

HAWAII MEDICAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

1. What qualifications and experiences do you bring to the Hawaii Medical Education Council?

I bring the experiences of an educated consumer. I have had many and varied experiences with the health care system and bring that unique perspective to the group. I also bring an understanding of the private philanthropic community.

I am an active board member for The Children's Alliance of Hawaii and the Friends of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii. I have sat on the Board for Kapiolani Women and Children's Hospital as well as the Friends of the University of Hawaii School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene. I am a recipient of the Junior League "Laura Dowsett" Award, Honolulu Board of Realtors "VIVA" Award, and the Girl Scouts of Hawaii 2008 "Woman of Distinction" Award.

2. What recommendations would you make to the legislatures and the Board of Regents to improve healthcare training programs in the state?

Increased multidisciplinary involvement would significantly assist all levels of providers do their jobs more efficiently. Funding to increase class size would also be effective as there is a significant shortage of physicians in the state. We also need to motivate graduates to remain in the State using scholarships and incentives.

3. What challenges do you see facing our healthcare industry, specifically relating to our workforce needs?

Challenges include tort reform, reduction in reimbursement, and evolution of complex ethical issues. Provision of services to the neighbor islands is a significant problem that is not being adequately addressed. This problem will become more significant as the State revenues fall and the physician shortage increases.

4. During these difficult economic times, how can we ensure adequate funding for our healthcare training programs?

Private public collaboration is a mechanism that must be further developed. We need opportunities for donors to meet and truly develop relationships with some of our talented students. We must also seek the most cost effective strategies to educate this talented group of young professionals.