 2008. She will serve in this capacity while recruitment efforts continue to name a new permanent Director and other faculty to build and grow the program.

Dr. Carolyn Gotay



Paula Higuchi Named Vice Chair of Hawaii Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition

Paula Higuchi, Partnership Program manager of the Cancer Information Service (CIS), Pacific Region, has been elected to serve as vice-chair of the Hawai'i Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition (HCCCC) for two years, and will assume the position of chair in fall 2009. Higuchi has been an active participant of HCCCC since its inception in 2002. She succeeds Senator **Rosalyn Baker**, who recently became the new chair, following completion of term by former Cancer Research Center scientist **Dr. Carolyn Gotay**.

As vice chair, Higuchi will provide leadership with Senator Baker to the HCCCC to continue developing and implementing a viable comprehensive cancer control plan for the citizens of Hawai'i. This effort will be made through bringing together a diverse group of individuals and organizations to create a coordinated plan to address cancer issues in our state.

Comprehensive cancer control is a

model that integrates and coordinates a range of activities to maximize the impact of limited resources and achieve desired cancer prevention and control measures. A key component to the success of this approach is establishing partnerships between public and private sector stakeholders whose common mission is to reduce the burden of cancer. Coalition members include representatives from hospitals, health organizations, health plans throughout the state, research and educational organizations, the state legislature, governmental agencies, and community organizations. Individuals include professional health care providers, researchers, and com-



Paula Higuchi

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CRCH Welcomes New Personnel Officer

Namrata Gurung is the CRCH's new personnel officer, taking the place of **Melvin Shiroma**, who retired on January 15 this year. Gurung began working at the Cancer Research Center in July 2007 as a Human Resource specialist in training.

She is a graduate of the Shidler College of Business at UH Manoa with a Bachelors of Business Administration degree in Human Resource Management and International Business. She is the sole personnel officer for CRCH.

Gurung came to live on Maui in April 2002 as a newlywed from her

home in Katmandu, Nepal. No stranger to travel outside her native country, she had learned English at boarding school in India which she attended from kindergarten through the 10th grade. Gurung began working on her business degree while living on Maui, and then transferred to UH Manoa. Her husband, **Deepak Neupane**, also from Nepal, attended college in Portland, Maine, then lived and worked in Hawai'i for several years. He is an architect and civil engineer with an MBA and works for the Hawaii Community Development Authority.



Namrata Gurung

Individualizing Breast Cancer Treatment CRCH Offers Novel Clinical Trial to Predict Breast Cancer Treatment Outcomes

Contributed by Christa Braun-Inglis, MS, APRN, AOCNP, Oncology Nurse Practitioner

Are some women being over-treated with chemotherapy? When is hormonal treatment the right treatment, and when should it be combined with more aggressive treatment?

TAILORx — Trial Assigning Individualized Options for Treatment (Rx) — aims to find out. TAILORx is investigating Oncotype DX, a molecular diagnostic test that produces a recurrence score, or RS, that predicts the likelihood of cancer recurring distantly within 10 years. The RS has been highly successful in predicting the risk of cancer returning in women with node-negative breast cancer that is estrogen and/or progesterone (hormone receptor) positive. Original data analysis and a validation study indicate that women with high RS benefit from chemotherapy, but women with low RS do not. The study is not clear about whether women with intermediate RS benefit from chemotherapy.

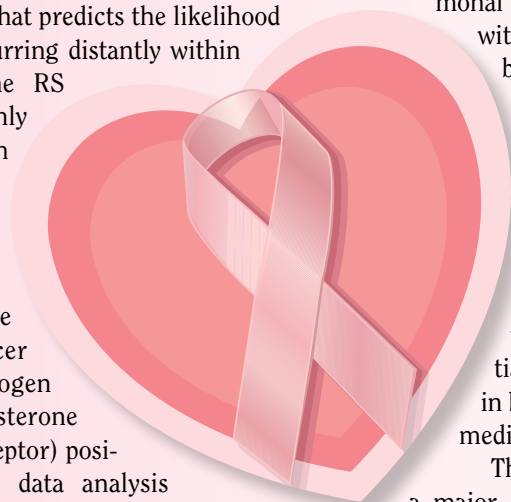
Hawai'i clinical trial. At the CRCH, more than 40 women are enrolled in the TAILORx trial to find out what is the better treatment for women with different risks of recurrence. Hormonal therapy has been the cornerstone for systemic treatment for women with hormone receptor positive early stage breast cancer. However, most clinicians continue to offer chemotherapy even though it probably benefits only 3 percent of this group of women. Chemotherapy is toxic. It may cause many acute and chronic problems as well as be devastating to a woman's body image. Although as of 2007, National Comprehensive Cancer Network guidelines continued to recommend chemotherapy for this cohort of women, a new recommendation states that clinicians should also consider using

OncotypeDX as part of their diagnosis.

Custom results. Once a patient enters the TAILORx study, CRCH staff have the OncotypeDx test performed on the patient's tumor to produce their individual RS. Patients with high RS are automatically recommended to get chemotherapy and hormonal therapy. Patients with low RS are automatically advised to get hormonal therapy only. Patients with intermediate RS will be chosen by random methods to either get hormonal therapy only, or chemotherapy plus hormonal therapy. The RS stratification has been lowered to include a safety net to minimize the potential for undertreatment in both the high and intermediate risk groups.

The TAILORx represents a major step in the individualization of cancer treatment. The OncotypeDx is useful in helping select appropriate treatment especially for early stage breast cancer. This trial is helping to validate a new modality to assist both patients and clinicians make better more informed choices regarding cancer treatment. Women in Hawai'i are very fortunate to have this opportunity to be involved in such an important clinical trial.

The TAILORx is the first study to prospectively look at OncotypeDx. It is also the first study to be developed as a result of the National Cancer Institute's Program for the Assessment of Clinical Cancer Tests (PACCT). The purpose of PACCT is to identify diagnostics to help personalize cancer medicine.



Partnerships HawaiiFoods Website Offers Information on Diet and Cancer



The Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) to develop and maintain the HawaiiFoods website.

Designed by **Dr. Sylvia Yuen**, director of the Center on the Family in CTAHR, and her staff, the website provides pictures, recipes, and nutritional information about local foods in Hawai'i. The website also has a dietary assessment section. Enter your food consumption during the day, and the computer will tell you how well your diet follows dietary guidelines. This assessment program was developed as part of a project directed by **Dr. Rachel Novotny**, professor in the Department of Human Nutrition, Food, and Animal Sciences at CTAHR. CRCH supplied the food composition table that is used to calculate nutrient intakes. **Dr. Suzanne P. Murphy**, CRCH nutrition researcher, was the co-investigator.

Dr. Murphy heads the Nutrition Support Shared Resource at CRCH, which maintains an extensive composition table of local foods used for studies on diet and cancer. With the HawaiiFoods website, the CRCH composition table can now be accessed by both the public and by researchers outside CRCH. Check it out at

Breast Cancer Facts

Breast cancer is the most common malignancy in women, and is the second leading cause of cancer deaths, next to lung cancer. The majority of women are diagnosed at early stages and most of them have hormone receptor positive cancer.

Surgery is the predominant treatment for women with early stage breast cancer. Women less than 70 years old usually receive systemic hormonal therapy in addition to surgery and possibly radiation.

<http://hawaiifoods.hawaii.edu/>

Publications

Scientific Report on CRCH Studies and Programs Now Available

A new Scientific Report on the research studies and accomplishments of the CRCH is now available. The 114-page document provides summary reports on major research initiatives and published studies performed by CRCH researchers and scientists during 2005-2006.

Over this two-year period, CRCH faculty published approximately 292 publications, many of which appeared in prestigious, peer-reviewed, national and international journals.

"It gives me great pleasure to present the latest Scientific Report of the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i to our peers, friends, and supporters," said **Dr. Carl-Wilhelm Vogel**. "The enormous progress made during the biennium 2005-2006 has paved a path for a bright future of CRCH as a leading research unit within the University of Hawai'i and as a first-rate academic Cancer Center offering comprehensive cancer care and access to innovative clinical trials to the ever growing number of cancer patients in our State."

The Scientific Report will be distributed to CRCH partners, faculty, friends, and the scientific community. To receive a copy of the report, go to **www.crch.org/CenScientificReport.htm**.

Cancer Symposium Celebrates 10th Anniversary

The West Hawai'i Cancer Symposium celebrated its 10th anniversary September 7-8, 2007 at the Four Seasons Resort Hualalai on the island of Hawai'i. Through the years, the symposium has attracted a sizeable local and national audience of physicians, nurses, and allied health professionals specializing or interested in cancer. It has been held each year with support from the American Cancer Society West Hawai'i staff in conjunction with the annual Taste of the Big Island dinner, silent auction, Terry Fox Run (replaced by the Run

for Hope), and other related fundraising activities for cancer research. During the past three years, the Cancer Research Center has become the major financial supporter of the symposium.

The symposium was first conceived by **Drs. Jan Wong and Daryl Kurozawa**. Dr. Wong, formerly with the John A. Burns School of Medicine and the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i, is a surgical oncologist who relocated to Loma Linda University. Dr. Kurozawa is a general surgeon who practices with Kaiser Permanente in West Hawai'i.



Dr. Carl-Wilhelm Vogel presented Drs. Daryl Kurozawa and Jan Wong with plaques of appreciation for their commitment and dedication at the 10th Annual West Hawai'i Cancer Symposium.

Paula Higuchi Named Vice-Chair

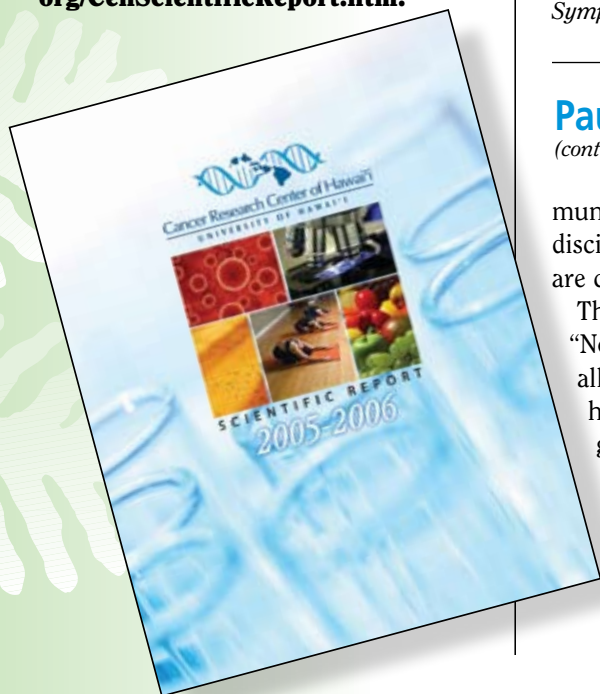
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munity members trained in numerous disciplines and many individuals who are cancer survivors themselves.

The theme of the Hawai'i Cancer Plan, "No More Cancer," is a vision shared by all members. To this end, the HCCCC has established guiding principles, goals and priorities, action strategies, and future prospects. The coalition is committed to a long-range plan and program to rid the state of Hawai'i of cancer. States Higuchi, "I invite you to join the

Coalition to make the vision of a Hawai'i with 'No More Cancer' become a reality."

Higuchi joined the CIS as outreach coordinator in 1995, eventually was named Outreach Program manager, and now the Partnership Program manager. She earned a Masters of Social Work degree while working full-time for the CIS and currently oversees its Partnership Program that interacts with community partners to provide culturally appropriate cancer products, programs, and messages for their constituents.



Thank you! University of Hawai'i Foundation Donors

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*The Cancer Research Center of
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The mission of the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i is to reduce the burden of cancer through research, education, and service with an emphasis on the unique ethnic, cultural, and environmental characteristics of Hawai'i and the Pacific.

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Director's Message

(continued from page 1)

Columbia in Vancouver this year (see pages 5 and 6 for details).

Last but not least, congratulations to our new junior faculty members **Haining Yang**, who joined **Dr. Michele Carbone's** Thoracic Oncology Program as assistant researcher, and **Ian Pagano** and **Hansong Wang**, who work with **Dr. Lynne Wilkens** of the Epidemiology Program as assistant specialists in the Cancer Center's Biostatistics shared resource.

Our new year looks promising and we are grateful that you have joined us as we strive to win the fight against cancer and improve the quality of lives of survivors of the disease.

Dr. Carl-Wilhelm Vogel
Director

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