DEAN’S MESSAGE

After the extraordinary challenges of the past year and a half, I can truly say that I’m looking forward to reopening our campus, classrooms and offices in the fall. It’s been something we’ve all worked hard to achieve and I’m proud of our students, faculty, staff and alumni who made the changes at work and in their personal lives to persevere through the pandemic.

In our cover story, “Embracing Change,” individuals share the challenges and changes they’ve made during this time and the ones they hope to continue in the future. Their stories give us a glimpse into their professional and personal lives and perhaps the most meaningfully, what they’ve learned about themselves.

Despite the disruption, the college continued to experience many victories throughout the spring semester. The Hawaii Information Conference of System Sciences (HICSS) and the Hawaii’s Accounting Research Conference (HARC) were held online in January with a high participation rate. We congratulated several Shidler College student teams who placed in the top tier for national and international business competitions. We hosted a virtual event for our alumni living in Japan featuring Allan Ikawa, CEO of Big Island Candies.

Another exciting event shared plans for the upcoming live, learn and work center for entrepreneurship, which will open in 2023.

We closed the semester with two premier college events. Business Night celebrated its 60th anniversary and the TIM School’s Celebrate a Legacy in Tourism event honored Paul Kosasa, president and CEO of ABC Stores and Glenn Vergara, vice president and general manager of Waikiki Resort Hotel.

As many of you know, the pandemic has put a considerable strain on our current resources. For more than 30 years, the Shidler Business magazine, previously called the CBA Quarterly, has been a source of information to our alumni, local businesses and Hawai’i’s community. To continue this publication, we have decided to begin the process of moving the magazine to a digital format. Starting from the next issue, those with valid emails will receive a digital version. Others will continue to receive a printed copy. However, you are welcome to choose how you want to receive your future issues by going to shidler.hawaii.edu/magazine.

Starting in the fall, we hope you’ll join us at in-person alumni events in Hawai’i, on the mainland and abroad.

Please check our schedule of events on our college’s website. As always, please stay in touch and thank you again for your support throughout the pandemic.

Sincerely,

V. Vance Roley
Dean and First Hawaiian Bank Chair of Leadership and Management
Shidler College of Business Advisory Council


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ABC Stores

ON THE COVER
Shidler College graduates participate in UH Mānoa’s hybrid commencement.

A hui hou, Dolly Omiya! We wish you all the best in your next chapter and we thank you for dedication to Shidler College.

Photo courtesy of Jared Matsumura.
As the nation moves closer to returning back to some level of normalcy, the Shidler College joins many businesses and organizations looking for ways to embrace some of the positive changes brought on by the pandemic while remaining vigilant for the unexpected.

“The global pandemic has taught us that remote learning works for the majority of our students and faculty, but not all,” Shidler College Dean Vance Roley, said. “When the college shut down last March, our faculty quickly moved classes online and modified their teaching and instructions to address our students’ needs and requirements.

“However, we learned that students and faculty missed the human interaction part of learning such as group projects, class presentations, internships, club activities and college events. Whether or not the university adopts the hybrid model permanently is still undetermined. However, I believe that some online courses will inevitably continue to some degree in the future.”

The abrupt closure of the college also left many to find a way to telework from home. The main concern for staff was having the proper equipment and adequate workspace. Marc Endrigat, MBA admissions director, worked strictly online to address students’ academic questions and professional goals.

“My most rewarding experience has been the flexibility that the technology has provided,” he said. “Utilizing technology has allowed me to stay on top of my work responsibilities during these challenging times of social distancing without needing to be in the office. I do find the lack of in-person human interaction to be a continuing challenge and am very much looking forward to interacting with students and fellow staff members in-person in the upcoming fall semester.”

The coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on the travel industry and the School of Travel Industry Management (TIM School). “All TIM School student services staff have been working remotely since the beginning of the pandemic. The transition to remote work in March 2020 posed an initial learning curve for all involved—students and staff alike—but everyone has been able to adapt,” Carissa Gusman, TIM School academic advisor, said. “By implementing more electronic forms of communication and services, including social media, email, the website, Zoom and STAR, we are able to continue to provide remote support and our engagement with TIM students remains high. On a personal level, I have enjoyed the flexibility that working from home brings (no commute!) and spending time with my amazing officemate, and cutest dog in the world, Dexter.”

Unfortunately, the pandemic shutdown caused a real disruption in the college’s internship program. “Many companies shifted to virtual work, which did not lend itself to
WHAT TO EXPECT THIS FALL

Starting this fall, students registered for in-person courses will see changes at the Shidler College. They include frequent sanitation procedures throughout the day, 3-feet of social distance between desks, separated tables and benches in the hallways and in the courtyard and hand sanitizer dispensers on every floor and tower.

mentor interns,” Rick Varley, director of internship and career development, said. “Despite this, we still successfully placed 146 interns in the fall of 2020 and 144 in the spring of 2021, about 40% less than pre-COVID numbers, but certainly better than expected.”

In spite of the challenges brought on from the pandemic, there were many beneficial opportunities for students and Shidler College students got creative in securing internships.

“Shidler senior Lance Asuka secured and completed a virtual marketing internship with a large real estate company in Bangkok, Thailand,” Varley said. “Also, three finance majors, Micah Mun-Tanaka, Isaiah Sabey and Brody Uehara, though initially disappointed that their Wall Street internships were virtual, they successfully converted their internships to full-time job offers.”

As athletes saw their sports’ seasons cut short or canceled, they too found a glimmer of hope. Through an unprecedented decision by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), student-athletes were given an extra year of eligibility for the 2020-2021 school year. This surprising extension gave UH men’s volleyball players Patrick Gasman, Rado Parapunov and Jackson Van Eekeren an opportunity to play another year as well as pursue an advanced degree. All three not only graduated with their master’s degrees from Shidler College this summer but also met their goal to capture the NCAA Men’s Volleyball Championship in May.

“One thing everyone can agree on is that life as we know it will never be the same. The pandemic has changed the way we work, live, engage and play. The best thing we can do moving forward is to embrace the changes that truly matter.

“In anticipation of the return of students, we will continue to follow CDC policies to keep our students, staff and faculty safe and healthy. We will also be guided by UH COVID policies should anyone test positive for the virus.”

-Justin Meilgaard
Shidler COVID Coordinator
Embracing Change

In a year with unprecedented disruptions, many individuals found themselves embracing small changes they made in their work, school and personal lives. We asked many of our faculty, staff, students and alumni to share the most impactful change they made in their life that they hope to continue.

**IN LIGHT OF THE PANDEMIC, WHAT IS THE MOST IMPACTFUL CHANGE YOU MADE IN YOUR LIFE THAT YOU HOPE TO CONTINUE?**

Jerry Agrusa, Professor, School of Travel Industry Management
“The most impactful change in light of the pandemic I made in my life is to focus my research on assisting Hawai‘i’s hospitality and tourism industry to recover from the pandemic and provide the most positive impact for the residents of Hawai‘i. By presenting the research data and recommendations to Hawai‘i’s leadership that emphasizes sustainability for Hawai‘i’s residents, its land and culture as well as the employment that tourism provides, hopefully, policies and procedures will be developed that work in synergy.”

Krystal Lee, Program Manager, Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship
“The pandemic forced me to cook at home more regularly and eat dinner at a normal time. Who knew that having dinner at 6 p.m. could be so life-changing!”

Sonia Ghumman, Associate Professor of Management and Shidler College Faculty Fellow
“Let it go! Accept that not everything in your life is under your control anyway.”

Derwin “Kekai” Edayan, BS ’18, MHRM ’19, Hotel Assistant Manager, Mauna Kea Resort
“Through the hardships of the pandemic, one of the most impactful changes I have made would have been focusing on my health. Losing 55 lbs. and managing the weight loss have been key in supporting a good work-life balance. It is pertinent that we care for and be mindful of our health as this allows us to carry on and service our guests. This includes self-awareness, weight management and stress management. It’s tough keeping up but well worth the journey.”

Alyssa Mencel, BBA Candidate and Shidler Global Leader
“During the pandemic, I realized how hard it had become to connect with others and build relationships. To fix this problem I was having, I decided to try and reach out to a different connection, mentor or friend every week. This change helped me build stronger relationships even through a computer screen and I hope to continue doing so.”

Sonia Ghumman, Associate Professor of Management and Shidler College Faculty Fellow
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Jordan Baird, MBA ’21, MSF ’21
“Luckily, by the time of the COVID pandemic I had already derived income from investments so my lifestyle was already home-based and was not significantly impacted. The most significant change in my life brought about by the pandemic was my implementation of investment strategies capitalizing on highly volatile market responses.”

Clockwise from top: Clare Fujioka-Sok, Derwin “Kekai” Edayan, Sonia Ghumman and Alyssa Mencel
In its first completed year, the college’s 12-month master of science degree programs in finance, information systems and marketing management survived the pandemic and are thriving.

The first group of 28 students are receiving their degrees this summer. The programs were designed for business students who have recently graduated and would like to acquire more in-depth knowledge of a specific field.

These programs are also geared toward current undergraduate Shidler College students who are completing their bachelor’s degree in finance, marketing management or information systems in the fall or spring. This is called a “4+1” option and is a great opportunity for students who wish to earn an advanced degree in their fifth year.

“An additional year in one of our master of science programs gives students a tremendous advantage in the workplace. Not only do they gain specialized knowledge in their field, but also have an opportunity to network, hone their managerial skills and develop their career paths.”

-Vance Roley

### MASTER OF FINANCE (MSF)

This program provides students with in-depth knowledge in the principles and practices of finance. Graduates will have greater opportunities to work in finance-related careers, such as commercial banking, investment management, wealth management, financial planning, risk management and insurance and real estate.

### MASTER OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS (MSIS)

This program provides students with advanced managerial and technical skills to meet the demand for information technology (IT) professionals across business sectors and around the globe. The program is designed to equip graduates with the skills needed to be successful in a rapidly growing business environment.

### MASTER OF MARKETING MANAGEMENT (MSMM)

This program provides students with in-depth knowledge in marketing management. A graduate degree in MSMM broadens graduates’ opportunities to work in marketing-related careers, including public relations, market research, advertising, promotions and events.
MENTORSHIP IS THE BREAD AND BUTTER OF THE COLLEGE

BY DANI DOUGLASS

Mentorship is an integral part of the student experience and culture at the Shidler College. The mentor and mentee relationship provides students with the opportunity to learn from and develop a relationship with a seasoned professional. On the other side of the continuum, the mentor shares his or her work knowledge and experience with students who are passionate and eager to learn from someone within their chosen career path. For many decades, the college has provided multiple mentorship opportunities for the next generation of business and hospitality industry leaders.

SHIDLER COLLEGE MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Business Night, the college’s premier mentorship event occurs annually and partners students with business leaders for a night of networking and fellowship.

The Executive Mentoring Program (EMERG) provides current Executive MBA students with a seasoned executive mentor for a six-month program that aims to encourage professional and personal growth. The students also join a True North Group as part of the program. Last year’s program ran from Aug. 24–March 24 and provided program participants with a valuable experience.

“The True North Group has been amazing and exceeded my expectations,” Shidler Distance Learning Executive MBA student Sophia Saindon-Davies, said. “I would highly recommend it to anyone who wants to become a better leader and better understand themselves. It has been a way to grow personally and professionally."

The Recent Alumni Mentoring Program (RAMP) program provides recent alumni (those who have graduated within the past five years) with a pathway to connect and learn from Hawai‘i’s leading professionals. This program is designed to serve as a pathway for participants to accelerate their careers.

The Shidler Global Leaders (SGL) Mentor Connect Program provides senior-level SGL undergraduate students with an opportunity to connect and learn from leading business professionals. This program is an invite-only opportunity and is made up of a diverse group of students who have a demonstrated record of academic achievements and the skills necessary to excel in the program.
The Direct Admit Mentoring Program is available to all Shidler Freshman Direct Admit Program (DAP) students during their sophomore year. This program is capped at 20 students to keep the group small enough to provide guidance in intimate mentorship groupings. This program aims to foster relationships that will carry into students’ futures.

TIM SCHOOL MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Nā Kukui Netlinks event takes place annually and is an opportunity for TIM School students taking the Events Planning and Marketing course (TIM 316) to gain experience in planning and executing a function. The event began in 1995 in order to bring together today’s industry leaders with future leaders. Students are able to develop and build long-lasting relationships through mentorship while gaining the skills and experiences necessary to plan and host large-scale events.

The TIM School also offers a Freshmen Mentorship Program. The program runs from mid-Sept. through mid-May and provides incoming freshmen with the opportunity to learn from upperclassmen students. The mentors provide insights about the college experience, including the skills they’ve developed in the program and share about their personal experiences. The mentees have the opportunity to meet new people, expand their networks and learn from fellow students who have traveled a similar path.

If you have general mentorship questions or are interested in becoming involved in Shidler College's mentor programs during the 2021-2022 academic year, please email Bianca Mordasini, senior director of alumni and external relations, at bianca.mordasini@uhfoundation.org or call (808) 956-3263.
Congrats, graduates!

A special virtual commencement reception became available for viewing on the college’s website on May 14 for the 349 undergraduate and 98 graduate Shidler College students who are now college alumni. The recorded video features speeches from Dean Vance Roley, student representatives and alumni leaders and a special donor roll call. On May 15, an estimated 220 graduates attended UH Mānoa’s in-person diploma presentation and photo session. Participants were each allowed to bring two guests with them as they were presented with commemorative scrolls from Dean Roley and took photos in their regalia to mark their academic milestones. Each graduate also received a goodie bag from the Shidler and TIM Alumni Associations, containing a tumbler, T-shirt and business card holder.

shidler.hawaii.edu/commencement

Business Night celebrates 60 years of mentorship

Despite the pandemic, the college celebrated Business Night’s 60th anniversary virtually on May 6. “It was an honor to continue the 60-year legacy of Business Night to ensure that students are recognized for their achievements and given opportunities for professional development,” Alexandria Tyau, Shidler College senior and Business Night executive director, said.

In keeping with tradition, the program introduced award recipients and their sponsors as well as provided an opportunity for students to meet with professionals through breakout rooms. The college also featured a special 60th anniversary video, which highlighted the impact of Business Night on students throughout the years.

With support from Hawai‘i’s business community, alumni and friends, the college presented 47 awards to top undergraduate and graduate students totaling $87,000. First Insurance Company of Hawaii served as title sponsor for an unprecedented 15 years and Hawaii Business magazine served as media sponsor.

shidler.hawaii.edu/businessnight60
Clockwise: Graduates pose for a photo at the UH Mānoa hybrid commencement on May 15; Business Night student committee (from left): Faye Anne Miguel, president of the Inter-Business Council; Justin Yago, co-director of recruitment and registration; Alex Tyau, executive director of Business Night; Noah Okamoto, co-director of recruitment and registration; and Natalie Kwon, director of marketing; Business Nights of past and present.

Check out these posts from accounts that tagged @shidlercollege on Instagram! Be sure to tag the college in your social media posts for a chance to appear in the next issue. Mahalo for the support @j.yagz, @hsentrepreneurs, @ibcmanoa and @pacehawaii.
The 54th Hawai‘i International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS) was held from January 4-8, 2021. Despite a difficult year caused by the coronavirus pandemic, the virtual edition of HICSS welcomed 710 refereed papers covering a wide spectrum of topics organized into 166 mini tracks. Popular topics addressed by the researchers included the digital economy, software technology, cybersecurity and the effectiveness of research methods addressing information technology issues.

HICSS partnered with the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESR) and IBM to offer a track on location intelligence and a workshop on quantum computing.

The HICSS community is comprised of researchers holding senior editorial positions in leading research journals, as well as industry and government affiliates such as Google, Microsoft, Accenture, U.S. Department of Energy, National Security Agency, Department of Defense, U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory and Naval Information Warfare Center, Pacific.

The number of downloads from the last five conference proceedings has grown to more than 2 million. According to Microsoft Academic, the conference is ranked first in terms of saliency in a business field and 39th among more than 4,000 conferences being tracked by citations over the past 50 years. It is highly recognized as the top research conference in the management information systems discipline.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, more than 300 accounting researchers and high-profile practitioners from around the world participated virtually during the three-day Hawai‘i Accounting Research Conference (HARC) in January. The conference was held for free over Zoom and featured 21 tracks and more than 75 sessions as well as two concurrent poster sessions.

The conference featured keynote speaker Katherine Schipper, Thomas F. Keller Professor of Business Administration at Duke University Fuqua School of Business. Her presentation focused on what makes accounting research consequential.

The growing conference drew more than 100 papers across 17 research areas and continues to attract promising doctoral students each year.

The primary objective of the conference is to provide an enjoyable and affordable venue for attendees from around the world to engage in lively discussions on relevant accounting research. The conference also issued continuing professional education credits for participants.

“We pride ourselves on making the conference student-friendly,” Hamid Pourjalali, HARC co-founder and Shidler College professor, said. “It is an excellent opportunity for doctoral students to network and find mentors among senior faculty attending the conference. Since its inception in 2018, HARC’s paper submissions have tripled in number.”

Planning is underway for next year’s in-person HICSS conference at the newly renovated Hyatt Regency Maui from January 4-7, 2022.

The next in-person HARC Conference will be held at UH Mānoa from January 3-5, 2022.
Celebrate a Legacy in Tourism raises $180k

The TIM School and the Shidler College held the 19th annual Celebrate a Legacy in Tourism event on April 29 virtually for the first time in its history. Each year, the Legacy in Tourism and the TIM Alumni Hall of Honor awards are presented to alumni and individuals who have made outstanding contributions to tourism in Hawai‘i and worldwide; and significant contributions to the development of the TIM School at the Shidler College. The 2021 Legacy in Tourism award was presented to Paul Kosasa, president and CEO of ABC Stores and the TIM Alumni Hall of Honor award was given to Glenn Vergara, BBA ’84, vice president and general manager of the Waikiki Resort Hotel. Thanks to the tireless efforts of the sponsorship committee, led by Co-chairs Vicky Cayetano and Larry Rodriguez; and the generosity of sponsors and individual supporters, the event raised more than $180,000. Proceeds will benefit TIM School student scholarships.

Top doctoral students attend HARDI

Twenty-four doctoral students from top accounting programs worldwide attended the inaugural Hawai‘i Accounting Research Doctoral Institute’s (HARDI) three-week consortium in June. They joined a group of distinguished accounting researchers to discuss, share and develop relevant research in accounting. The researchers included Mary Barth, Stanford; Patricia Dechow, University of Southern California (USC); Mark DeFond, USC; W. Robert Knechel, University of Florida; Terry Shevlin, UC Irvine; and Richard Sloan, USC.

“We are committed to narrowing the ‘academic-practice’ gap that has been widening over the years in the accounting discipline,” Hamid Pourjalali, Shidler College professor and HARDI founder, said. “To accomplish this goal, we have created a 20-member professional advisory board and an eight-member academic committee to identify relevant research topics and invited only the top doctoral students from 85 universities ranked for their accounting programs. It is our hope that the tuition-free HARDI consortium will add greatly to stimulating accounting research worldwide.”

College receives high reviews during AACSB Accreditation

In February, the Shidler College received reaccreditation from the AACSB International, a global organization that sets the standards of excellence for business and accounting schools worldwide.

For students, the AACSB accreditation ensures that their school offers a challenging, relevant and quality business education with high caliber faculty to prepare them for the business world and is recognized by top employers and universities worldwide.

“Everyone at the college has worked diligently to improve all areas, including teaching, research, curricula development, academic and professional engagements and student learning,” Shidler College Dean Vance Roley, said. “It is a rigorous review process that the college has to undergo every five years to meet the high standards of the AACSB International accreditation.”
The UH Venture Competition (UHVC) held its final competition virtually on May 5. The student-led startup company Pulse Utility earned the first place prize package for its project in underground utility mapping that could potentially expedite the completion of the Honolulu rail project. The group posed solutions to save the project time and money, including locating underground utilities along the rail line and using ground-penetrating radar, which is a safe and non-invasive technology, to locate buried infrastructure.

Pulse Utility was led by Craig Opie, a UH Mānoa information and computer sciences undergraduate student, along with Yosef Ben Gershom, a UH Mānoa Hawaii Space Flight Laboratory mechanical engineer and Executive MBA student; Anthony Lopez, a UH Mānoa electrical engineering student; Josh O’Neill, a Honolulu Community College computing, security and networking technology student; and Issac Rodrigues, co-owner of Death Star Development, LLC and senior-level electrical engineer. The second-place prize package was awarded to Nimbus AI. Led by Kyle Hart, a UH Mānoa computer science student, the project used machine learning to allow solar power grid managers to make quick decisions based on cloud cover forecasts. In third-place was Polu Energy, led by Tate Castillo, BBA ’18, UH Mānoa law and business student. The project centered on a renewable ocean energy technology that balances wind and solar while making seawater desalination cheaper and cleaner.

The final round was open to the public for the first time and viewers selected the winner of a new wild card round. KahuBot, a company that designs autonomous disinfectant-spraying robots, took home the wild card prize sponsored by ProService Hawaii. A big mahalo to title sponsor American Savings Bank.

Competition finalists with sponsors and judges.

PACE hosted a diverse array of experienced entrepreneurs who shared their startup journey and guidance as part of the Entrepreneurship Live Speaker Series, sponsored by First Insurance Company of Hawaii. The spring 2021 lineup of speakers included Neale Asato, founder of Asato Family Shop; Mylen Yamamoto, founder of Cropsticks; and Tetsuya Ohara, president of INCS Corporation. More than 150 students joined the videoconferencing platform to learn from these skillful and accomplished entrepreneurs. Resiliency and adaptability were overarching themes expressed from these uplifting conversations that inspired the next generation of entrepreneurs to prosper through the ups and downs in their entrepreneurial journey.

Attorneys Wendy Peterson, BBA ’82, and Jeffrey Van Hoosear from the law firm Knobbe Martens hosted a virtual intellectual property workshop. The dynamic duo presented their workshop titled “Let’s Talk Story: Trademark Tips and Traps,” which highlighted the importance of protecting copyrights, trademarks and trade secrets. The event was free and open to all UH students and faculty. Knobbe Martens is the largest law firm in Orange County, California and one of the largest intellectual property law firms in the nation. Peterson serves on the PACE board of directors and is an alumna of Shidler College and the William S. Richardson School of Law.

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Two UH startups received $10,000 grants each after successfully completing Liftoff Advisors. The program is designed to support new venture founders in the delicate period after starting a venture and before pitching it to investors. For six months, the two teams worked toward achieving their own goals while receiving guidance from hand-selected business advisors. Volunteer advisors include Tim Homuth with Tako, Inc.; technologist Zachary Kim; Chris Rehkamp with Triple Pine Pizza; Auston Stewart with Twitch; Eric Tom with Teradata; Lee Wang with Landed; and Breck Yunits with Public Domain Publishing Company.

The innovative startups include Reelfresh, a company that offers a mobile application to connect fishermen and consumers; and Pear, a company that deploys online assistance by connecting wellness coaches to older adults. To find out more and support these companies, download the Reelfresh app for free on iOS and Android and visit pearsuite.com.

In the spring semester, PACE’s monthly Co-Finder networking events were combined with the UH Venture Competition Entrepreneurs’ Bootcamps to foster, educate and grow the entrepreneurial ecosystem by connecting students, faculty and alumni. More than 50 students logged into virtual mixers and shared their innovative ideas that can bring positive change to the world. From the comfort of their homes, students were able to meet like-minded individuals from across the UH system and startup community. More than 15 startup ideas were pitched, ranging from a virtual reality football practice software to a community care platform powered by virtual wellness coaches for the elderly to an organization specializing in the education, isolation and removal of microplastics from marine ecosystems.

The Family Business Center of Hawaii’s (FBC) Ulu na Alaka‘i (Growing Leaders) program has graduated its first cohort. The 10-month program is designed to aid high-performing, mid-level managers as they prepare for the next leadership level in a family business. Shortly after classes started in March 2020, the program needed to move online because of the pandemic. Fortunately, the majority of the classwork had already been planned for a virtual format and only minor adjustments were necessary for the participants to complete the program. The FBC also hosted several speakers over the past several months, covering everything from cybersecurity to how the next generation defines success and finds new opportunities to take a business to the next level. One of the key highlights of these talks has been the resilience to push forward despite hardship and challenges. Many family businesses are rooted in their histories and desires to honor and continue the family legacy.

PACE launched the Calvin Shindo Student Venture Fund earlier this year. The fund is made possible through the generous support of serial entrepreneur Dustin Shindo, who named the fund in honor of his father. The student-run fund is available to early-stage companies affiliated with any of UH’s 10 campuses. This program is a great opportunity for students who would like to learn about the venture capital process and receive financing for their startup. For each venture, investments up to $5,000 are available and a total of $25,000 will be awarded each year.

The Calvin Shindo Student Venture Fund student committee.

The first cohort of Ulu na Alaka‘i.

The Family Business Center of Hawaii’s (FBCH) Ulu na Alaka’ai (Growing Leaders) program has graduated its first cohort. The 10-month program is designed to aid high-performing, mid-level managers as they prepare for the next leadership level in a family business. Shortly after classes started in March 2020, the program needed to move online because of the pandemic. Fortunately, the majority of the classwork had already been planned for a virtual format and only minor adjustments were necessary for the participants to complete the program. The FBC also hosted several speakers over the past several months, covering everything from cybersecurity to how the next generation defines success and finds new opportunities to take a business to the next level. One of the key highlights of these talks has been the resilience to push forward despite hardship and challenges. Many family businesses are rooted in their histories and desires to honor and continue the family legacy.

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1 | ACCOUNTING CLUB VOLUNTEERS TO HELP HAWAI’I’S FAMILIES

Accounting Club members (from left) Chloe Cabanig, Alyssa Williams, Johnny Lum, Jacquelyn Tran and Eric Choy volunteered at the Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies (HMHB) Coalition of Hawai’i in March. They spent the afternoon preparing marketing materials, packaging baby supplies and organizing the storage room. HMHB is a local nonprofit agency committed to improving Hawai’i’s family health.

2 | TIM SCHOOL STUDENT CLUB RECEIVES A GIFT

From left to right: Abigail Badua, Janisse Ibana, Wesley Wailehua and Sofia Acosta pose with check. The Club Management Association of America (CMAA) student club recently received a $1,000 donation from its parent chapter, CMAA – Aloha State Chapter, during the CMAA Annual Summer BBQ Dinner. The funds will be used to help the club kickstart the upcoming school year in funding social events, annual CMAA conference registration fees, supplies and other club related activities.

2 | PIVOTING SUPER CLUBS DAY INTO A VIRTUAL EVENT

The Inter-Business Council (IBC) found a creative way to transform Super Clubs Day into a virtual event. Representing their clubs, more than 200 business club members participated in a friendly competition of various challenges and games. IBC’s funding for this event usually goes to providing snacks, water and Gatorade. Instead, IBC shifted its funding to provide a virtual grocery experience for the winning clubs to share with its members.

IBC board members (from left) Alyssa Mencel, director of student development; Ila Ferris, vice president; and Mark Ushiroda, secretary, went on a massive Costco run. The end result featured three full carts of various snacks and drinks for the winners as well as a mile-long receipt.

4 | ACCOUNTING STUDENTS WIN VIRTUAL INNOVATIVE CHALLENGE

A team of undergraduate accounting students clinched first place at the TrueUp Student Innovative Challenge on March 22. They were among 20 teams nationwide to compete in the three-day virtual competition to review data and create an overall strategy on Pueblo Hospitality, LLC, a lodging company that operates hotels in several states across the U.S.

The first-place team consisted of Michelle Yim, Camrie Kubota, Isaiah Lopez and Victoria Kashiwai. The team used their data analytic skills to measure the company’s performance and collaborated online to create a video presentation and...
pitched their business strategy virtually to a panel of certified public accountants and business professionals. The event is sponsored by the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and Crowe.

5 | STUDENT AWARDED $10K SCHOLARSHIP
Wrenna Delgado has been selected as a Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) scholar for the 2021-2022 academic year. The scholarship is awarded to an outstanding student in the U.S. who has shown remarkable talent in the field of accounting. Delgado will receive a $10,000 scholarship from PCAOB, a nonprofit corporation established by Congress to oversee audits of public companies.

6 | VOLLEYBALL IS SERIOUS BUSINESS
Congratulations to the UH Mānoa men’s volleyball team, the 2021 NCAA national champions! The team, which is composed of 13 Shidler College students, defeated Brigham Young University in three sets (25-21, 25-19 and 25-19) on May 8 to claim UH’s first NCAA team title since 1987 when the Rainbow Wahine volleyball team defeated Stanford.

Opposite hitter Parapunov, the American Volleyball Coaches Association and Big West Player of the Year senior, led the way for the Rainbow Warriors with 13 kills hitting .357 and three service aces. Senior middle blocker Gasman added seven kills and two blocks and outside hitter Galloway contributed six kills hitting .667. The game also marked the final match for Rainbow Warrior seniors Parapunov, Gasman and van Eekeren. Go Bows!

Shidler Men’s Volleyball Student-Athletes
(Master’s Students)
Patrick Gasman, Finance
Radoslav Parapunov, Marketing
Jackson van Eekeren, Finance

(Bachelor’s Students)
Filip Humler, Marketing
Devon Johnson, Marketing
Brett Sheward, Finance
Alaka’i Todd, Marketing
Cole Hogland, TIM

(Pre-Business Students)
Kana’i Akana
Austin Buchanan
Makua Marumoto
Logan Sharp (DAP student)

(Business Minor)
Chaz Galloway
**FACULTY AND STAFF NOTES**

**New Faculty and Staff**

Roy Yamaguchi will join the TIM School as a lecturer starting this fall. He will replace long-time TIM School faculty member Ed Wary, who passed away last December. Yamaguchi has more than 40 years of experience in the food and beverage industry and hosted shows on PBS, Bravo and TV Food Network. He opened his first Roy’s Restaurants in 1988 in Hawai‘i and continues to expand his restaurant empire, making him one of the top restaurateurs and chefs in the world.

**Recognitions, Promotions and Appointments**

Boochun Jung, professor of accounting and Shidler College Distinguished Professor, has been appointed president of the Korean-American Accounting Professors Association (KAAPA), an organization that facilitates cooperation and networking among Korean accounting professors and doctoral students across North America and around the world.

Sungjin Kim, assistant professor of marketing, received the 2020 Paul E. Green award in April. This award recognizes the best article in the Journal of Marketing Research annually which demonstrates the greatest potential to contribute to the theory, methods and practice of marketing. His award was based on his research article with S. Gupta and C. Lee entitled, “Bayesian Synthetic Control Methods,” which appeared in the October issue of the Journal of Marketing Research.

Bianca Mordasini has been promoted to senior director of Alumni and External Relations for Shidler College. In her new role, she will be responsible for building relationships with alumni, students and donors by providing outreach and engagement activities, facilitating college, alumni and donor communications and overseeing college marketing and event initiatives. Other promotions include: Clare Fujioka-Sok, an admission advisor received tenure; and Prasanna Karhade was promoted to associate professor in information technology management.

Jenny Teruya, associate professor of accounting, received the Outstanding National Faculty Advisor for Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) for 2021. She has been the advisor for BAP, an international honor organization for financial information students, for more than 20 years. BAP has received numerous awards including Superior Chapter Status from 2010-2020 for exceeding the baseline requirements and excelling in the areas of academics, professionalism and leadership.

The following faculty and staff were recognized for their achievements during the 2020-2021 academic year: Sunjing Kim, assistant professor of marketing and Boochun Jung, professor of accounting and Shidler College Distinguished Professor, received the Shirley M. Lee Research Award; Benjamin Bystrom, finance instructor, and Jerry Agrusa, professor at the TIM School, received the Dennis Ching Outstanding Teaching Award; Rick Varley, director of internships and career development and Tung Bui, professor of information technology management and Matson Navigation Company Chair of Global Business, received the Kaizen (continuous improvement) award; and Krystal Lee, program manager at Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship (PACE), received the Ka Pou Hana Award (staff award for excellence).

Congratulations to the Professor of the Semester (teaching) awards for the Fall 2020 semester: Sonia Ghumman, associate professor of management (Global MBA core course); Ben Bystrom, finance instructor (Global MBA elective course); Constancio Paranal, marketing instructor and John Friend, marketing lecturer (BBA business core course); Kelly Holden, marketing instructor, Constancio Paranal, marketing instructor and Cristina Suarez, management lecturer (BBA major core course); John Friend, marketing lecturer and Marjan Houshmand, associate professor of management (BBA elective course); Lenna Shulga, assistant professor of Travel Industry Management (BS TIM core course); and Jerry Agrusa, professor of TIM (BS TIM emphasis course).

**Sonia Ghumman**, associate professor of management and Shidler College Faculty Fellow, received the University of Hawai‘i Presidential Citation for Meritorious Teaching for 2020–2021. She was one of six professors to be recognized for her contribution to teaching and student learning. One of her students said, “Her unique ability to relate to students and ensure a safe, respectful space for learning is next to none.”
Congratulations to the Professor of the Semester (teaching) awardees for Fall 2020.

Research


Prasanna Karhade, associate professor of information technology management and Shidler College Faculty Fellow and J.Q. Dong, published “Innovation outcomes of the digitally enabled collaborative problemistic search capability,” in MIS Quarterly, 2021.

Tamar Kreps, assistant professor of management and Shidler College Faculty Fellow, with K. Bain, N. Meikle and E. Tenney, published “Amplifying Voice in Organizations,” in the Academy of Management Journal. (Forthcoming). She also received the 2020 Academy of Management Organizational Behavior divisional award for the Outstanding Paper with Practical Implications for Management, for her research paper entitled, “Battling Incivility: Increasing Willingness to Voice through Amplification.”


Faculty in the News

MoneyGeek.com — Expert Advice on Comparing Car Insurance Quotes & Rates and Understanding Liability-Only Car Insurance, (2/16/21), Jing Ai, professor of finance

Hawaii News Now — ‘Golden Week’ comes and goes as Japan visitors face COVID hurdles when traveling to Hawai‘i, (5/12/21), Jerry Agrusa, professor of TIM

USA Today — Need a rental car for your trip to Hawai‘i? Be prepared for high prices, low inventory, (3/31/21), Jerry Agrusa, professor of TIM

A fond aloha to three long-time staff members who retired this summer

Jay De Ryck
Rikki Mitsunaga
Dolly Omiya

They include Jay De Ryck, who served for more than 30 years as hardware support engineer in the Computer Resources and Telecommunications office; Rikki Mitsunaga, who served more than 15 years as the director of Student Services, Business and International Programs, where she oversaw the Shidler Global Leaders and the Freeman and Johnson Scholarship Programs; and Dolly Omiya, who served as the director of the External Relations office and managing director of the Shidler Business magazine for more than 25 years.
Scholarship honors hotel and hospitality leader Barry Wallace

A new $50,000 scholarship endowment has been established in honor of the former executive vice president of Outrigger Enterprises Group, Barry Wallace, who passed away in May 2020. Wallace’s wife, Nancy, established the scholarship to support the TIM School undergraduate students.

Nancy Wallace said her husband developed a strong love for the culture and people of Hawai’i and called the state his home. By establishing the Barry L. Wallace Scholarship Endowment, she hopes to continue his legacy and spread aloha to the next generation of local hotel leaders.

Wallace and his family moved to Honolulu more than 25 years ago to join the Outrigger and OHANA Hotels & Resorts. Coworkers described him as smart, humble, supportive and inspirational. According to his family, employees worked “with him” and not “for him,” which earned him respect at the corporate level as well as from his colleagues throughout the industry.

shidler.hawaii.edu/wallacescholarship

Alumni renovate dean’s suite and conference room

Alumnus Curtis Freeze, MBA ’87, gave a generous gift of $250,000 to modernize the dean’s office, which is now known as the Curtis Freeze Dean’s Suite. The space, which includes a reception area, conference room and several offices, had not been touched since it was built in the 1970s. The refreshed space now includes new furniture, carpeting, paint and upgraded lighting.

The conference room renovations were funded by a group of alumni from Hong Kong and is now called the Hong Kong Alumni Group Dean’s Conference Room. The group collectively gave $200,000 to complete the major facelift. Each donor’s name is listed on a plaque displayed in the conference room.

A traditional Hawaiian blessing was held earlier in the year to commemorate the completion of the project and the reopening of the space. A virtual event was also held on March 13 to provide updates and show a video of the blessing ceremony and the newly refurbished space to donors.

shidler.hawaii.edu/wallacescholarship

Supporting Shidler

In this challenging time, your support of the college is needed more than ever. Your donation ensures that the Shidler College can continue performing at a level of excellence while providing students with valuable resources and support to stay on track with their academic and career goals. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will help to strengthen our community and future leaders. Please consider making a gift of any amount to one of the following funds.

Shidler Advancement Fund

Funds are directed to where they are needed most, including student support, enrichment programs, faculty research, as well as alumni outreach and engagement.

For more information about making a gift, please contact Kristi Bates, executive director of development, at (808) 956-3597 or kristi.bates@uhfoundation.org.

uhfoundation.org/supportshidler
Shidler Strong ends campaign well over fundraising goal

On June 30, Shidler College wrapped up Shidler Strong, its year-long fundraising campaign created in 2020–2021 to raise much needed funds for the college. The result was an outpouring of support from Shidler College alumni, faculty and staff, local businesses and community supporters. As of May 27, the campaign raised a total of $557,706, well over its goal of $350,000.

“In a most trying year, our alumni and business community amazed us with their generosity to help keep our students on track in pursuing their educational and career goals,” Kristi Bates, executive director of development, said. “This tremendous response reaffirms our belief that the success of our students continues to be the best investment in our state’s economic future.”

The money raised through the Shidler Strong campaign will provide critical support for student, faculty, alumni and community programs and activities not covered by the state-

Ed Wary Memorial Golf Tournament

The Ed Wary Scholarship Fund has been established in honor of Ed Wary, BBA ’68. Wary was a Honolulu restaurateur and a lecturer at the TIM School for more than 25 years. His wife, Tina Wary, created the scholarship in his memory for TIM School students in order to support future entrepreneurs and restaurateurs.

“Ed always enjoyed a day of golf with friends and played hard,” Tina Wary said. “He put that same energy into the restaurant business and as a dedicated lecturer at the University of Hawai‘i. He loved mentoring his students and staff and impacted lives through his kindness, knowledge and unwavering commitment to the industry.”

Ed Wary’s love of golf inspired Tina Wary to celebrate his life with the Ed Wary Foundation Memorial Golf Tournament on Sept. 27 at the Mid-Pacific Country Club. Proceeds from the event will help support the scholarship fund.

uhfoundation.org/warygolf

Travel Industry Management Development Fund
Funds student enrichment programs, special student activities, as well as alumni outreach and engagement.

uhfoundation.org/supporttim

School of Accountancy Advancement Fund
Funds student activities and clubs, academic development, continuing education courses and conferences.

uhfoundation.org/accountancy

The Shidler Strong campaign recently wrapped up and raised more than $500,000 for college programs and activities.
appropriated funds and Jay H. Shidler’s $228 million gift to the college in 2017. “Funds raised through the Shidler Strong campaign help the college continue scholarship and program support and fulfill ongoing commitments impacted by this community crisis,” Shidler Dean Vance Roley, said.

shidler.hawaii.edu/strong

Matson establishes new scholarship for undergraduates

The Matson Navigation Company, Inc. has committed $25,000 over the next five years to provide scholarship support to undergraduate students who are pursuing a degree at Shidler College. The Matson Scholarship for Leadership Diversity fund will provide scholarships for high-achieving students with demonstrated leadership ability and a strong work ethic.

“We are determined to do our part to combat systemic racism in our society and to increase diversity in senior business leadership roles, particularly in our industry,” said Matt Cox, chairman and CEO of Matson. “Our hope is that, over time, this new scholarship program in partnership with UH and 14 other colleges, universities and maritime academies in the communities we serve will help attract high-achieving ethnic minority and female students to careers in shipping transportation and logistics.”

In addition to this most recent gift, the company established the Matson Navigation Company Endowed Chair in Global Business in 1985 and has funded the annual “Outstanding MBA in Operations Management” Business Night award since 2013.

Ritchie and Sunny Mudd Scholarship for undergraduates

Shidler alumna, Sunny Mudd MBA ’92, and her husband, Ritchie Mudd, have established the Ritchie and Sunny Mudd Endowed Scholarship at the Shidler College. Their scholarship will benefit undergraduate students pursuing a degree at the college, with a preference for first or second generation immigrant students or students that are the first in their families to attend college.

The Mudds valued their college experiences, which led to their own great success as business entrepreneurs. As a member of a Korean immigrant family, it is important to Sunny Mudd that this scholarship will support other promising students who may be the first in their family to attend college. While not a UH alumnus, Ritchie Mudd has made helping Hawai’i’s students among his highest priorities, serving as a UH Foundation trustee from 2012–2021. Their shared passion for education and their belief that it is the key that leads to more opportunities, made the decision to establish this scholarship a natural choice. “Our hope is that our gift will encourage talented and hard-working students to pursue their career goals and contribute to their family’s and the community’s well-being,” Ritchie Mudd said.

Shidler College of Business Alumni Association funds scholarships for graduate students

The Shidler College of Business Alumni Association has committed $45,000 to fund graduate student scholarships at Shidler College, to be awarded over the next five years. The Shidler Alumni Association Scholarship for Graduate Students will provide financial support to students in the new master of science programs in finance, information systems and marketing management with preference given to college alumni.

The Shidler Alumni Association has a strong giving record to their alma mater. Previous gifts include the Shidler College of Business Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship in 2007, which is primarily used to fund Direct Admit Program (DAP) scholarships; a collaborative workspace for student entrepreneurs in the Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship (PACE); and an award at the annual Business Night event since 2012. The association has also funded several sponsorships for regional alumni events and mixers, including the first-ever Shidler Global Leadership Summit in Vietnam in 2019.

“It is incredibly important for Hawai’i’s students to have the opportunity to receive a world-class education right at home,” Tyson Yamada, BBA ’03, MBA ’07, president of the Shidler Alumni Association, said. “We see the positive impact that Shidler College has on Hawai’i’s community and around the world and the quality of graduates the college produces is top-notch. The alumni association created these graduate student scholarships to provide alumni assistance in expanding their knowledge and advancing their careers.”
Meet Savan Patel, EMBA ’15, the CEO of S&P Holdings, Inc., managing partner of Alana Investment Group and the president of Infinium Interiors. In his multiple roles, Patel is responsible for the day-to-day management of the business operations and investments. Prior to his current roles, he served in the U.S. Navy as a submariner. He lives in Wailuku, Maui with his wife, Jessmine, and daughter, Olivia, and serves on the Shidler Alumni Association board.

Tell us about the three businesses you lead.
“I founded Infinium Interiors in 2014, which is a commercial, office furniture and interior design/space planning business serving a variety of markets, including the Pacific Rim. Earlier this year, I sold the company to Alana Investment Group of which I am a 50% partner. Alana acquires commercial real estate and real estate-related operating companies. Our current portfolio consists of Pacific Assets Strategies, a commercial property management firm; Sea Imports, a wholesale business; and Infinium Interiors. Lastly, S&P Holdings, Inc. is a privately held investment firm. Investments range from equities, real estates and opportunistic investments.”

What’s your advice for current students?
“Work for companies and people you admire and do not shy away from challenges. The challenges and difficult tasks you take on early in your career will help you develop professionally and prepare you for the next stage in your life and career. The world has changed and will continue to change dramatically. Be the forcing function of that change to make it better. The only person that will limit your successes is you, so don’t be afraid to take risks. Make thoughtful decisions and be in charge of your destiny. Don’t let anyone dictate who or what you can be in life.”

What do you do to relax/destress?
“Spend time with my wife and daughter and golf when I can. I workout three to four times a week and go for long walks to clear my head and have undistracted ‘thinking time.’”

What projects/initiatives are you currently working on?
“We’ve invested a tremendous amount of time and energy into future centric technologies to better serve our clients in each business. We are always looking for ways to be better and faster, while cutting costs and becoming more efficient. For example, we launched our online store in May 2020 for our furniture business in order to condense our sales process and also free up personnel time to work on bigger projects that require more of their attention. We are also integrating technology platforms to substantially ease the burden that building owners face for our property management company.”

What’s your favorite lunch and activity outside of the office?
“Tacos and golfing and traveling.”

What are some of your favorite memories of Shidler?
“I graduated from the EMBA program, and that was really my only taste of campus life. My undergraduate degree was online over the course of many years since I was in the military. My time at Shidler was exciting, as it propelled and shaped my business career in more ways than I could imagine. The camaraderie in our cohort was one of the best experiences. I was able to meet many people from a variety of backgrounds and many remain good friends. The program opened many business and investment opportunities for me. The key to most things in life is relationships. The EMBA program not only gave me a degree but more importantly, a lifetime of valuable relationships.”

How did your experiences at Shidler prepare you for what was to come?
“Although I didn’t realize it at the time, being in the EMBA program and starting a business at the same time proved to be good timing. I was able to work on a business plan and receive assistance from my professors and cohort in launching the business. Although business school cannot possibly prepare you for all of the obstacles of operating a business, it did provide a finite set of tools and knowledge to help me better manage and grow the company. Almost everything I learned in the program has come in handy over the years.”
FIRST VIRTUAL EXECUTIVE VINEYARDS IN THE BOOKS

The Shidler Alumni Association’s 21st annual Executive Vineyards fundraising event looked different this year but was a success nonetheless, with more than $30,000 raised to support Shidler College initiatives and programs. Guests logged on from the comfort of their own homes on March 11 to attend the virtual gala, which was emceed by KHON2 reporter Kelly Simek live from the Royal Hawaiian Hotel. Activities included small breakout sessions, an interactive trivia game and an insightful wine tasting seminar given by Bruce Neyers of Neyers Vineyards in Napa Valley.

Many attendees enjoyed specially curated meals delivered to their doors from La Tour Café, MW Restaurant and Hy’s Steakhouse. With all hands on deck, Shidler Alumni Association board member volunteers and Shidler Global Leader students were on site at the restaurants to assist with pick ups.

The Shidler Alumni Association extends a big mahalo to all the sponsors, silent auction donors and attendees who made this year’s virtual event possible. It takes the collective support of the community to raise funds for student scholarships, programs and alumni outreach initiatives. Next year’s Executive Vineyards event will be held at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel.

A SWEET GATHERING WITH ALLAN IKAWA

Alumni and friends living in Japan joined a special online talk story event on March 6 with Shidler alumnus Allan Ikawa, BBA ’71, chairman and CEO of Big Island Candies. Ikawa shared his story of humble beginnings and gave the participants an exclusive tour of his Big Island facility. Guests also mingled with one another during the session and had the opportunity to ask questions.

Following the event, Ikawa provided a special Sig Zane-designed omiyage box of Big Island Candies treat to attendees. The cookies traveled more than 4,000 miles to arrive at guests’ homes.
The Shidler Alumni Association held its annual meeting virtually on June 23. This year’s guest speaker was Shidler alumnus Dave Matlin, MBA ‘97, University of Hawai‘i’s athletic director. Matlin provided attendees with exciting updates regarding UH Athletics. Dean Vance Roley provided Shidler College updates, as did the Shidler Alumni Association and the UH Office of Alumni Relations.

During the meeting, René Enrique Layne, BBA ’07; Kimberly Straube, EMBA ’21; and Kelly Vea, BBA ’18; were welcomed as new board directors. Carol Higa, BBA ’80, and Charis Taniguchi, BBA ’99, were also thanked for their service as directors.

The TIM Alumni Association has a new name and logo! Previously called TIM International, Inc., the alumni group for graduates of the TIM School, recently received a refreshed look. The association has grown with the TIM School, serving more than 4,000 alumni worldwide. Its goal is to assist members in staying connected and up-to-date on the local and global travel industry.

The association’s executive officers were also inducted earlier this year. Serving in these leadership roles for 2021-2022 are Lee-Ann Choy, BBA ’88, president; Glenn Vergara, BBA ’84, vice president; Nicole Okuna, MS ’08, secretary; and Lois Sismar, BBA ’72, treasurer.

Shidler College alumni, friends and donors joined a virtual discussion on June 18 about the new Residences for Innovative Student Entrepreneurs (RISE) public-private partnership project at the former Atherton YMCA location. Guest speakers Monica Umeda, co-founder of Akabotics, and Susan Yamada, BBA ’82, vice chair of PACE, provided exciting updates to nearly 25 attendees.

Approximately 15 alumni and friends came together on June 5 to network and lend a helping hand to clean up a popular Windward Oahu beach park. The group met on a beautiful morning to collect trash along “Sherwoods” at Waimanalo Beach Park. By the end of the morning, the group picked up approximately eight buckets of trash.

An exciting component of this community service project, which was organized by Jared Matsuki, BS ’19, was a special drawing for the Indulge Sunday Brunch at 100 Sails Restaurant & Bar at the Prince Waikiki Hotel. Congratulations to TIM student Rhema Wong; Clyde Min, BBA ’71; Kristie Lo, BS ’01; and Lee-Ann Choy, BBA ’83; the lucky winners of the delicious brunch for four!
1980s
Keith Amemiya, BBA ’88, was appointed executive director of Central Pacific Bank Foundation in February. In this role, he is responsible for managing the strategic planning, programs and operations for CPB Foundation. Amemiya, who was a candidate in the mayoral race in 2020, most recently served as senior vice president of Island Holdings, Inc.

Anthony Wong, BBA ’83, owner of Creative Eateries in Singapore, was named the 2021 Angliss Singapore Restaurateur of the Year by the World Gourmet Summit in May. Wong also recently celebrated the opening of his newest eatery, Barossa Bar & Grill.

1990s
Todd Apo, JD/MBA ’92, joined the Hawai‘i Community Foundation as vice president of partnerships and public affairs. Previously, he was senior vice president of community development for Howard Hughes Corporation.

Micah Kāne, MBA ’95, was named “2020 CEO of the Year” by Hawaii Business Magazine. Kāne has been the CEO of Hawaii Community Foundation (HCF) since 2017. He was recognized for his leadership at HCF and throughout the community especially during the pandemic.

Tasha Sawai, BBA ’95, MAcc ’97, has been appointed chief financial officer of Palama Holdings LLC, parent company of H&W Foodservice and Palama Meat. Her responsibilities include increasing efficiency and strengthening the company’s operations and financial strategies. Prior to this role, Sawai served as director of Honolulu-based accounting firm AATS LLC.

2000s
Chun Hui Chen-Decosta, MBA ’06, and her jewelry company, Komakai Jewelry, was featured in a Q&A article on the UH Alumni website. In the article, Chen-Decosta says that the most rewarding aspect of being a small business owner is the opportunity to do something that she loves every day.

Damian Davila, MBA ’09, has been promoted to marketing manager at CBRE, Inc., a real estate services company. In this role, he serves the Pacific Southwest marketing team and works with sales professionals in the Hawai‘i region. He is the lead marketing consultant on business development initiatives for CBRE in Hawai‘i. Davila joined the company in 2017 and he has more than 12 years of experience in marketing and advertising.

Monica Salter, MBA ’07, has been promoted to vice president, global communications and social responsibility, for the Outrigger Hospitality Group. In her elevated role, Salter will continue to steer the company’s global communication strategy by leading the company’s corporate social responsibility efforts. She also serves as the primary media contact and manages social media platforms and oversees corporate partnerships.

2010s
Emily Bertino, EMBA ’19, has been appointed national operations recruiter at Guaranteed Rate Affinity. In her role, Bertino
The Lunch Bunch

A group of alumni from the Asia Field Study 2019 cohort reunited for lunch at Ichiriki in April. The group hopes to make these lunches a regular occurrence.

From left to right: Angie Kim, DLEMBA ’20; Samantha Wong, BBA ’19; Julie Chan, DLEMBA ’20; Colette Masunaga, MBA ’20; Corina Quach, BBA ’20; and Kirstin Seal, MBA ’20.

New categories were added this year and 14 companies and three past winners were inducted into Hawai‘i’s Small Business Hall of Fame this year. Hawaii Business magazine announced the 2021 honorees in April.

Congratulations to these Shidler College alumni and their businesses who made the list for 2021. Lanikai Brewing Owner Steve Haumschild, EMBA ’11, Small Biz Editor’s Choice Award - Beverage; Big Island Candies Owner Allan Ikawa, BBA ’71, Hawaii’s Small Business Hall of Fame honoree; and Pacxa Senior Vice President Doug Shimokawa, MBA ’11, along with colleagues Kelly Ueoka, Scott Watanabe and Geary Chun, Small Biz Editor’s Choice Award-Tech.
administration, associate and labor relations, workforce training and development and local diversity initiatives. Lum was previously the assistant director of human resources at the Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe Resort, Spa & Casino.

Robert Matsumura, BBA ’18, has been promoted to client success partner at ProService Hawaii. In his new role, he advises clients and focuses on strategic priorities for company retention and growth. He works to maximize the value of client partnerships by driving solutions for business needs and issues while maintaining satisfaction with the company’s products and services.

William Nhieu, BBA ’10, was named the 2021 president of the board of directors of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) - Hawaii Chapter. The chapter selected Nhieu to provide leadership guidance to the organization, which serves Hawaii’s public relations, marketing and communications community.

Jordan Ozaki, MBA ’19, has been promoted to an account executive at iQ 360. In this role, she develops and executes marketing and communications campaigns, working with businesses across a variety of industries. She previously interned at Mitsubishi Fuso, a global commercial vehicle manufacturer, in Japan. She also serves on the board of the PRSA - Hawaii Chapter.

Rachele Pezel, BBA ’11, has been promoted to general manager of the PEO Division for Employers Options. In this role, her duties include essential management functions within the company and monitoring budgets to optimize growth profit, customer and employee satisfaction.

Lauren Saiki, BBA ’15, has been promoted to assistant director of alumni engagement for the University of Hawaii Foundation. In her elevated role, Saiki is responsible for the development, coordination, implementation and evaluation of alumni engagement initiatives. She joined the UH Foundation in 2017 and prior to joining the central alumni team, Saiki was a part of

2021 Pineapple Awards

The fifth annual Pineapple Awards recognize the contributions individuals have made to Hawaii’s tourism industry. Pacific Business News announced the 2021 honorees in April. Congratulations to these Shidler College alumni who made this year’s list. Hawaii Tourism Authority Director of Community Enrichment Caroline Anderson, BS ’94; Prince Resorts Hawaii CEO Kisan Jo, EMBA ’19; and Kaanapali Beach Hotel General Manager Mike White, BBA ’72.
Ruth Reiner, MBA ’02, debuted her self-published novel in December 2020. The book is titled “The Singing Widow of a Buddhist Priest,” and is available for purchase on Amazon. Reiner describes the book as a rich, spicy and fun story that is centered around the “journey of American woman determined to make it in Japan.”

Reiner spent time in Kyoto in her mid-twenties and also drew upon her experiences as a student in the Shidler College’s Japan-focused MBA program at UH Mānoa. She went on to spend a decade leading business negotiations between Japanese and non-Japanese companies and then co-founded three startups.

“I decided to intricately weave my experiences into a highly relevant novel that would share about the challenges of a woman’s journey in a male-dominated business world,” she said.
Driven by a personal mission

Shidler College alumna Joanne Mika Hayashi, BBA ’05, co-founded Breast Cancer Hawaii (BCH) to help others after her own journey through a breast cancer diagnosis and treatment in 2015. The non-profit organization’s mission is to improve the quality of life for Hawai’i’s breast cancer community by connecting them to resources and support. The small startup is fueled by passionate employees and Shidler College interns. BCH offers hands-on internships for students and matches them to projects and assignments based on their strengths and skill sets. “I wanted to offer an opportunity for students to put their business studies to use while making a real difference in the local community,” Hayashi said.

Marketing student Haley Kunimura is a shining example of Hayashi’s wish. She spent eight months building BCH’s CARE Closet program from scratch, including performing market research, providing an executive presentation to the board, creating a marketing and publicity plan and designing graphic assets. Her efforts helped BCH secure a grant from the Women’s Fund of Hawaii and the program is set to launch in the spring and the program has received more than 100 donations, including wedge pillows, wigs and books.

breastcancerhawaii.org

Miss Hawaii 2021

Courtney Choy, BBA ‘18, was crowned Miss Hawaii at the 74th annual Miss Hawaii 2021 Competition at the Ala Moana Hotel in May. Choy entered the competition as Miss Chinatown Hawaii and also received her Juris Doctor from UH Mānoa’s William S. Richardson School of Law the same weekend.

“Shidler taught me what it means to be a team player and to exude confidence in a diverse array of situations such as presenting in class or interviewing with employers,” Choy said. “I used the professional skills learned at Shidler in law school when I presented oral arguments for classes, participated in interviews and worked with individuals from multifaceted backgrounds.”

shidler.hawaii.edu/misshawaii

In Memoriam

Carolyn L. Ching, BBA ’72, peacefully passed away on Feb. 2, 2021, at the age of 71. She was a former partner at Hee & Ching CPAs LLC. Prior to that, Ching was a tax manager for Arthur Young & Co. (now EY). In 2018, she donated a $1 million endowed scholarship for accounting students. Ching later made a generous capital gift to renovate the college’s A-tower auditorium which was appropriately named after her.

Mark Tit Mun Chun, EMBA ’79, passed away on April 25, 2020, at the age of 89. He was president of M&E Pacific, Inc., an engineering and environmental services company. Prior to that, Chun worked for the Hawaii State Department of Transportation. He was a frequent guest at college events and a member of the Shidler Alumni Association.

Send in your class notes and photos

Submit your personal and professional milestones, promotions, new jobs, travel photos, birth announcements, marriages, retirements, etc. to the Shidler Business magazine.

If possible, please submit a high-resolution photo to accompany your class note.

Submit online
shidler.hawaii.edu/alumni/update

Send an email
dani.douglass@uhfoundation.org
Founded by Sidney and Minnie Kosasa, ABC Stores has progressed from a “mom and pop store” to one of the most recognizable brands in the Hawai’i tourism industry. The founders of ABC Stores, through their vision, paved the road for this success with a belief in two fundamental tenets: convenience and service. The Kosasas opened the first ABC Discount Store in 1965 in Waikiki. Today, there are ABC Stores on every major island in the state of Hawai’i and the ABC concept has been exported to Guam, Saipan and Las Vegas and has grown to include Island Gourmet Markets, Island Country Markets, Honolua Store, Sueoka Market and two full-service restaurants, Basalt (Waikiki) and Lineage (Wailea, Maui). Paul Kosasa is the president and CEO, with more than 75 stores employing over 1,900 employees.

ABC Stores Alumni

Justin Chu, BBA ’16, MHRM ’19, Human Resource Assistant | Ryan Fernandez, BS ’05, Dining Room Manager | Vincent Fong, BBA ’86, District Manager | Srikanlaya (Taya) Kaimihana, MHRM ’15, Training Specialist | Wade Kojima, BBA ’93, Accounting Manager (not pictured) | Terri Min, BBA ’91, Vice President, Director of Human Resources | Yukari Mizushima, BBA ’00, Fixed Asset Analyst | Jacqueline Uesato, BBA ’03, Human Resource Manager | Kristen Villegas, BBA ’11, Accounting Supervisor | Yingyi (Wendy) Wu, BS ’16, Assistant Manager | Roy Yabuno, BBA ’81, Associate Manager (not pictured) | Ryan Yamasaki, BBA ’05, Assistant Controller | Joann Yang, BBA ’16, Social Media Specialist
FEATURED EVENTS FOR FALL & WINTER 2021

**WED** | **AUG 4** | **Alumni Dine Around 2021**  
Join the Shidler Alumni Association for a fun evening of networking and good conversation at some of Hawai‘i’s hottest new restaurants. Enjoy a round-robin format where you’ll be paired with a new group of attendees at each location. $75 per person, includes heavy pupus and one drink ticket at each restaurant. Event held at the International Market Place from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Registration deadline is July 23. [shidler.hawaii.edu/dinearound](shidler.hawaii.edu/dinearound)

**THU** | **AUG 12** | **Will Weinstein Ethics Conversation Series – Ethics in Politics (Online)**  
Featuring Eric Swalwell, member, U.S. House of Representatives, California Fifteenth District and Dr. Josh Green, Lt. Gov., State of Hawaii. Moderated by Will Weinstein and held via Zoom from 6-7:30 p.m. HST. [shidler.hawaii.edu/weinstein](shidler.hawaii.edu/weinstein)

**THU** | **SEP 16** | **San Francisco Alumni & Friends Mixer**  
Dean Vance Roley invites you to join us for a special networking mixer in San Francisco. Make valuable connections, broaden your network and learn about the college’s new initiatives. Event held at The Westin St. Francis San Francisco on Union Square at 5 p.m. PDT. [shidler.hawaii.edu/sf](shidler.hawaii.edu/sf)

**THU** | **OCT 7** | **Hall of Honor Awards 2021**  
Join us as we honor Sherry Menor-McNamara, JD/MBA ’05, president and CEO Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Elliot Mills, BBA ’83, vice president, Hotel Operations, Disney Resort and Aulani, A Disney Resort & Spa; Shannon Okinaka, BBA ’96, executive vice president and CFO, Hawaiian Airlines; and Anthony Wong, BBA ’83, CEO and founder, Creative Eateries Pte Ltd. Event held at the Sheraton Waikiki beginning at 5:30 p.m. HST. [shidler.hawaii.edu/hoh](shidler.hawaii.edu/hoh)

**2022** | **JAN 3-5** | **Hawai‘i Mānoa Accounting Research Conference (HARC)**  
This is an annual global accounting conference held at the University of Hawai‘i. The purpose of the conference is to provide a venue that is both delightful and affordable for attendees to engage in lively discussions about intellectually stimulating accounting research. [shidler.hawaii.edu/harc](shidler.hawaii.edu/harc)

**2022** | **JAN 4-7** | **Hawai‘i International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS)**  
This is the longest-standing working scientific conference in Information Technology Management. The conference provides an interactive work environment for top scholars from academia and the industry from more than 60 countries to exchange ideas. Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Maui. [shidler.hawaii.edu/hicss](shidler.hawaii.edu/hicss)

UPCOMING EVENTS  
[shidler.hawaii.edu/events](shidler.hawaii.edu/events)

**IMPORTANT MAGAZINE UPDATE**
Starting with the next issue, we will be sending digital subscriptions to all alumni with a valid email address on file. If you prefer to continue to receive a print copy, please update your subscription preferences. [shidler.hawaii.edu/magazine/update](shidler.hawaii.edu/magazine/update)