



Imi Hale

Welcome and A Note from the Editors

Welina kakou!

On behalf of all the staff at `Imi Hale, we extend our aloha and wishes for a prosperous and healthy new year in 2005!

As we prepare to close the

first five-year term of `Imi Hale at the end of March, we are excited about and hopeful for what lies ahead.

`Imi Hale's accomplishments reflect the dedication of all our partners and the

Hawaiian communities that have worked together to reduce cancer health disparities.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and look forward to your continued support in the future.

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An Update on the Native Hawaiian Cancer Brochure Series

by Manny Kulukulualani

The inspiration to do a pilot project on developing cancer education brochures for Native Hawaiians came from another pilot project for a family cancer screening event held on Moloka`i (`Ohana Day, PI: K. Gellert).

The screening event called for cancer education materials, but the only materials available were either hard to read because of scientific language, lengthy (30 pages or more), or not attractive to Hawaiians. As a result, new brochures were developed to use at the screening event, which later became a project of its own.

The purpose of this project was to develop and test culturally sensitive brochures targeting Native Hawaiians, that could be used in future interventions to increase

cancer-screening knowledge and improve screening behaviors. The objective was to develop brochures that were attractive to, readable by, and acceptable to Hawaiians for six different cancer sites - skin, oral, prostate, cervical, testicular, and colorectal.

Part of the protocol developed involved pre-testing the brochures statewide, with staff and clients from the Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems and Community Health Centers. Brochures were reviewed for screening information accuracy by the Cancer Information Service and `Ahaui O Na Kauka (Association of Hawaiian Physicians), and edited to incorporate the input and the feedback received.

The six brochures have been completed as the Native



The cover picture of the Skin Cancer Brochure.

Hawaiian Cancer Awareness Series and will be available at the Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems and Community Health Centers statewide.

Mahalo to all the individuals who participated in the development of these brochures, including the agency staff and community clients who provided their mana`o to make these the best brochures possible.

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Recap of the 2004 Kamehameha Research Conference on Hawaiian Well-being: The Intersection of Research, Practice, and Hawaiian Culture

by Jordan Lee



Nā Liko Noelo - (budding researchers) Kapuaola Gellert and Megan Fong.



Kamehameha Schools - Kea'au Campus on the island of Hawai'i.



Megan Fong, PASE director Shawn Kanaiaupuni, Imi Hale research director Kathryn Braun, and Kapuaola Gellert.

The central thrust of the Kamehameha Schools 2004 Research Conference on Hawaiian Well-being was "What do we know about the strengths and intellectual lineage of *kanaka maoli* (Native Hawaiians)?"

The conference was held on the beautiful Kea'au Campus on the island of Hawai'i, and organized by KS Department of Policy Analysis & System Evaluation (PASE).

The major attraction of the research conference was the wide array of viewpoints from diverse disciplines to discuss issues and better understand Hawaiian well-being in a contemporary context. The research conference highlighted expertise from multiple disciplines including: education, health, family, economics, leadership, environmental studies, cultural practices, politics, and spirituality.

The majority of presentations were held on Friday, October 29th, with concurrent sessions spread out in different areas on the Kea'au campus. Researchers, educators, and practitioners came together to share their mana'o on various aspects of Hawaiian health and well-being.

Presentations were divided into modules, such as *Noi'i*

Kupono: Culture & Ethics in Research, No Ke Ola Wāhine: Research on Native Hawaiian Women, and Nā Ala Ho'ona'auao: Pathways to Learning. The following Nā Liko Noelo (budding researchers) with Imi Hale presented:

- Kapuaola Gellert *Family-Focused Intervention to Increase Cancer Screening among Native Hawaiians: The 'Ohana Day Project*
- Megan Fong *Native Hawaiian Preferences for Informed Consent and Dissemination of Results for Research Using Stored Biological Samples*
- JoAnn Tsark, Kathryn Braun, R. Mei-Ling Chang, and Jordan Lee *The Importance of Being a Community-based Research Initiative: Research for Hawaiians, by Hawaiians*
- Kamana'opono Crabbe and Sharon Odom *Kuko'olau o Maoli Ola: A Comprehensive Family Diabetes Education Program*
- Jamie Boyd *Motivation for Health Behavior Change: A College-based Approach to Improving the Health of Native Hawaiian High School Students*
- Dennis Chai *Body Fat Reduction through P.E. at Kamehameha Middle School*
- Kawika Liu *Hanu Ola: A Hawaiian Educational Curriculum for Asthma*

The conference opened with a ceremonial oli and heartfelt speeches by Kekuni Blaisdell, MD and kumu hula Pualani Kanakaole Kanahele.

Other noteworthy highlights of the conference included:

- A panel on the Hawaiian voyaging tradition and representatives from the *Hokule'a*, *Hokualaka'i*, *Hawai'iloa*, *Makali'i*, and *Iosepa*
- Keynote address by Dr. Benjamin Young on his search for the first Hawaiian doctors trained in Western medicine
- A discussion about new perspectives on research, publishing and Hawaiian identity by authors Noenoe Silva and Rona Halualani
- The release of *Hulili*, a new multidisciplinary journal on Hawaiian well-being

The conference incorporated a tour of Ke Kula 'o Nawahio-kalani'opu'u 'Ike and the 'Aha Punana Leo Hawaiian immersion schools in the area, a Hawaiian language session conducted entirely in 'olelo Hawai'i, and other cultural activities surrounding drum making and canoe building at the Lihikai Hawaiian Cultural Center in Onekahakaha, Keaukaha.

We look forward to next year's research conference. Maika'i loa, PASE program and Kamehameha Schools.

Budding Researcher Profile: An Interview with Melissa P.A. Luga

by Jordan Lee

As researchers attempt to answer some of the mysteries of science and life, they look to current literature and new discoveries to help elucidate solutions to current problems; a process called *research*. Research involves the study of science that builds upon existing knowledge and/or expands the understanding of a topic in a novel context. In an era of advancing technology that emphasizes critical thinking and reasoning, it is no surprise that researchers are starting at a younger age.

Such was the case for Melissa P.A. Luga, a 7th grade student of the Kamehameha Schools, Kea'au Campus last year. Melissa won the third place Cancer Research Award in the Junior Research Division at the 2004 State Science Fair, for her work on the allelopathic potential of the common paper bark tree (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*).

JL: *What was the purpose of your project, experimental setup, and result?*

ML: To find out whether or not the paper bark tree had allelopathic properties in the leaves or seeds of plants. Leaf extract, whole leaf and cut leaf, seed extract, whole seeds and crushed seeds were tested on Oregon sugar pea, marigold and rye grass. Plants were watered every other day for two weeks. At the end of two weeks, the plants were uprooted and the length and density of the root system were compared against the controls. The results showed a relationship between the leaves and the growth of the plants. The whole leaf root system compared with the control was stunted by 7.6 cm, and the root ball was three times denser in bulk. This study could expand to various medical and pharmaceutical developments including

cancer research.

JL: *What inspired you to do this project?*

ML: I was always curious about the paper bark tree in my backyard and why the seeds never grew around or underneath it. I wanted to know why this happened and what caused it.

JL: *Where do you see yourself in 10-15 years?*

ML: I like doing lab work and chemistry. I'd like to strive for a PhD or MD degree. I want to return to Hawai'i and give back to my Hawaiian community in medicine.

JL: *What do you envision for Native Hawaiian health and research in the future?*

ML: We need more educated Hawaiians in the sciences so that we can give back to our communities. I envision more research efforts and great technological advances in the medical field. The trend

toward greater awareness and access to resources for Native Hawaiians is only beginning.

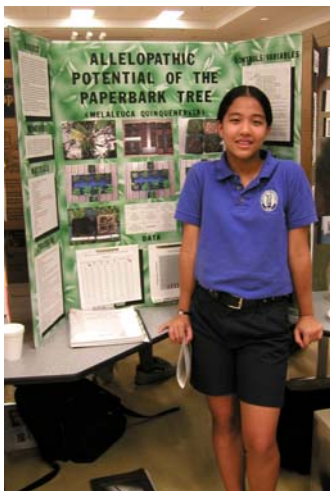
JL: *In doing your project, what were some challenges and rewards?*

ML: The biggest challenge was making sure I didn't mix up the plantings and watering and keeping data on so many pots. The reward was when I removed the plants from the pot and looked at the roots, which proved my hypothesis!

JL: *What do you plan to do next with your project?*

ML: This year's science project, Phase II, researches the phytochemical properties of the paper bark tree on *Staphylococcus epi* and *Escherichia coli*.

Editor's update: Melissa's current Phase II project captured 1st place in the Hawai'i district finals of the Science Fair and will compete statewide in April.



Melissa P.A. Luga, 7th grade Kamehameha student, in front of project display.



Leaf Extraction Process.

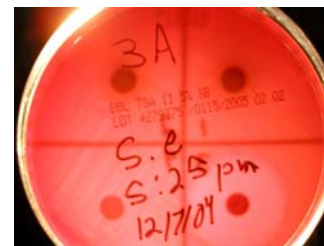


E. coli back lighted.

Quads 1 and 2 - extract w/ evidence of hemolysis
 Quad 3 - Zone of inhibition (positive control)
 Quad 4 - No effect (negative control)



E. coli front view.



S. epi back lighted.

Quads 1 and 2 - Extract w/ no hemolysis,
 Quad 3 - Zone of inhibition (positive control),
 Quad 4 - No effect (negative control)

Imi Hale



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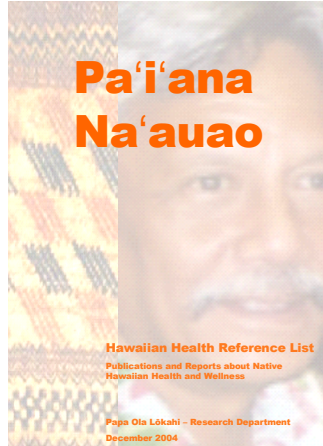
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A Community's Response to Cancer Prevention and Control



Pa'i'ana Na'auao

**The Hawaiian Health Reference List
is now available**

We are excited to announce that the Research Department of Papa Ola Lokahi has compiled and published a Hawaiian health reference list of reports, publications, monographs, books and book chapters and other academic papers.

The collection represents our working list of resource materials on Hawaiian health, particularly by Hawaiian researchers and authors.

To request a copy or update information, please email kbirnie@papaolalokahi.org

Upcoming Meetings and Conferences

March 22-24, 2005

Cancer Control Leadership Training - US-Associated Pacific Jurisdictions

Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, HI

Sponsored by CDC, ACS, NCI, and Imi Hale (Pacific Cancer Initiative)

March 30, 2005

Social and Ethical Research Issues: Cultural Issues in Minorities

Atlanta, GA

To register, contact William Drayton at (404) 614-6379 or e-mail irb@itc.edu

Sponsored by OHRP Interdenominational Theological Center

May 4-6, 2005

2005 National Conference on Tobacco or Health

Hyatt Regency Chicago on the Riverwalk

Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers Cityfront Center, Chicago, IL

To register, visit www.tobaccocontrolconference.org

June 15-17, 2005

Pacific Global Health Conference

Hawai'i Convention Center, Honolulu, HI

Sponsored by Hawai'i Public Health Association

September 23-24, 2005

Kamehameha Schools' Research Conference on Hawaiian Well-Being

Register online at www.ksbe.edu/pase or call (808) 534-3948 or 1 (800) 842-4682 ext. 3948.

Sponsored by Kamehameha Schools' Policy Analysis & System Evaluation (PASE)