DEAN’S MESSAGE

ALOHA,

Spring 2022 marked the revival of many long-awaited returns for the college. It’s been refreshing to see many students and faculty members make their way back to our classrooms. In addition to a livelier campus, we’ve seen the steady return of our events, which are crucial for the college to fundraise and engage students with professional industry leaders, business mentors and career pathways. We’re also excited to be traveling again and look forward to upcoming alumni visits in Asia and the U.S. West Coast.

In this issue, you’ll see the array of events that made an in-person return, including Shidler Alumni Association’s popular Executive Vineyards and the School of Travel Industry Management’s (TIM School) Celebrate a Legacy in Tourism event. The college also hosted its annual Flores Real Estate Lecture Series as well as our student-led Business Night, which brought together approximately 400 students and local business professionals for a memorable evening of networking and recognition. This fall, we look forward to celebrating our Hall of Honor, TIM School Lane Lecture Series and Scholarship Luncheon events.

We’re proud to highlight some recent accomplishments including:

- U.S. News ranked the college 89 out of 134 schools considered in the full-time Master of Business Administration category. Shidler’s MBA programs are the only Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International (AACSB) accredited MBA programs in Hawai‘i and one of the few MBA programs in the U.S. with a true Asia-Pacific focus.
- Enrollment in our specialized programs are up across the board. The Freshmen Direct Admit Program saw a 20% increase from 80 to 100 incoming freshman. Our new specialized master’s programs, including marketing management, finance and information systems, continue strong enrollment with 61 students.
- Since rejoining with Shidler in 2019, the TIM School continues on an upward trajectory, with five new faculty professorships and two new endowed scholarships established.
- The college is proud to have awarded 330 undergraduate and graduate student scholarships, amounting to nearly $900,000.
- Study abroad programs have returned, with 70 undergraduate students taking classes across Asia and Europe, with nearly $200,000 being awarded in scholarships.
- Despite COVID, 318 students secured internships in 2020 and 145 in spring 2021. More than 80% of students gain employment in their desired industry within three months of graduating.

The Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship (PACE) continues to assist more than 60 startup teams and provide more than $125,000 in support each year. In addition, construction of the Residences for Innovative Student Entrepreneurs (RISE) is underway and is slated to open in fall 2023.

We look forward to continued momentum and thank you for your support of the college.

Sincerely,

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


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ON THE COVER
2022 marked the in-person return of Shidler’s signature events.

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Construction on the Residences for Innovative Student Entrepreneurs, more commonly known as RISE, began in January to open a live-learn-work innovation center/student housing facility in the fall of 2023. RISE is a $70 million public-private partnership between the University of Hawai‘i, the University of Hawai‘i Foundation and the Hunt Development Group.

As the project develops, the Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship (PACE) at the Shidler College is gearing up to expand its operations across the street to the vibrant new community. PACE will welcome a diverse group of students and house them under one roof in order to build a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem. Residents will be able to work collaboratively with each other, as well as with experienced mentors, while exploring their passions and putting their entrepreneurial aspirations and mindset to the test as they create new business ideas and solutions for the local and global market.

“It has taken extraordinary leadership and commitment on the part of all of the key partners to collaborate in new ways so we can begin construction of the university’s first major new construction P3 project,” said UH President David Lassner. “The outpouring of support from our community validates our shared vision to build this innovative facility that will help us nurture the next generation of student entrepreneurs, who will help transform Hawai‘i’s economy.”

Last year, PACE launched its $5 million fundraising campaign and to date, has raised nearly $4 million. These funds will go toward furnishings, fixtures and equipment in their new 7,263 square-foot
DONORS TO DATE

The following have made commitments to the RISE project as of July 2022.

$250,000-$500,000
- American Savings Bank
- The Dods Foundation
- First Hawaiian Bank
- Ben & Yvonne Godsey
- Hawaiian Electric Industries
- Island Insurance Foundation
- Rich & Eileen Wacker
- Yamada Scott Family Foundation

$100,000-$249,999
- Atherton Family Foundation
- Mamoru and Aiko Takitani Foundation, Inc.
- John & Sue Dean
- Par Pacific Holdings, Inc.
- Roy & Hilda Takeyama Foundation
- Hunt Companies
- Thomas & Debra Nichols

$50,000-$99,999
- Anonymous
- Bright Light Digital – Mark Tawara
- Matson Navigation Company, Inc.
- Ritchie & Sunny Mudd
- Omnitrack
- David & Roselyn Yun

$25,000-$49,999
- Alexander & Baldwin
- Central Pacific Bank
- Sandra Fujiyama
- Assaf Karmon
- Peter Rowan
- Hawaiian Telcom

multipurpose space, as well as program support and scholarship support for students. A recent donation was a $250,000 pledge from Ben and Yvonne Godsey to name one of the makerspaces in the facility. This part of the facility will provide various tools and technologies for students to build prototypes including 3D printers, laser cutters, cutting machines, wide format printers, a vinyl printer and sewing machines.

Leasing is expected to start this fall for the first group of residents. RISE will welcome 374 students into 219 dormitory rooms in the six-story structure that wraps behind the iconic pink Charles Atherton House on the site of the former Atherton YMCA.

If you’re interested in supporting PACE and the RISE project, please contact Kristi Bates, executive director of development, at (808) 956-3597 or email kristi.bates@uhfoundation.org.

pace.shidler.hawaii.edu/RISE

JULY 2023

Construction completed; furniture, fixtures & equipment installed

AUGUST 2023

Doors will open to residents
The excitement permeated through the halls of The Royal Hawaiian hotel as guests checked in to the Shidler Alumni Association’s Executive Vineyards event. The gala marked the first in-person alumni event since March 2020. The laughter could be heard throughout the hotel’s lawn and the picturesque backdrop of Waikiki Beach and Diamond Head glowed as the sun set into the horizon. Old friends caught up and new connections were made as the crowd enjoyed each other’s company while sipping on premier wines and spirits from around the world and dining on tasty dishes from some of Honolulu’s hottest restaurants.

“It was so wonderful to see everyone back in person and having a good time while raising critical funds for Shidler and its students and alumni,” Shidler Dean Vance Roley, said. “This event involves many hands, and we are appreciative to the Shidler Alumni Association, our sponsors and all our college supporters. It’s truly remarkable to see the community coming together and showing its support.”

More than 350 attendees were a part of this year’s celebration. Executive Vineyards is the Shidler Alumni Association’s signature event and its largest fundraiser. Funds raised from sponsorships and the event’s silent auction will go toward supporting the college, including its student programming and alumni outreach. The event was emceed by Kelly Simek and featured a check presentation by Shidler Alumni Association board members to Roley for nearly $40,000. The association thanks this year’s sponsors, guests and partners for their continued support.

“For the past 22 years, and starting from very humble beginnings, this has been our premier event for alumni and friends to gather, while supporting the Shidler College,” Lance Higa, EMBA ’05, president of the Shidler Alumni Association, said. “We are grateful for the enormous support it receives each year and we’re beyond delighted to see everyone in attendance.”

The Shidler Alumni Association looks forward to planning and executing the next Executive Vineyards on March 9, 2023 at The Royal Hawaiian Hotel. For more information, or to learn how your organization can get involved, please contact Bianca Mordasini, senior director of alumni and external relations at (808) 956-3263 or email bianca.mordasini@uhfoundation.org.
Shidler College’s School of Travel Industry Management (TIM School) hosted its annual Celebrate a Legacy in Tourism event on April 7 at the Sheraton Waikiki. This year’s gala marked the first in-person event since 2019 and honored renowned chef Roy Yamaguchi with the Legacy in Tourism award and TIM School alumnus Dave Evans, BBA ’79, MS ’06, Ph.D. ’13, with the Alumni Hall of Honor award.

The event, which drew nearly 400 guests, is the largest fundraiser in support of the TIM School and raised more than $260,000, which will go toward student scholarships. Each year, the event recognizes industry professionals who have made significant and long-standing contributions. Yamaguchi and Evans join a long list of exceptional individuals who have been recognized at the event since the event was established in 1999 to honor the late Chuck Gee as he retired as dean of the TIM School.

“It goes without saying that the hospitality industry and the TIM School program were the hardest hit by the pandemic and related travel shutdowns,” Shidler College Dean Vance Roley, said. “As we see tourism rebounding, we have much to look forward to and are incredibly grateful for the community’s support of our programs and students, which brings hope and encouragement to the 260 TIM students and over 5,000 alumni who depend on tourism for their careers, businesses and livelihood.”

Yamaguchi, who recently served as a guest lecturer for the TIM School, has founded a collection of restaurants and is the first Hawai’i-based chef to receive the prestigious James Beard “Best Pacific Northwest Chef” award. He’s attracted worldwide attention to Hawai’i’s culinary community and has appeared on national and international television shows, authored various cookbooks and co-established the popular Hawaii Food & Wine Festival, which has garnered more than $3 million to support local community organizations.

Evans is a professor and department chair of the Hospitality and Tourism Department at Kapi’olani Community College. He has served as department chair since 2009 after working nearly four decades in the hospitality field. Evans also served on the TIM Alumni Association Board as a director and was president from 2006-2009.

If you’d like to support the TIM School, please contact Kristi Bates, executive director of development at (808) 956-3597 or email kristi.bates@uhfoundation.org.
When you’re instructing a core business course, it’s important that lessons are impactful and relevant because it may be a student’s only exposure to the subject. Shidler College of Business assistant professor Tamar Kreps teaches two global management and organizational behavior classes each semester. Four years into her time at the college, she’s managed to find that delicate balance of providing her students with meaningful content through pre- and post-pandemic learning environments.

“It’s such a fun topic to teach because it’s so broadly applicable to things that everyone experiences and thinks about in any type of workplace,” she said. “I really try to bring in opportunities for students to apply and practice what we’re learning so that it’s not just about the theories but also about practicing and experiencing.”

Kreps’ lessons explore topics related to day-to-day life in the workplace, including team dynamics, management styles; and interpersonal and communication skills. Some of the methods she implements to make content engaging to students who may not find the subject interesting to begin with include smaller group discussions, a semester-long project where they put theories into practice and hands-on activities that place students into different roles that they are learning about in class.

She looks forward to bringing back one of her favorite activities, which has been challenging to implement online, to her classroom with the full return to in-person learning in the fall. Students work in teams to create a Lego person that stands about 8 inches tall in order to experience the different dynamics and life cycle of a team. Part of the challenge is that groups cannot take notes or pick up the model and turn it around. They can only look at it straight on and starting with the bricks, they need to build one precisely the same as the model down to the last brick.

Equipped with the necessary framework and vocabulary, team
members decide how to approach the task as they divide up roles. The assignment involves assembling the model as quickly as possible. Kreps says she’s seen a range of groups getting it in a single try in about three minutes to ones who’ve taken 10 or more tries and she assists as they’ve taken more than a half hour and the end of class is nearing.

“They will be building the person, and everyone builds their own part exactly like the model and then they realize they don’t know how to attach them to each other,” she said. “Not having someone in charge of the overall strategy is generally an oversight in group work and this activity helps students to experience that.”

While teaching in a virtual environment over the past couple of years, Kreps was fortunate to already have a leg up and be comfortable with the technology. Since she has been involved in research projects with colleagues from around the globe for several years prior to 2020, it was a natural transition. She even hopes to keep certain elements, like virtual polling, ingrained in her lessons when students make a full return to the classroom.

Even through the virtual learning environment, Kreps’ students work on semester-long projects where they apply concepts being taught in class to an organization they belong to. Whether it’s a student club, church group or a volunteer organization, the assignment provides the opportunity to think through and apply theory and make recommendations which are shared in a paper or an audio file.

A recent paper she co-authored looks at amplification and its implications on the perceived status of different employees in the workplace. What she and fellow researchers discovered is that doing this helps both the employee being amplified and the one doing the amplification.

“Amplification is something that some people have speculated about, but there hasn’t really been much research on the topic,” she says. “This is where you call attention to something someone has said while giving them credit and not taking the credit for yourself. If you’re in a marginalized group, such as being a woman or a person of color, it can be especially risky to voice.”

When sharing takeaways about the study, Kreps says that amplification may be especially useful for women in an organization who agree to use this strategy to support one another’s ideas. She points to a popular media example of this tactic where a group of women working in the Obama administration agreed to amplify one another. She says that this type of collegiality amongst females is more beneficial than a male colleague doing the amplification since it also raises their own status, preserving the gender gap.
COLLEGE NEWS

Spring 2022 commencement open house

The Shidler College of Business conducted its first-ever open house commencement event for graduating students on May 13. Graduating students, as well as their friends and family, were invited to stop by on campus for bento boxes and boba tea drinks and to tour the Shidler and TIM School departments with faculty and staff. Graduates were encouraged to fill out a stamp card to win Shidler swag and to take fun, commemorative photos at a photobooth station.

shidler.hawaii.edu/gradphotos

Business Night makes in-person return

The 61st annual Business Night was held on May 5 at the Sheraton Waikiki. The college’s signature student event welcomed more than 200 professional mentors and nearly 250 students for an evening of networking and recognition. This year, 49 awards were presented to deserving undergraduate and graduate students. These special recognitions were made possible through the generous support of Hawai‘i’s business community, who contributed nearly $90,000. For the 17th year in a row, First Insurance Company of Hawaii (FICOH) was the title event sponsor and Hawaii Business Magazine served as media sponsor for the sixth year.

Keynote speaker Wendy Peterson, BBA ’82, JD ’85, general counsel at Knobbe Martens shared her story of her experience as a student at the college and her exciting career journey with the audience. This year’s student committee executive director was Natalie Kwon, who also received the Outstanding Senior in Marketing award. “After nearly three years of change, learning and building relationships across distances of 6 feet to 6,000 miles, this year’s theme of ‘Exploring First Horizons’ is something we can all easily relate to,” she said.

shidler.hawaii.edu/bn2022
Rick Varley is the director of Shidler College’s Internship and Career Development Office. In this column, Varley selects an outstanding student to share their internship experience. Despite lingering shutdowns due to the pandemic, Varley placed nearly 200 interns in the fall 2021 and spring 2022 semesters.

In this feature, recent graduate Phoebe Choi, BBA ’22, shares about her multiple internship placements while she was a student at Shidler, including the one that landed her a full-time job opportunity, which she just started at in July.

My Shidler Journey
By Phoebe Choi

I just graduated from the Shidler College of Business with my bachelor’s degree in finance and management. In July 2022, I joined Goldman Sachs as a human capital management analyst. During my freshman year in college, I joined AKAMAI Finance Academy with Rick Varley’s recommendation, where I discovered career opportunities in investment banking and learned relative financial skills. I was intrigued by the challenging and fast-paced environment in the finance industry and pursued my interest as an intern at AKAMAI Capital, Merrill Lynch, Kamehameha School and Goldman Sachs.

It was during my internship in the investment banking division at Goldman Sachs last summer that I discovered my genuine passion and interest toward human capital management. As a junior about to study abroad in Korea, I was a little late to apply for the mobility program at Goldman Sachs and declare management as my double major. Nevertheless, I decided to trust my hard work and Shidler’s courses and professors to best prepare and develop myself personally and professionally for my new position.

Fast forward and I successfully graduated and received a full-time offer from the company, as human capital management analyst. I am beyond grateful to have experienced amazing student organizations, internships, scholarships and mentorships during the past four years. Although it is a bit bittersweet that time has flown by so quickly, I am excited for the next chapter of my life and to be a proud alumna of the college.

Master’s program on the up and up

The U.S. News and World Report’s 2023 Best Graduate School rankings were released in March and the college ranked No. 89 out of 134 schools considered in the full-time master of business administration category. Shidler’s part-time master of business administration program (global MBA, 36-month plan) also placed No. 114, up from 152 in the previous year, among 278 part-time MBA programs that qualified for this ranking.

Shidler’s MBA programs are the only Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International (AACSB) accredited MBA programs in Hawai‘i, and among the few in the U.S. with a true Asia-Pacific focus.
The 55th annual Hawai’i International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS) took place virtually for the second year in a row from January 3-8. Despite an online format, the conference hosted more than 1,400 participants representing 59 countries. A record-breaking 1,553 research papers were submitted and HICSS published 759 peer-reviewed research papers by 2,233 authors and co-authors addressing a broad range of topics. A popular subject was COVID-related research including the economic and social impact of a Zoom-enabled remote workplace, the pros and cons of social media and the increasing threat of fake news.

“It is invigorating to witness the many researchers who came together for a meeting of the minds,” Shidler College Dean Vance Roley, said. “With the rise of digitization in all areas of life, which were further impacted by the effects of COVID, work from home and reliance on automation, the many topics discussed at HICSS 2022 will chart the course for future technologies.”

The conference also welcomed guest speaker Dr. Este Geraghty, chief medical officer and health solutions director at ESRI to report on the development of data-intensive geographic information systems to monitor the evolution of the coronavirus pandemic around the world.

The number of downloads from the past conferences has grown to over 2.6 million and the event is ranked as one of the top research conferences in the management information systems discipline. 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.

The School of Accountancy held its annual Hawai’i Accounting Research Conference (HARC) from January 3-5. This year’s event was held in a hybrid format at Kuykendall Hall at UH Mānoa, with more than 150 participants attending in-person and another 150 joining online.

“This year’s conference was unique in that it provided the opportunity for more attendees to join in around the globe for the first time in HARC’s five-year history,” Shidler College Dean Vance Roley, said. “The presentations were stimulating and afforded attendees an arena to make valuable contributions by providing insightful feedback to their peers. I was delighted to see so many Shidler College students participate and make meaningful connections with those already established in the accounting field.”

Nine concurrent sessions were held over three days and 220 papers were presented and discussed. The authors of the presented papers represent faculty research from 287 universities around the world with participants from 20 countries. HARC offered a unique opportunity for participants to present their papers in-person and online and receive feedback from colleagues who attended their session. These interactions gave researchers the chance to identify issues with their work.

Among those given the opportunity to attend HARC were 70 doctoral students. These students were allowed to participate through a generous registration fee subsidy, a part of HARC’s vision to support the next generation of researchers. As a result, the students received invaluable experience in the research process and made connections with future hopeful colleagues and co-authors.
The School of Accountancy held its second annual Hawai‘i Accounting Research Doctoral Institute (HARDI) at Shidler College from June 3-22. The three-week consortium welcomed 21 Ph.D. students, with invitations sent to a select number of universities for nomination of a top doctoral student for the program. The goal of the institute is to prime future researchers in the accounting field in a program that links professional accountants to academia.

Participants at this year’s event attended workshops and activities in a broad range of subject areas, which included financial accounting, managerial accounting, auditing and experimental research in accounting. The students are expected to develop a workable research idea or proposal during their time at the institute. They collaborated with top researchers in the field, including Lisa Koonce, The University of Texas at Austin; Eva Labro, University of North Carolina; Christian Leuz, University of Chicago; and Rodrigo Verdi, MIT.

“My vision is to directly influence accounting research throughout the world,” said Hamid Pourjalali, conference co-chair and professor of accounting and director of the School of Accountancy. “This program creates alumni who perpetuate the high standards of the college and the field throughout their careers.”

The Flores Real Estate Lecture Series made its in-person return on April 20 at the Hawaii Convention Center. This year’s guest speaker was Doug Johnstone, president of the Howard Hughes Corporation’s Hawai‘i region. Johnstone spoke to the audience about his current initiative leading the growth of Ward Village, a 60-acre award-winning neighborhood; and also shared about his career journey, through which he has spearheaded more than $4.5 billion of real estate investment activity.

The annual lecture series is sponsored by college alumnus Eddie Flores, Jr., BBA ’70, and his wife, Elaine. Since 2017, the lecture has been free to the public and features prominent members of the local business community. In addition to the lecture series, the Flores’ established a $2 million endowed scholarship at the college in 2007, which has provided more than 220 scholarships to top business students.
The 2022 University of Hawai‘i Venture Competition (UHVC) concluded with its final in-person event on April 29 at American Savings Bank where this year’s three finalists competed against a panel of judges.

GOALL (Great Online Activities for Language Learning), a company that provides adult language learners resources on its web and mobile app to help achieve customizable goals, won first place. Consisting of UH Mānoa College of Arts, Languages & Letters doctoral students Ann Choe, Kristen Urada, Yang Liu and Susanne DeVore, the team won a prize package of more than $34,000, which included $10,000 from the competition’s title sponsor Hawaiian Electric Industries (HEI) and Hawaiian Electric.

In second place was Resesio, a company that helps reduce material and cost savings for construction design with its automated optimization model. UH Mānoa Department of Civil Engineering doctoral students Mohamed Sherif, Amr Ghanem and Mostafa Abdelhafeez earned a prize package that included $5,000 from HEI and Hawaiian Electric. Ofaga Leo Preschool System, a company providing Samoan language immersion education throughout the country in areas where there is a high demand for childcare and preschool services, took third place. UH Hilo Hawaiian and Indigenous Language and Culture Revitalization doctoral student John Patu, Jr. and Windward Community College creative media student Carmelita T. Patu claimed the prize pack totaling more than $10,000, which included a $2,500 cash prize sponsored by HiBEAM in honor of pioneer Billy Richardson.

All three teams also took home prize packs of support services from prize sponsors including Blue Logic Labs, HiBEAM, Hub Coworking Hawai‘i, New Venture Pro, Pineapple Tweed and Vantage Counsel.

PACE was buzzing with energy during in-sPACE events. PACE held three in-sPACE events during the spring 2022 semester. Each event offered students and members of the general public a chance to connect and learn. All events were delivered in a hybrid format, allowing participants to attend in-person or online.

On January 28, General Counsel Wendy Peterson, BBA ’82, JD ’85, and Partner Jeffrey Van Hoosear with Knobbe Martens, presented “Intellectual Property for Entrepreneurs: What you need to know to protect and grow your business.” On March 10, attendees learned life lessons and the startup journey of Jonathan Kim, head of product for Terraformation, during a Talk Story session. On May 12, Brian Lam, founder of The Wirecutter at The New York Times, shared his stories and philosophies with attendees at another Talk Story session. Talk Story events were held in a talk-show style, during which the featured entrepreneurs were interviewed by Cindy Wu, co-founder of Jelly, and Zachary Kim, founder of Float.
PACE once again hosted its Entrepreneurship Live speaker series this spring. These unique lectures, which are sponsored by First Insurance Company of Hawaii, are open to all students in the UH system and offer a first-hand look at the entrepreneurial journey.

Each talk is followed by a Q&A and a networking session, which gives students the chance to interact with other students from other disciplines and the presenter.

Attendees of the latest round of talks learned about the personal journeys of four diverse business leaders. The spring 2022 lineup featured David Hijirida, president of Acorns; Assaf Karmon, MBA ’17, CEO and co-founder of TurnoverBnB; Erin Kanno Uehara, MBA ’13, owner and CCO of Choco le’a; and Tyler Saenz, CEO of Parklinq. Each live event is recorded and later posted to the website and can be viewed at the link below.

pace.shidler.hawaii.edu/live
1 | TIM MENTORSHIP PROGRAM WRAPS UP

In May, the TIM School hosted a year-end reception for the TIM Freshmen Mentorship Program (FMP). TIM FMP is an opportunity for TIM students to connect, learn and network with each other and TIM alumni. A student duo of an upperclassman mentor and freshman mentee are paired together, with the upperclassman also matched with an alumni industry mentor. 10 groups participated this past year, with many TIM Alumni Association members serving as mentors. The association gives special recognition to alumna mentor, Maria Calso, BS ’21, for attending the event in support of her mentee and the program. The Surfing Pig accommodated the group and its owner, Stan Glander, shared advice with students.

2 | ACCOUNTING STUDENTS WIN CASE CHALLENGE

Congratulations to Jenny Teruya, associate professor of accounting, and her student teams, who won top honors in the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) Government Finance Case Challenge in late 2021. Three teams, one undergraduate team and two graduate teams, participated in the competition. One of the graduate teams, consisting of MAcc students Qiao Jing (Hana) Qiu, Hana Jung and Wei Chen, placed as one of the three finalists in the graduate competition. The undergraduate team, consisting of Michelle Yim, Kelli Chinen and Stefani Sakamoto won the undergraduate competition. The winners each received a $1,000 scholarship from AGA.

3 | ACCOUNTING STUDENTS GIVE BACK TO COMMUNITY

Shidler College accounting students provided a valuable community service while learning basic – and sometimes complex – federal and Hawai’i tax laws. Students assisted low-income individuals at the Lanakila Senior Center to provide tax completion assistance. Lecturer Michael Dell’s spring accounting class assisted nearly 100 local taxpayers as part of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Susan Tamanaha, BBA ’74, CEO and president of Hawaii Tax Help and Financial Empowerment Solutions, is pictured (seated) with students at one of the volunteer tax sessions.

4 | BAP ALUMNI CONNECT IN SAN FRANCISCO

Members of Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) met with alumni Kyle Oura, MAcc ’05, Jimmy Atkinson, BBA ’03, and Gavin Masuda, BBA ’05, in San Francisco. The alums shared their experiences of working and living on the mainland and discussed how a degree in accounting could lead to many different career paths. Students also met with members of the University of San Francisco chapter of BAP who led them on a tour of San Francisco. The activities were organized after the BAP regional
meeting in San Jose was canceled at the last minute.

5 | SHIDLER STUDENT SELECTED FOR $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP

Haiying Li has been selected as a Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Scholar and will receive a scholarship in the amount of $10,000 for the 2022-2023 academic year. Li will graduate in spring 2023 and is majoring in accounting and finance. After obtaining her undergraduate degree, she plans on obtaining her master’s degree in accounting and graduating in spring 2024.

6 | NĀ KUKUI NETLINKS BACK IN-PERSON

Travel Industry Management (TIM) students in the TIM 316 event management and marketing class organized and hosted their annual Nā Kukui Netlinks networking event in December 2021 at the Ala Moana Hotel. The function brought together approximately 100 hospitality and industry professionals, each paired with a TIM student mentee for an evening of sharing their experiences and wisdom. The event also featured keynote panel speakers, including John Morgan of Kualoa Ranch and Nature Preserve, Jim Pham of Aulani, A Disney Resort & Spa and Koyu Wenty of Southwest Airlines.

7 | STUDENTS RECEIVE HONJO FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP

Five undergraduate students were awarded with fellowships by the Honjo Foundation (Itoen Company) in 2022. The fellowship program, now in its 15th year, encourages graduate and undergraduate students at the University of Hawai‘i to study or conduct research at Japanese universities. The 2022 fellows include: Fanling Xu, majoring in travel industry management and studying at Keio University; Peter Tan, majoring in finance and international business and studying at Keio University; Quinn Sumida, majoring in travel industry management and art in Japanese and studying at Meikai University; Dane Takeshita majoring in finance, accounting and international business and studying at Kyoto University; and Victoria Kashiwai, majoring in accounting, international business and theater and studying at Keio University.
New Faculty and Staff

**Yi-Hui Kuo** has joined the Office of Student Academic Services at the School of Travel Industry Management as a student services specialist. Previously, she worked at the Student ACCESS office at the Honolulu Community College and the STAR office at UH Mānoa. She earned a master’s degree in higher education administration and a bachelor’s degree in psychology and second language studies from UH Mānoa; and an associate’s degree from Kapi‘olani Community College.

**Mark Nakamoto** has joined the Office of Student Academic Services as undergraduate admissions advisor. He has been in advising and academic affairs for 16 years. Previously, he worked at New York University (NYU) College of Arts and Science, NYU Stern School of Business, and UH Mānoa’s Marine Biology Graduate Program. He received his master’s degree in higher education administration from NYU and a bachelor’s in microbiology from Michigan State University.

**Amanda Rease** has been named event and marketing manager for the School of Travel Industry Management. Previously, she served as director of events at the George Washington University School of Business in Washington, D.C. and brings more than 15 years of experience in corporate, association, social and educational events. She earned a bachelor’s in athletic training from the University of Tulsa, a Masters of Tourism Administration degree, concentrating in event management and sports management, from the George Washington University and is a Certified Special Events Professional.

**Felicity Teruya** joins Shidler College as assistant to the associate dean. Most recently, she served as assistant to the chief financial officer at The Northwest School and administrative coordinator for the Office of the Provost at Seattle University. Teruya earned her master’s degree in public policy from the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley and her bachelor’s degree in women’s studies with an emphasis in politics and public policy from Occidental College.

Teaching, Service and Research Awards

Congratulations to our Shidler 2021-2022 Exemplary Service Award winners – Dennis Ching Junior Teaching Award: **Kelly Holden**, instructor of marketing; Dennis Ching Senior Teaching Award: **Hannah-Hanh Nguyen**, associate professor of management; Kaizen Improvement Award: **Shauna Pimental-Motooka**, freshman admissions advisor; Kaizen Improvement Award: **Robert Bachini**, director of undergraduate programs; Ka Pou Hana Award: **Susan Kikuchi**, TIM senior administrative officer; Shirley M. Lee Junior Researcher Award: **Joon Ho Kim**, assistant professor of finance; Shirley M. Lee Senior Researcher Award: **Jian Zhou**, professor of accounting and the Lloyd Fujie/Deloitte Foundation Distinguished Professor in Accounting.

**Research**

**Hannah-Hanh Nguyen**, associate professor of management, shared research findings at the annual meeting of the Society for Industrial-Organizational Psychology in Seattle in April. Her research, “Changes in Gender Differences in Sexual Harassment Perceptions Over 20 Years,” was co-authored by You Zhou and three other colleagues from University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Nguyen also presented on a livestream panel, “Employee Well-Being: The Future of Work,” in April in Vietnam.


Recognitions and Promotions

Congratulations to Shirley Daniel, professor of accounting and director of the Pacific Asian Management Institute (PAMII),...
for being recognized as a 2021 ThinkTech Hawaii Community Service Award winner.

Congratulations to Sandra Fujiyama, executive director of the Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship (PACE) for being named a 2022 “20 for the Next 20” honoree by Hawaii Business Magazine.

Kiyohiko Ito, professor of management and Shidler College Distinguished Professor, recently released his book, “Management of Millennium Companies,” which was published in Japan.

Marie Kumabe, faculty director of the Master of Human Resources Management program, was recognized as the 2022 Women-Owned Business of the Year, Honolulu County, by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Wesley Fong, a former Medical Service Corps officer, a staff judge advocate and an adjunct law professor at Shidler College, recently published his book “Memoirs of a Chinese American Officer.” The story accounts a personal recollection of his life, including a tour of duty in Vietnam to the end of his military career in the U.S. Army Reserves as a colonel.

Stephen L. Vargo, professor of marketing and Shidler College Distinguished Professor, was elected to join the Academy of Marketing Science Board of Governors, a scholarly and professional organization. The academy also publishes the Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science (JAMS), one of the top 10 most cited academic journals in all of business.

Kelly Holden receives her teaching award.

Faculty in the News
MoneyGeek.com – Best Business Credit Cards for Travel in 2022 (2/16/22), Chuck Lopez, BBA ’90, VEMBA ’09, lecturer, management and industrial relations.

Wallethub.com – Best Capital One Credit Cards (3/31/22), Christopher Cannon, assistant professor of marketing and Shidler College Faculty Fellow.

Hawaii News Now – As COVID restrictions ease, spring breakers eye Hawaii as their next destination (3/5/22), Jerry Agrusa, professor of TIM.

Pauline Sheldon, School of Travel Industry Management professor emeritus, spoke in April at a Hawaii Business Magazine “Need to Know” event series panel on regenerative tourism. She also spoke on a panel in May at the Regenerative and Resilient Tourism in an Island Context Conference at the launching of the Local2030 Islands Network, in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Kiana Loftis, graphic designer, and her husband, Lloyd, welcomed baby girl, Luna Lei, on Jan. 24.
Shidler alumnus continues his support

Mark Tawara, BBA ’91, continues to support the college with his recent $50,000 gift to the Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship (PACE). This gift will go toward PACE’s latest endeavor, the Residences for Innovative Student Entrepreneurs (RISE) project. Using Tawara’s gift, PACE will be able to execute more hands-on entrepreneurial programs for students, allowing them to continue to explore entrepreneurial and innovative thinking.

In addition to the recent donation, Tawara has been involved with the college in many ways since he became an alumnus in the early 1990s and then an active member in Hawai‘i’s startup community, in which he heads several companies, including Manageability LLC and Bright Light Digital LLC. He has served as a mentor for the college’s premier student event, Business Night, and has been involved with PACE for more than 15 years as a judge and a mentor in numerous high school and UH competitions and also a mentor for the Summer Startup Launchpad program. He recently joined PACE’s board of directors.

Tawara’s recent endeavor, Bright Light Digital, is a full-service audio-visual and technology company. It was recently recognized at Pacific Business News’ inaugural Inno Fire awards, which highlights Hawai‘i’s startups who are creating progress in the state.

College alumna endows $100,000 scholarship in honor of parents

Shidler College alumna Linh Pham, BBA ’00 and her husband, Dao Pham, recently established a $100,000 scholarship in honor of her parents. The Cindy Doan and Hy So Duong Endowed Scholarship was officially commemorated on May 26 at a signing ceremony at the college. The fund will be awarded to Shidler students, with preference given to those who are the first in their families to attend college.

“My parents’ bravery, love and sacrifices gave me the opportunity to pursue a higher education, which is something that was never available to them while they were in Vietnam,” she said. “As a Shidler alumna, it is a truly humbling experience to honor my parents by giving back and providing students the same opportunity they have to me.”

Cindy Doan and Hy So Duong arrived in Hawai‘i from a refugee camp in Vietnam in 1980. The couple learned English and eventually opened a small gift shop business at Duke’s Lane in Waikiki. Their hard work and perseverance eventually paid off and they were able to provide their children with the opportunity to pursue a higher education, with Pham eventually earning her bachelor’s degree in finance.

“It is truly inspiring to see how the story of this family has come full circle,” said Shidler College Dean Vance Roley. “We commend Cindy Doan and Hy So Duong for their tireless work to send their children to college. As we can see from their family’s journey, education can make a great impact on one’s life and we are extremely grateful that Linh and her parents are committed to helping to educate the next generation of students.”
College alumnus Candes Gentry recently published a cookbook with her son, Poet (pictured right). Her family is pictured holding smoothies. This recipe can be found in the book. Photos courtesy of Tracy Wright Corvo and Candes Gentry.

Scholarship donor and alumna publishes cookbook with son

Candes Gentry, BS ’98, MBA ’04, wears a lot of hats. She’s a Shidler College alumna, a realtor, endurance athlete, former Miss Hawaii (1999), recording artist and philanthropist. Since 2007, she has funded the Candes Meijide Gentry Endowed Scholarship at Shidler College for aspiring entrepreneurs. As a scholarship recipient herself, Gentry sees her education as the greatest gift she was given by her parents and the Miss Hawaii Scholarship Program.

Among her lengthy list of professional and entrepreneurial endeavors, one of her most meaningful roles is being mother to her and her partner, Steve Shropshire’s 9-year-old son, Poet. She can now add published author to her list of accomplishments and this one, which she refers to as a “passion project,” is shared with her son. Poet co-authored Eat Pono with his mother and provided the inspiration with his inquisitive questions about food sourcing and nutrition.

The book is 140-pages of easy and nutritionally-packed, kid-approved dishes, categorized under breakfast recipes, smoothies, bowls, snacks, wholesome meals, lite bites, sweets, juices and more. There is also a chapter on food sourcing and oils, nuts and seeds recommendations. The book is self-published under Gentry’s label, Poetic Productions.

“There is no greater gift than the ability to pay your gratitude forward and impact someone’s life in a positive way,” she said. “To actually help others meet their financial needs so that they can focus on their primary task – their education – and get to meet the recipient of that gift year after year has been immensely rewarding.”

shidler.hawaii.edu/gentrycookbook

Support Shidler by joining the Dean’s Circle

When you give a gift of $1,000 or more, you become a part of the Dean’s Circle and receive recognition in our annual donor roll and invitations to special college events. More importantly, your gift assures that we’re able to continue our college’s mission by:

• Empowering student success through aid for tuition and funding for student activities.
• Equipping faculty with the resources they need to advance their research which can inform and serve our greater community.
• Providing seed funds to launch new initiatives.
• Growing and expanding the college’s alumni network.

shidler.hawaii.edu/deans-circle
1 | KICKING OFF THE NEW YEAR
The Travel Industry Management Alumni Association (TIMAA) kicked off 2022 with their first in-person event on March 22 at the DECK at Queen Kapiolani Hotel. More than 40 board members and alumni joined together to hear the latest college and alumni association updates. The group also took a tour of the hotel and enjoyed an evening networking with fellow attendees.

2 | WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY
More than 30 attendees tuned in to the Windows of Opportunity panel discussion hosted by TIMAA and the Travel Industry Management Student Association on Feb. 23. Panelists shared their journeys from being TIM students to venturing into professions outside of the industry’s traditional career paths. This year’s diverse group of panelists included Frank Among, BBA ’84; Todd Iida, BS ’98; Valerie Kan, BS ’16; Simon Morley, BS ’96; Gerald Nakashima, BS ’96; and Mark Tsuda, BBA ’85.

3 | HE‘EIA ESTUARY RESTORATION
The Shidler Alumni Association partnered with Hui o Ko‘olaupoko as it hosted its spring community service event on April 2. Volunteers spent the morning working at the He‘eia Estuary Restoration Project in Kaneohe, where they cleared invasive plant species from the stream and shoreline areas. The project aims to improve water quality and increase habitat for native aquatic animals.

4 | SGL MENTOR CONNECT WRAP-UP
The Shidler Global Leaders (SGL) concluded its mentorship program with a wrap-up celebration at sPACE in May.
The program, which took place over the course of the spring 2022 semester, paired students with top business professionals, including many Shidler and TIM School alumni. This unique experience provides students with the opportunity to gain career insights from those who’ve traveled a similar career path and to make personal and professional connections.

5 | SHIDLER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING
The Shidler Alumni Association hosted its annual meeting on June 23 at the Honolulu Burger Co.’s new Kaimuki location. 50 people attended the mixer for an evening of networking, induction of new board members and great company and food. Brandon Chu, BS ’08; Miki Ikeda, BBA ’05, Cherie Martyn, EMBA ’02, Erin Roh, MBA ’21; and Scott Taber, BBA ’15 were welcomed and inducted as new board members, while Joseph Magaldi, BBA ’64 and Katarina Matayoshi BBA ’14 were thanked for their service as outgoing directors. A special mahalo to Ken Takahashi, BBA ’87, for giving back as an alumnus by hosting the group in his new restaurant.

6 | EXECUTIVE MENTORING KICKOFF EVENT
The Executive Mentoring Program kicked off its 2022-2023 cohort on June 29 at Halekulani Hotel. Facilitated by the Shidler Alumni Association, the program provides Shidler EMBA students an opportunity to be mentored by a seasoned executive in the Hawaii business community in order to provide personal and professional growth. The kick-off allowed mentors and mentees to meet for the first time, as well as hear from testimonies from past program participants.
ALUMNI FEATURES

A successful business idea born in a laundry room

When Rose Wong, BBA ’20, was 16 years old, she started a business in her dad’s laundry room. That idea that was dreamt up amongst the smell of detergent and fabric softener as the family’s garments spun in the dryer is now Kolohe, a handcrafted jewelry bar, that opened its first brick and mortar location in Waikiki at the ‘Alohilani Resort in 2019 and then a second location at Waikiki Beach Walk in 2020.

“Since starting the business, it’s been an absolute whirlwind of lessons and success from opening my first store at 21 years old, opening my second one in the middle of COVID and expanding to a fine jewelry line with wedding rings,” Wong said. “Although every day is different and I am constantly learning, it’s been a wonderful experience of bringing my business to success.”

When she was young, Wong’s goal was to have her own business and to serve as a positive role model to her younger siblings and other young female entrepreneurs. By the time she was 15, she had worked about eight different jobs before she figured out at 17 that her calling was a jewelry business. She was inspired at one of her retail jobs when she witnessed the joy and personal sentiment that came when customers purchased a piece of jewelry. The unique jewelry bar concept at Kolohe was developed because Wong believes that jewelry should not be one-size-fits and that everyone has their own unique style.

In college, she leveraged the resources available to her such as being involved with the Hawaii Student Entrepreneurs club, serving as its president and participating in programs offered through PACE. Wong credits these supportive endeavors to encouraging and supporting her creative ideas.

“The real life experiences that I got from the Shidler entrepreneurship programs have given me the true building blocks of my business and gave me the opportunity to establish a name for myself in the local business community before even graduating college,” she said.

Opening her second store during the pandemic posed many unique challenges. There was fear about what a recession would mean for the business, along with the normal stresses of an expanding company, such as managing and hiring a quality team, setting up systems, continuing to grow and creating a work/life balance. Wong says that what has helped her is seeing the opportunity in any challenge. Some ways she’s overcome obstacles include having a positive and optimistic mindset; leaning on the people in her circle and always taking a solution-based approach.

“All of these things equate to the constant character building that is necessary for an entrepreneur,” she said. “My favorite part about being an entrepreneur is figuring out solutions and getting better at it each time.”

Entrepreneurship has always been his way of life

From an early age, Tony Wong Cam, BBA ’15, was surrounded by entrepreneurship. He witnessed his family build a business from the ground up. After his family immigrated from Peru, they started a farm on the west side of Oahu, growing local vegetables, including basil, green onion, choy sum and mustard cabbage for large wholesalers. By the time he was in high school, Wong Cam assisted his family with business operations as their export business grew to markets including Texas, Miami, Chicago and Seattle.

In 2017, following his graduation from Shidler College and working for a couple of years as a commercial credit analyst and management trainee at Bank of Hawaii, Wong Cam rejoined his family business, this time overseeing business development, corporate relations, auditing, accounting and finance. In 2019, he wanted to branch out. He initially looked at studying immigration law, but an opportunity to manage operations at an L&L Hawaiian Barbecue in Waimanalo presented itself. He enjoyed franchise management so much that he decided to purchase the store from his uncle and L&L co-founder, Johnson Kam. From there on, he created his ideal team and learned the inner workings of executing a franchise business plan, a skill he learned from his time at Shidler College.

Being the natural leader he is, Wong Cam soon wanted a challenge of his own and to build something from the ground up. He desired to apply the lessons he learned from L&L, including community involvement and investment, and to encourage his staff to display quality, consistency and convenience in order to be successful. With those values in mind,
A business relationship comes full circle

When Mark Tawara, BBA ’91, met marketing student Tiffany Tabbal, BBA ’08, at Business Night in 2008, neither Shidler College alum could have predicted that it was the beginning of a business relationship that would eventually end up with them working together as co-owners of a successful marketing, management and technology business several years later.

Tawara always selected the Marketing and Management option when he volunteered his time as mentor at the event, which pairs up professionals in the field with current students to provide an evening of mentoring and fun as they get to know what’s in store for their future career paths. And on that evening when he met Tabbal, he was instantly impressed.

“I was really impressed by her communication skills, poise, and personality,” he said. “She made a great first impression, and I knew she would be very successful in marketing after graduating.”

After completing an internship at CommPac, Tabbal reached out to Tawara and asked if there were any marketing opportunities at Belt Collins Hawaii, where he was currently serving as director of marketing. Tawara hired Tabbal as a marketing intern, and upon graduating later that year he offered her a full-time position with the firm as a marketing/information resources assistant. When the company had to downsize due to the 2009 global recession, Tawara tapped into his professional network and assisted her in securing a business development coordinator position at Bowers + Kubota Consulting, where she would spend the next nine years of her career.

“It was an amazing opportunity for me to be able to meet Mark when I did as a student just before I graduated,” Tabbal said. “Making this connection helped me to get to where I am today.”

Over the years, the pair stayed in touch and served together on boards and committees for various professional organizations. After spending nearly a decade at Bowers + Kubota Consulting, Tabbal was looking for a change, and as serendipity would have it, Tawara was looking to hire his first full-time employee at Manageability LLC, a marketing, management and technology consulting company he started in 2015. Tabbal joined Tawara in 2019 as marketing/administrative manager and immediately became an invaluable and integral part of the business.

Fast forward to 2021 and Tawara (who also owns Bright Light Digital – a successful digital signage, audio-visual, and technology solutions company) decided that he needed a co-owner for Manageability. He did not hesitate to ask Tabbal to fill those shoes and lead the company alongside him. On Jan. 1, Tabbal became a principal and co-owner of Manageability LLC, making it a woman-owned, small-disadvantaged entity.

“I am so proud to see Tiffany’s growth from a student, to employee, to co-owner of the business,” Tawara said. “Our relationship is the epitome of what Business Night is meant to be – fostering relationships between students and local business professionals.”

Wong Cam and his brother, Henry Huang, opened the first Yi Fang Taiwan Fruit Tea in Hawai‘i earlier this year. They eventually plan to expand islandwide and provide a training ground for young students to learn customer service while maintaining consistency and quality.

Wong Cam looks forward to mentoring and guiding the younger staff, just as he was at Shidler College and by those in the business community. He believes in investing in the next generation, providing opportunities for students to learn soft skills and gain work experience. “I enjoy working with younger people and helping them develop professionally,” he said. “So I wanted to provide the younger staff with opportunities, such as introducing them to people to help them make the next decision in their careers or their schooling. A key pillar I wanted to pursue in entrepreneurship is to help develop the next generation of leaders in Hawai‘i because we need that.”
1970s

David Kong, BBA '74, was named the inaugural recipient of the Arne Sorenson Social Impact Leadership Award for his dedication to drive change through strong leadership and community engagement. Kong was also awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award at the International Hospitality Investment Forum in Berlin on May 5.

2000s

Warren Altona, BBA '06, EMBA '11, has been named product strategy & retail analytics division manager at Hawaii State Federal Credit Union. In this new position, Altona will oversee credit union deposit, loan and payment products, as well as the strategic and retail analytics of the organization. He will also aim to deliver and execute strategies that provide an optimal suite of products and services to the bank’s members. Altona most recently served as senior regional manager.

Daniel Chun, BS '02, was named the Alaska Airlines corporate honoree for the Public Schools of Hawaii Foundation’s Kūlia I Ka Nu’u awards banquet. As a public school graduate, Chun was recognized for his contributions to the business community as well as his dedication to improving education opportunities for future generations.

Su Lazo, BBA '06, had been appointed director of career development for the Hiapo program at Purple Mai’a. In her new role, she provides students with career counseling, prepares graduates for their job search and builds a network of local employers committed to hiring locally.

Michelle Leon-Guerrero, BS '07, MHRM '09, has been promoted to chief administrative officer at Hawaiian Host Group (HHG). In this elevated leadership role, Leon-Guerrero will oversee the company’s Talent Management, Operations, Customer Care and Warehouse departments. Leon-Guerrero previously served as VP of talent management.

Katie Mettler, BBA '02, has been promoted to vice president and senior wealth advisor at First Hawaiian Bank. As a certified financial planner since 2012 and with over 18 years of financial services experience, Mettler guides her private banking clients to achieve their financial wellness objectives by creating a financial plan that will help them reach their long-term goals including retirement, investments and estate planning.

2010s

Jerrin Ching, MBA '19, has been named corporate advanced analyst at HMSA. Ching is responsible for performing data analysis and presenting...
Jerrin Ching develops and applies automated solutions to business reporting processes and functions.

Caileigh Clermont, BBA ’18, has been hired as email specialist at BrüMate. In her new role, Clermont develops strategy for the company’s email and SMS calendar, segmentation and testing strategies; and implements campaigns from start to finish.

John Doyle, EMBA ’17, has been named director of information security at Array. In his new role, Doyle serves as the cybersecurity lead on efforts to implement and maintain information security policies, as well as develop and execute security incident and investigation procedures.

Drew Gladstone, BBA ’11, has been promoted to controller at Seaboard Energy, LLC. In his elevated role, Gladstone oversees all accounting and finance related aspects of the company.

Kisan Jo, EMBA ’19, has been appointed executive vice president of retail markets and operations at Central Pacific Bank. In this leadership role, he oversees the bank’s branch network, call center, deposit and loan operations, consumer lending and client experience. Jo previously served as the president of Prince Resorts Hawaii.

Jacqueline Rabaino, MHRM ’17, has been hired as Oahu division director at United Public Workers (UPW). She is responsible for the management of UPW’s Oahu Division and supervision of field staff who represent city and state employees, through contract enforcement of two collective bargaining agreements, grievance handling, member recruitment and membership services.

Stefen Joshua Rasay, BBA ’18, has gone on many travel adventures since his retirement a few years ago. So far, he has climbed the Great Wall of China, visited the Galapagos Islands, walked on the Athabasca Glacier and traveled by train through the Canadian Rockies. Most recently, Noordyk went on a cruise up the Rhine River.

Richard Noordyk, BBA ’66, has gone on many travel adventures since his retirement a few years ago. So far, he has climbed the Great Wall of China, visited the Galapagos Islands, walked on the Athabasca Glacier and traveled by train through the Canadian Rockies. Most recently, Noordyk went on a cruise up the Rhine River.

Bernard Heong Kin Lum, BBA ’72, MBA ’74, passed away on Dec. 27, 2021 at the age of 71. While pursuing his master’s degree, Lum worked as a teaching assistant at the School of Accounting. Before retiring in 2011 as an analyst at First Hawaiian Bank, he served as the vice president, treasurer and CFO of G.W. Murphy Construction Co, Inc. for more than 16 years. As both he and his wife battled cancer throughout their lives, they created the Bernard and Pamela Lum Endowment for Cancer Research.

In Memoriam
has been named rating analyst at S&P Global. In this new position, he is a part of the U.S. Public Finance team, reviewing the creditworthiness of public power and electric cooperative utility entities.

**Taylor Ricca-Mirzayan, BBA ’18**, has been named marketing specialist at ThousandEyes. She is responsible for planning and executing email campaigns, copywriting and improving existing marketing automations. Ricca-Mirzayan previously served as a marketing coordinator at Plumb.

**Sara Strona, MBA ’15**, has been appointed director of Starn O'Toole, Marcus & Fisher. She practices in the areas of real estate law, commercial transactions and corporate law. Strona holds Martindale-Hubbell’s® highest possible rating of AV Preeminent®. This rating is given by her legal peers, based on their knowledge of her work, knowledge and integrity.

**Kristyn Takai, BBA ’18**, has been hired as human resources specialist at the U.S. Army Civilian Human Resources Agency. In her new role, she provides staffing and recruitment strategy support, as well as position management and classification support to organizations within the Department of the Army.

**Kylee Takata, BBA ’18**, has been hired as account manager at Apex Systems. In her role, Takata is responsible for building relationships with Fortune 1000 clients in various industries such as engineering, life science; and infrastructure and security. She leads efforts within her internal team to ensure job opportunities are filled for their clients.

**Edwin Wong, BBA ’19**, has been named program manager as part of the business planning team at Amazon. In his role, he drives initiatives to create and deploy project management mechanisms around workforce staffing field operation’s business lines.

**Jessica Yamamoto, MBA ’18**, has been appointed to communications and social media manager at FCH Enterprises, Inc. In her new role, she oversees all traditional and digital media relations. In her previous role, she was senior community manager at Yelp.

**Melissa Yoshimoto, MBA ’19**, has been named people operations manager at Revacomm. In her new role, Yoshimoto spearheads all operational aspects of the people operations team which includes benefits, compliance, compensation and talent management. As a champion of company culture, Yoshimoto places the best people in the right roles to diversify and grow the company.

Kent Le, BBA ’21, has been hired as development associate at East-West Center. In this position, he oversees gift administration and stewardship of donor relations. He also assists with organizing and implementing social media campaigns.

Hae-Dong Lee, MBA ’20, has been promoted to principal at Bowers + Kubota. In his elevated role, Lee oversees the architectural and electrical design group along with managing various government agencies.

**Alumni in the news**

Tate Castillo, BBA ’18, was featured in University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa’s “Finding Our Kuleana” video series; Diane Paloma, MBA ’99, was featured on Hawaii Business Magazine’s Hawaii Business Podcast, hosted by Unyong Nakata, MBA ’05.

2020s

PBN’s Women Who Mean Business

Each year, Pacific Business News recognizes some of the most influential women who have made great strides in their businesses, industries and communities. Congratulations to Kylie Arrell, MBA ’21, Shelley Ellwin, BBA ’99, Leilani Garner, MHRM ’17, Denise Iseri-Matsubara, BBA ’86, and Hisae Uki, MBA ’12 for being honored in PBN’s 2022 Annual Women Who Mean Business.
Congratulations to our outstanding alumni for being honored in Hawaii Business Magazine’s 20 For the Next 20. Poki’i Balaz, EMBA ’20; Keoni Lee, MBA ’09; Dayna Matsumoto, BBA ’03; and Greg Young, EMBA ’07 (pictured clockwise below) were named as distinguished individuals who are set to be emerging leaders over the next 20 years.

Send in your class notes and photos

We love to feature your special milestones, including job appointments, promotions, retirements, engagements, marriages and births on our website, eBlasts and in Shidler Business.

shidler.hawaii.edu/classnotes

Congratulations!

Top: Lynn Miyahira, MBA ’10 and Mark Gilbertson got married on Jan. 30 in Kaneohe.
Middle: Kirstin Tran, MBA ’20, and Richard Tran, BBA ’11, EMBA ’19, were engaged in December 2020 and recently married on May 28.
Bottom: Alyssa Tanabe, BBA ’11, welcomed baby boy, Maddox Tanabe, to the family on Feb. 4.
Meet Davin “Dave” Higashi, BBA ’05, CEO and founder of Crowdmade, a merchandising company that provides a platform for popular YouTube creators to sell products, such as apparel, art prints, accessories and home decor. Previously, Higashi spent time working in finance at eBay. He lives in Danville, California with his wife, Becky, and daughters, Charlie, 8 and Alex, 6.

Tell us about a day at the office.
“As CEO, I believe it’s my responsibility to support every person in our company and provide resources and guidance while removing as many roadblocks as I can to help them succeed. My days tend to be somewhat unpredictable, so to stay on course we have an annual planning session where we decide what our main priorities are. Once we have our general direction for the year it’s my job to keep everyone moving toward our goals and milestones.”

What’s your advice for current students?
“I was a mechanical engineering major who had a quarter-life crisis worrying about who I would become and hastily jumped into finance because many of the credits I had completed lined up and I could graduate in a four-year window which I thought was important to me at the time. I was rushing to get a degree. I was ticking boxes on the way to that diploma. I missed out on the opportunity to slow things down and really take advantage of the people, faculty, and experiences I could have had. It’s something I regret, and I hope other students won’t make my mistake.”

How did your experiences at Shidler prepare you for what was to come?
“When I left Shidler in 2005, I wasn’t prepared for the life trajectory I ultimately took. I failed founding multiple businesses until I had the life experiences necessary to even have a shot at building Crowdmade into the business it is today.

“They say nothing can prepare you for building businesses. I used to believe that until I took a new look at Shidler and the incredible initiatives the college had been embarking on. The Shidler of 2022 is a completely different school than the one I attended. I’m impressed with its programs and commitment to offer its students world-class experiences. I believe PACE and its programs have the ability to create a new generation of entrepreneurs who will transform Hawai‘i’s economy into one that is more robust and diversified.”
Island Insurance has proudly served individuals and businesses statewide for over 80 years. Guided by a founding philosophy of providing insurance options for the people of Hawai’i, Island has grown to be Hawai’i’s largest locally owned and managed property and casualty insurance company and achieved long standing recognition as one of the top 50 property and casualty insurers in the nation.

The commitment by Island’s executive management team to perpetuate the corporate values imparted by founder Masayuki Tokioka has led to ongoing contributions to the community and numerous awards including being named one of Hawai’i’s Best Places to Work for 16 consecutive years. Special training programs, continuing education courses and an innovative property and casualty internship program enable employees to flourish and have successful careers with Island Insurance.

Island Insurance Alumni

Front Row (from left): Tricia Murakami, BBA ’01, Marketing Specialist II; Diane Inouye, BBA ’84, Vice President, Commercial Lines Underwriting; Jessica Sakuma, BBA ’14, Client Care Specialist II; Joyce Fujimori, BBA ’78, Assistant Vice President, Commercial Underwriting – Large Accounts; Ivy Kwok, BBA ’18, MAcc ’19, Accountant; Alison Tanigawa, MBA ’99, Marketing Manager; and Debra Chong, BBA ’86, Manager – Business Services

Back Row: Ryan Kawamoto, BBA ’09, Senior Underwriter – Production; Calvin Matsushima, BBA ’10, Claims Supervisor – Auto; Kevin Lu, BBA ’11, Underwriter Associate II; Gary Fujimoto, BBA ’80, Assistant Vice President, Commercial Underwriting; Carl Sunada, BBA ’04, Senior Field Auditor; Matthew Tokihiro, BBA ’15, Underwriter – Commercial Lines; and Mark Mendes, BBA ’04, MBA ’08, Senior Underwriter - Production

Not pictured: Ross Yokoyama, BBA ’74, MBA ’80, Assistant Vice President – Accounts Receivable
FEATURED EVENTS FOR FALL & WINTER 2022

THU | SEP 22  
Northern California Alumni & Friends Mixer  
Dean Vance Roley invites you to join us for a special networking mixer in Northern California. Make valuable connections, broaden your network and learn about the college’s new initiatives. Event runs from 5:30-8:30 p.m. PDT at Park James Hotel. $30 per person.  
shidler.hawaii.edu/northerncalifornia2022

SUN | SEP 25  
Newport Bay Yacht Cruise  
Join Shidler alumnus Bill Johnson, BBA ’65, and his wife Sue Johnson, in Newport Bay for a yacht cruise aboard the Dulcinea. Proceeds from the event will benefit student scholarships at the college. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. PDT and the yacht departs from Slip #202, Anchorage Way at 1 p.m. $30 per person.  
shidler.hawaii.edu/newport2022

THU | OCT 13  
Hall of Honor Awards 2022  
Join us as we honor Julie Arigo, BBA ’88, general manager, Halepuna Waikiki by Halekulani; Terry George, MBA ’09, president and CEO, Harold K.L. Castle Foundation; Shelee Kimura, BBA ’95, president and CEO, Hawaiian Electric; and Paul Tse, BBA ’76, MBA ’78, executive director, Golden Crown Development Ltd. Event begins at 5:30 p.m. HST at the Sheraton Waikiki.  
shidler.hawaii.edu/hall-of-honor

THU | NOV 17  
Lane Lecture Series Featuring David Kong  
Event will be held at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai‘i. More details coming soon.  
shidler.hawaii.edu/lanelecture

UPCOMING EVENTS  
shidler.hawaii.edu/events

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To learn more about making a gift through your will or trust, contact Kristi Bates at (808) 956-3597 or kristi.bates@uhfoundation.org.