

TOURISM LIAISON

Hawai'i State Capitol, Office of the Governor, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
MARSHA WIENERT
TOURISM LIAISON

Telephone: (808) 586-2362
Fax: (808) 586-0019

Statement of
MARSHA WIENERT
Tourism Liaison
Office of the Governor
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
Tuesday, February 9, 2010
2:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

in consideration of
HB 2315 HD1
**RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY
MANAGEMENT.**

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima and Members of the House Committee on Higher Education.

HB 2315 HD1 amends Chapter 304A, HRS, by establishing a school of travel industry management at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa that is separate and independent of any school or college of business administration established at the university.

Tourism is Hawai'i's economic engine and the biggest employer in the state. We support the need for a school of travel industry management to provide qualified graduates and future leaders for our state's number one industry. The school plays an essential role in ensuring the sustainability of our economy into the future.

In these challenging economic times, we appreciate the discussions that have taken place at the university to incorporate the curriculum of the school of travel industry management into the college of business administration, as well as the legislative discussion on this subject.

We recognize that the establishment or termination of schools and colleges within the university is under the purview of the UH Board of Regents and the president and agree that they should retain this right. However, we would like to suggest that a school of travel industry management is important to our economy and the state's visitor industry and would hope that both short- and long-term strategies be developed before any final decisions are made.

Hawai'i is known as a world leader in tourism and an educational system specializing in travel industry management is important to our continued success.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 2315 HD1.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony presented before the
House Committee on Higher Education
February 9, 2010 at 2:30 p.m.

By Linda K. Johnsrud
Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy, University of Hawai'i

HB 2315 HD1 Relating to the University of Hawai'i School of Travel Industry
Management

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima, and members of the House Committee on Higher
Education:

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify on House Bill 2315 House Draft 1 that establishes a school of travel industry management at the University of Hawai'i that is separate and independent of any school or college of business administration, and is under the direction of a dean or director who is not simultaneously a dean or director of any other school or college at the university.

The University of Hawai'i appreciates the recognition by the legislature of the importance of our programs in travel industry management that produce graduates in a workforce area that is critical to the state of Hawai'i. The University is cognizant of its strategic responsibility to meet the state's workforce needs in this area.

The University, however, cannot support language that would direct the location of a specific academic program or determine the organization of academic programs within a campus. There are two broad reasons for this.

First, the establishment or termination of schools and colleges within the University is under the purview of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents upon recommendation by the President. In addition, by policy the Board or, as delegated, the President has the authority to establish, abolish, reorganize, reassign, or rename organizational units of the university. The President's recommendation is based upon a review that includes an assessment of academic and workforce needs, duplication or gaps among campuses or programs, cost and budget analysis, and a review of a program's ability to operate and meet academic standards within available resource levels.

Second, given the severe and sudden restrictions to the budget, each UH campus has had to evaluate all of its programs and operations; UH Mānoa's budget workgroups have met continuously this past year to set priorities and make recommendations.

UH Mānoa does not support this bill which directs and restricts the organization of a specific academic program within the university. The campus continually evaluates how

to provide the best academic experience for students and appropriate support for students, faculty, and staff engaged in individual academic programs. At this time, such efforts are critical in view of the truly significant budget reductions UH Mānoa is attempting to manage. UH Mānoa's Campus Budget Workgroup recommended that all schools at UH Mānoa with less than 30 faculty members examine mergers with larger schools/colleges

(<http://manoa.hawaii.edu/ovcafo/newprocess/MemoChancellor121509.pdf>). That recommendation was accepted with the objective of ensuring both strong academic offerings and maximizing use of available resources. Examining options to best fulfill those goals is highly appropriate for an academic institution and important for the university's ability to serve the State.

House Bill 2315 House Draft 1, in establishing a separate travel industry management school in statute, with a separate dean or director, does not acknowledge the impact of recent significant budget restrictions and the necessity for the UH Mānoa campus to review all of their options to increase efficiency at the same time that they maintain effectiveness and educational quality. The University of Hawai'i cannot support this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**Testimony to the House Committee on Higher Education
Hawaii State Capitol
Conference Room 309
Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 2:30 p.m.**

**SUBJECT: HOUSE BILL 2315 HD1 Relating to the University of Hawaii School of Travel Industry
Management.**

Chair Chang, Vice Nakashima and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jim Tollefson and I am the President and CEO of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber"). I appreciate the opportunity to state The Chamber's general support of the language in House Bill No. 2315 HD1.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing more than 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. The organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

The Chamber encourages a broad base of understanding, support and appreciation for the Tourism and Travel Industries within the business community, Legislature and the general public. The Chamber's Tourism Committee also supports visitor industry growth and improvement while working to enhance the visitor experience.

The TIM School has thrived as an independent school. It has brought recognition to the UH and Hawai'i as a world class brand with a global reputation. The key to economic recovery in Hawai'i is tourism, the largest industry in the State and in the world. Thus, the loss of autonomy for the TIM School would diminish its ability to fulfill its mission and is counter to the land grant mission of the university.

Additionally, a merger will undo the almost 50-year history of accomplishments and world-class reputation of the School in its mission to be the leading travel industry and tourism education and knowledge creation program in Hawai'i and the Asia-Pacific region. In the past year, the TIM School has made many gains due to good morale and stability from its recent successes

In light of this, the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii urges your support of House Bill 2315 HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

STARWOOD

HOTELS & RESORTS WORLDWIDE, INC.

Testimony to the COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Tuesday, February 9 2010; 2:30pm.
Conference Room 309

HOUSE BILL 2315 HD1 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT.

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima and Members of the Higher Education Committee:

My name is Keith Vieira and my company is Starwood Hotels & Resorts. I would like to express my and my company's strong opposition to this bill for two reasons.

First, the University of Hawai'i needs to be autonomous in its decisions in the best interests of its students, its faculty and the state. This should be their decision.

Second, and more importantly, is that we need to do what is best for our students, especially those from Hawai'i. This is not to say the TIM school is not doing its job, but rather, to question whether it is doing the best job in the evolving environment of the tourism industry. Our students need to be more competitive and it is my firm belief that a student with a major in tourism coupled with a strong business background is better equipped to succeed in their career.

Here in Hawai'i, our company hires 25 to 35 college graduates with applicable degrees each year, and it has been harder for our TIM school students to compete for these jobs because of competition from students from North America and other areas of the world.

The most attractive and qualified job candidates for the visitor industry are those graduates who possess strong business skills and social awareness, particularly financial acumen and leadership skills. The UH School of Business is better equipped to prepare our students due to its size, outside funding and leadership resources, both internal and external. By housing the TIM school within the School of Business, I believe we can not only preserve the positive branding that the TIM School has built, but we can better use the combined efforts of both entities to provide the best travel industry educational opportunities for our students.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you my testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at (808) 921-4030.



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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Tuesday, February 9, 2010, 2:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

HB 2315 HD1

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT.

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima and Members of the House Committee on Higher Education.

We are the board of directors of TIM International, the alumni association of the School of Travel Industry Management (TIM) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. We appreciate the opportunity to present our support for HB 2315 HD1, which establishes a school of travel industry management at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa that is separate and independent of any school or college of business administration established by the university. The autonomy of the school of travel industry management enables it to be the most efficient of the schools and colleges that comprise the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Such autonomy also enables the school to remain competitive with its peer institutions in both the nation and around the world.

Past conservative figures of the impact of tourism on Hawai'i's economy have generally estimated that tourism accounts for 25 percent of the jobs, taxes and gross domestic product for the state. A recent study conducted by economist Leroy Laney for First Hawaiian Bank has shown that tourism has more impact than previously believed and is the key to the state's recovery from the nagging recession. In Dr. Laney's study, he has estimated that tourism accounts for 35 to 40 percent of the state's gross domestic product when considering both direct and indirect economic contributions. His study also found that three-quarters of private employment is linked to tourism in some fashion. According to Laney, "until tourism gets better, the rest of the economy cannot."

Considering the importance of the travel industry to our state's economy, it is essential that the state's flagship institution of higher education foster a vibrant, independent TIM School for it to continue its mission to serve the state and the Pacific Asia region. A merger that could conceivably downgrade the school to the status of a department would from our perspective put the school's programs and its reputation at risk with little, if any, compensating gain, either in reorganizing savings or advancement of mission that is critical to our state.

As an alumni association, we are deeply committed to supporting the TIM School and our University of Hawai'i and ask for your support of HB 2315 HD1 to preserve a separate and independent School of Travel Industry Management.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors
Travel Industry Management International (TIMI), Inc.
Alumni Association for the School of Travel Industry Management

2/8/10

CHAIR CHANG, VICE CHAIR NAKASHIMA, MEMBERS HIGHER ED, COMMITTEE

HB2315 relating to THE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT


My name is John C Brogan. I retired in 2000, having worked 40 years in executive positions with Sheraton/Starwood Hotels, of which 30 years were in Hawaii. My latest position was President-Hawaii for Starwood Hotels and Resorts.

I support HB2315 which would keep the School of Travel Industry Management separate and independent of any school or college of business administration.

The School of Travel Industry Management (TIM) has a worldwide reputation for producing some of the best and brightest leaders in the hospitality industry. Their education was greatly enhanced by attending a school which was led by industry veterans, led by a dean with outstanding hospitality industry credentials. The independence of the school allowed these graduates an education unencumbered by the needs of a business school which often have different goals and objectives. I graduated from a hotel school which came under a business school where this was the case.

There appears to be no financial gain by this merger. I believe the reputation of the TIM school would be damaged in the eyes of the industry, students, faculty, graduates and donors if such a merger took place.

Please vote to keep the School of Travel Industry Management independent.


John C. Brogan Phone 373-1973 broganjoma@yahoo.com

From: Marco Chan [marcochan@comcast.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2010 9:42 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: marcochan@comcast.net
Subject: Testimony House Bill 2315 HDI University of Hawaii School of Travel Industry Management

Testimony to the COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Tuesday, February 9 2010; 2:30pm.
Conference Room 309

HOUSE BILL 2315 HD1 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT.

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima and Members of the Higher Education Committee:

My name is Marco Chan and my company is V2 Leadership Group Inc. I graduated from the School of Travel Industry Management, University of Hawaii, Manoa campus in 1970. I appreciate the efforts made by the chair and the committee in addressing autonomy of the School of Travel Industry Management. I support HB 2315 to establish a school of travel industry management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa that is separate and independent of any school or college of business administration established by the university.

I am writing in support of the school of travel industry management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa remain autonomous from the Schidler college of business administration. The autonomy of the school of travel industry management enables it to be the most efficient of the schools and colleges that comprise the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Such autonomy also enables the school to remain competitive with its peer institutions in both the nation and around the world.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at marcochan@comcast.net, 901-854-4870, 75 Brier Hills Drive, Piperton, TN 38017.

Respectfully,
Marco Chan

Fax to 808-586-6120 on Feb 6 2010 4:00pm

I would also want to testify in person

Testimony to the COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Tuesday February 9 2010 2:30pm.
Conference Room 309

SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 2315 HD1 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT.

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima and Members of the Higher Education Committee:

My name is Johnson Choi, a proud graduate of the UH School of Travel Industry Management. I am the President of the Hong Kong.China.Hawaii Chamber of Commerce, Vice Chairman of the Hawaii Pacific Export Council appointed by the U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke. I am the National winner of the 2008 United States Small Business Administration Minority Small Business Champion of the Year. Past President, Director, Treasurer and International Chairman of the UH TIM Alumni Association. I am in close contact with more than 1,000 UH TIM Alumni inside and outside of Hawaii. I have worked closely with UH TIM School Students, Deans, and Professors since 1985.

I appreciate the efforts made by the chair and the committee in addressing autonomy of the School of Travel Industry Management. I support HB 2315 to establish a school of travel industry management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa that is separate and independent of any school or college of business administration established by the university.

The autonomy of the school of travel industry management enables it to be the most efficient of the schools and colleges that comprise the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Such autonomy also enables the school to remain competitive with its peer institutions in both the nation and around the world. I wish to make the following points in my testimony:

- 1) UH TIM School is one of the best known brand of the UH program within the UH System. It has provided quality education, not only serves our in-State residents, but also helps Hawaii compete with other higher educational institution elsewhere to attract full-tuition paying students. As such, it is one of two or three most cost-effective programs within the UH System.
- 2) A respected brand in the field of education such as UH TIM School took years to build, if we are not careful, we may destroy it in days by merging the School into College of Business.
- 3) My businesses have taken me to Asia and North America 12 - 15 times per year. Anytime we discussed higher education options in Hawaii, UH TIM School has always been on the top of the list.
- 4) UH TIM School has more than 400 students and is the 3rd highest enrollment of an individual unit within the UH System and profitable brought in almost \$5 million of tuition with an annual budget of less than 3 million.

5) UH TIM School is unique in terms of curriculum designed for the tourism & hospitality professional plus internship. On Saturday I walked passed Ala Moana Food Court and stopped by the former Director of the tourism program of the Chinese University in Hong Kong. He flags me down and wanted to talk to me and said that it would be a mistake to merge UH TIM School into College of Business. At Chinese University Hong Kong, they are building up the Hospitality program as an autonomous school. He has continued to say that business school programs are not catered to the service industry. UH TIM Student has little to gain with a BBA Degree.

6) UH TIM School has served the State's largest industry well for 1/2 century especially under the Deanship of Chuck Gee from the 70s to 2000, helped shaped Hawaii's travel industry policies in development, marketing and human resources development. UH TIM School has help brought Asian tourist closer to Hawaii as well as World Tourism Organization attention to Hawaii. This could not happen if the School is not independent without its own deanship.

7) Since I am in close contact with more than 1,000 UH TIM Alumni, more than 90% has supported UH TIM School to remain autonomous, also supported by the testimony submitted.

8) The Students at the UH School of Travel Industry Management has spoken, they want UH TIM School to remain autonomous.

9) Many of you hearing our testimony today already know when you travel to Asia for Official business, it is often the Government official who gave you the VIP treatments equal to that of large States like New York and California, the main reason is due to their relationship with UH TIM School especially when those 100s of Government Officials attended one of the UH TIM EDIT Program during the last 30 years.

We are here to serve the interest of our stakeholders, our TIM Students, our Alumni and the interest of the State of Hawaii. I strongly endorse HB 2315 and hope you will pass it into enactment. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Johnson W. K. Choi
3072 Kahaloa Drive
Honolulu Hawaii 96822
Phone: (808) 524-5738
Fax: (808) 524-8063
Email: johnsonchoi@johnsonchoi.com

Representative Jerry L. Chang, Chair
Representative Mark N. Nakashima, Vice Chair
Committee on Higher Education

House of Representatives of the State of Hawai'i

Lance D. Collins, Esq.

Tuesday, February 9, 2010

Opposition to HB No. 2315, Relating to the University of Hawaii STIM

My name is Lance D. Collins. I am an attorney in private practice on the island of Maui and testify on my own behalf. I submit testimony **in strong opposition to** this bill.

Article X, Section 6 of the Hawai'i State Constitution states, in part: "**The board shall also have exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management, and operation of the university.** This section shall not limit the power of the legislature to enact laws of statewide concern. The legislature shall have the exclusive jurisdiction to identify laws of statewide concern."

When the voters of this state overwhelmingly approved the 2000 constitutional amendment, which was characterized as the "UH Autonomy Amendment", they overwhelmingly supported the principle of the Legislature staying out of the internal affairs of the University. Prior to this amendment, the Legislature was so deeply involved in the internal politics of the University system that the accreditation of the University was threatened. The Autonomy Amendment, which I did not support and voted against in 2000, was designed to protect the accreditation of the University and to eliminate the problem of certain powerful University factions from running to the legislature anytime they did not agree with the University administration.

This is precisely what is occurring here. It is a slap in the face to the voters of this state and the design of our state constitution. It unfairly advantages certain interest groups at the University at the expense of the others. It also has the potential

for threatening the continued accreditation of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa.

The potential to jeopardize the continued accreditation of the University is the most troubling aspect of this good intentioned but ill conceived bill and should be held for further consideration. The Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Senior Commission has developed clear standards that this law would clearly interfere with:

Standard 3.8: The institution's organizational structures and decision-making processes are clear and consistent with its purposes, support effective decision making, and place priority on sustaining effective academic programs.

Standard 3.9: The institution has an independent governing board or similar authority that, consistent with its legal and fiduciary authority, exercises appropriate oversight over institutional integrity, policies, and ongoing operations, including hiring and evaluating the chief executive officer.

Standard 3.11: The institution's faculty exercises effective academic leadership and acts consistently to ensure both academic quality and the appropriate maintenance of the institution's educational purposes and character.

It was precisely these accreditation standards that the Legislature repeatedly violated through the 1990s that supported criticism by WASC and caused voters to overwhelmingly support the 2000 constitutional amendment.

Finally, the School of Travel Industry and Management is part of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, not the University system and the appointing authority of its dean or director is the Board through the Manoa Chancellor, not the University system President. While the University should be subject to laws of statewide concern like uniform administrative procedures, open meeting laws and uniform information practices, proposed laws such as this deal exclusively with the internal management of the University and shows clearly that even with the best of intention, the consequences of legislative meddling in the internal affairs, management and structure of the University are numerous.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Written Testimony to the
COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
08 February 2010

Re: HOUSE BILL 2315 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA
SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT

My name is Fredrick M. Collison, PhD, and I hold the title Professor Emeritus of the School of Travel Industry Management (TIM), having retired the end of May, 2006. I apologize for not being able to appear in person, but I now live in Liberty, MO; I was on the faculty from 1983 until my retirement date. I was very active in teaching, research, and administration of TIM, serving two years as Interim Associate Dean and two terms as president of the TIM Faculty Senate.

The TIM separation from the Shidler College of Business (CBA) a number of years ago provided, and continues to provide, some significant advantages for its students, faculty and staff, alumni, and the university. With TIM as a free-standing school within UHM, it is more on par with similar travel industry programs throughout the United States and international educational communities. Influential programs such as those at Cornell, Houston, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, all are free-standing units on their respective campuses, and typically with much larger resource bases than TIM possesses. Yet, in spite of resource constraints, TIM is held in similar regard to these larger programs.

From the perspective of students, a substantial portion of the upper division undergraduate curriculum is focused on the travel industry and, more generally, the

services industry. Prior to separation from CBA, a number of the TIM core classes were CBA classes, which were much less relevant to the TIM students as the courses did not have a travel industry focus, much less a services focus. As the situation now stands, the students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels receive a curriculum that is focused on appropriate course work which will foster the kind of learning that they need to succeed in the highly-dynamic travel industry in which most will be employed.

To use an example, one of the courses I taught at TIM was TIM 304, "Principles of Travel Industry Marketing". The text I used, and the entire focus of the course, was on the travel industry and the unique characteristics that the industry possesses. When TIM was part of CBA, students merely took the generic CBA principles of marketing course, which had only passing mention of the travel industry. It was the CBA faculty as a whole that determined the course content of the marketing course, not the TIM faculty. There were a number of courses like this for TIM when it was part of CBA. As the situation now stands, TIM provides travel industry focused courses in basic managerial areas such as the marketing mentioned above, management, information technology, accounting and finance, and human resource management, along with many more advanced classes. These courses provide TIM students with a substantial knowledge base that enables them to make important contributions in the travel industry for the state and beyond.

From the perspective of the faculty and staff, there are also advantages to the current structure with TIM as an independent school within the university. First, and perhaps

foremost, it is the TIM faculty that determines the appropriate curricula for the undergraduate and graduate programs. Faculty also have more latitude in their scholarship since the academic journals in which travel industry faculty publish articles are not the ones in which CBA faculty typically publish. This can have negative repercussions for TIM faculty if they have to be judged based on publishing in more general business-focused academic journals. This is a critical issue since faculty must demonstrate competence in research (along with teaching, the other critical element) in order to merit promotion and to receive tenure. Both the TIM faculty and administrative staff can currently devote their full attention to the travel industry program that is so vital to the state, nation, and Pacific-Asia region in this current environment.

The TIM alumni, I believe, also benefit from the independence of the TIM School from other programmatic units on the UHM campus. This relationship is in effect a two-way street for the alumni/alumnae and TIM. The alumni/alumnae have benefitted from the education they received from the school and this enables many of TIM's alumni and alumnae to have very successful careers in the travel industry and other services fields. On the other side of this equation, the TIM alumni/alumnae have been very supportive of the school, raising funds to further programs and facilities of TIM and providing jobs and learning experiences for the students and graduates of TIM. The relationship between TIM and many of its alumni/alumnae is particularly strong, partly as a result of the independence from other programs that TIM has enjoyed.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2010 9:40 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: utag@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for HB2315 on 2/9/2010 12:00:00 AM

Testimony for HED 2/9/2010 12:00:00 AM HB2315

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Uta Guenther & Konrad Talon
Organization: Individual
Address: 1629 Clark St., 201 Honolulu, HI 96822
Phone: 808 6997868
E-mail: utag@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/7/2010

Comments:

Aloha Chairman Chang, Vice-Chairman Nakashima and committee members,

we are students currently enrolled in the undergrad program at the UH TIM School. We strongly support HB2315 which will, if passed, guarantee an independent TIM School. We feel that the school should remain autonomous for the following reasons:

- it is one of the most cost-efficient schools at UH Manoa
- the success rates of graduates finding employment within a few months post-graduation are extremely high
- the school offers a diverse, hands-on oriented curriculum
- the TIM School undergrad program is one of only a few tourism curricula certified by the United Nations World Tourism Organization's TedQual (Tourism education qualification) program
- TIM is an increasingly popular major, attracting not only students from Hawai'i but also from other states and nations
- last but not least, the travel industry is a major driver of Hawai'i's economy and others worldwide. TIM graduates will be vital assets to the industry and ultimately become its future leaders

As students, we were very concerned about the future of the TIM School and our degrees when a merger between the TIM School and the Shidler College of Business was proposed. We started a petition and successfully collected over 200 signatures from current students and recent graduates, as well as signatures from our alumni and many travel industry people, among them many executives and managers.

Keeping the TIM School autonomous will be most beneficial to the program, its current and future students, the UH system, the travel industry and the state of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,

Uta Guenther & Konrad Talon

undergraduates, School of Travel Industry Management at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa

From: VICTOR KOBAYASHI [victor.kobayashi@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 6:01 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: HB 2315, HD1

Due to the unusually strong pressure on the part of the University administration to force a merger of the School of Travel Industry Management into the Shidler College of Business Administration at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, it becomes necessary for the State legislature to assert its authority over the University. I support this bill that guarantees the faculty and staff and students of TIM to operate as a separate and distinct college, based on providing the most advanced form of travel industry management through teaching, learning, and research. A merger would only diffuse the distinction of this important school. It will also guarantee a more relevant curriculum that is appropriate for Travel Industry Management, that includes the nurturance of a hospitable environment.

The bill also asserts greater collegiality both within the TIM school as well as in its relationship to CBA and other colleges. HB 2315 asserts the autonomy and will help heal the rifts that have been created by the attempts to force an unequal merger.

Respectfully,
Victor Kobayashi
Professor Emeritus and Former Dean, Outreach College

Testimony to the COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

**Tuesday, February 9 2010; 2:30pm.
Conference Room 309**

HOUSE BILL 2315 HD1 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT.

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima and Members of the Higher Education Committee:

My name is Agnes Kwok-Yates. My company is LTC Trading Corp. We are manufacturer and distributor of headwear & bags. We employ 4 employees in California and 40 employees in China. I appreciate the efforts made by the chair and the committee in addressing autonomy of the School of Travel Industry Management. I support HB 2315 to establishes a school of travel industry management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa that is separate and independent of any school or college of business administration established by the university.

I am writing in support of the school of travel industry management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa remain autonomous from the Schidler college of business administration. The autonomy of the school of travel industry management enables it to be the most efficient of the schools and colleges that comprise the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Such autonomy also enables the school to remain competitive with its peer institutions in both the nation and around the world.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at LTC Trading Corp, 10750 Thornmint Road, suite 101 San Diego, CA 92127. Tel: 858-485-1400 Fax: 858-485-1811

From: tokioka1-Elijah
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 12:16 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: 'Karen Li - USIPL Exe'
Subject: FW: To the Committee on Tourism, CUlture and International Affairs

HED-Here is testimony that we received.

Ms. Li (Kan),

Your testimony was sent to the wrong committee, however it will be forwarded to the correct committee which is HED.
Thank you.

From: Karen Li - USIPL Exe [mailto:karenli@usi.com.hk]
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2010 6:58 PM
To: TCItestimony
Subject: To the Committee on Tourism, CUlture and International Affairs

Dear Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima and Members of the Higher Education Committee,

I am Karen Fung Ling KAN (LI) (UH TIM School graduate of 1983) and I am now the Executive Director of Lanson Place Hospitality Management Limited (www.lansonplace.com), based in Hong Kong. Lanson Place is a wholly owned subsidiary of a Hong Kong public listed real estate company (USI Holdings Limited). Lanson Place is an investment and management company of boutique hotel and serviced apartments in Asia. We now have 7 operations in Asia, and will be expanding quickly in China. We currently have over 500 staff working in Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Beijing.

I appreciate the efforts made by the chair and the committee in addressing autonomy of the School of Travel Industry Management (TIM). I support HB2315 to establish a School of Travel Industry Management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa that is independent of any School of College of Business Administration in the University.

I am writing in support of the School of TIM at the University of Hawaii at Manoa continue to be independent from the Schidler College of Business Administration. I believe such independent management will enable the School of TIM to remain its market sensitivities and flexibilities (which are crucial considerations in today's every changing international environment) when our school will be competing daily with other travel related academic institutions nationally as well as internationally.

Thank you for the opportunity for sharing my views. If you need further clarifications on my above address, I can be reached at (852) 2973 9973 (office) or by email at karenli@usi.com.hk

Chinese New Year is right around the corner and I like to wish all of you and your families good health and happiness in the Lunar New Year of the Tiger.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Li (Kan)
Executive Director
Lanson Place Hospitality Management Limited

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 1:48 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: clyde.min@pacifica-partners.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2315 on 2/9/2010 12:00:00 AM

Testimony for HED 2/9/2010 12:00:00 AM HB2315

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Clyde Min
Organization: Individual
Address: 50B Club Street Singapore 069427
Phone: +65 9177 4311
E-mail: clyde.min@pacifica-partners.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

Testimony to the COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS Tuesday, February 9 2010; 2:30pm.
Conference Room 309

HOUSE BILL 2315 HD1 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima and Members of the Higher Education Committee:

My name is Clyde Min and my company is Pacifica-partners Proprietary Limited. I appreciate the efforts made by the chair and the committee in addressing autonomy of the School of Travel Industry Management. I support HB 2315 to establishes a school of travel industry management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa that is separate and independent of any school or college of business administration established by the university.

I am writing in support of the school of travel industry management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa remain autonomous from the Schidler college of business administration. The autonomy of the school of travel industry management enables it to be the most efficient of the schools and colleges that comprise the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Such autonomy also enables the school to remain competitive with its peer institutions in both the nation and around the world.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at email address:clyde.min@pacifica-partners.com or telephone +65 9177 4311, 50B Club Street, Singapore 069427.

8 Feb 2010

Chairman Chang
House of Representative
Higher Education Committee

Re : HB 2315 TIM Autonomy

Dear Chairman Chang , Vice Chairman Nakashima and Members of the Higher Education Committee ,

Aloha !!! My name is Gregory Tong , retired architect and Chairman Emeritus of WATG (Wimberly Allison Tong and Goo) and the 2008 recipient of the HICAP Award (Hotel Investors Conference Asia Pacific) in Hong Kong . It is only the 5th such award in its 20 year history , mainly given to international hotel owners/operators . I was the first architect and the first from Hawaii , representing WATG .

Started in 1945 by Pete Wimberly , WATG today employs over 300 architects and planners , with offices in Honolulu , Newport CA , Seattle , London and Singapore , specializing in hotel and tourism worldwide .

As a former instructor at TIM , whenever and wherever I travel for business or pleasure (even in far away Borneo) , I meet former students of TIM who come up to me to express their gratitude for being educated at TIM which resulted in being held in high esteem in their own country . That in a nut shell is what TIM is to the world .

I appreciate the efforts made by the Chair, Vice Chair and the Committee in addressing autonomy of the School of Travel Industry Management . I support HB 2315 to establish a school of travel industry management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa that is separate and independent of the school or college of business administration established by the university .

I am writing in support of TIM at the University of Hawaii at Manoa to remain autonomous from the Schidler college of business administration . The autonomy of the TIM enables it to be the most efficient of the schools and colleges comprise the University of Hawaii . Such autonomy also enables the school to remain competitive with its peer institutions in both the nation and around the world .

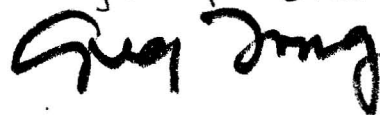
Thank you for this opportunity to submit my testimony , If you have any questions , please contact me at :

Gregory Tong
936 Pueo St .
Honolulu , Hawaii 96816

Ph : 734-8332

E mail : gregory.tong@hawaii.rr.com

Warmest aloha , Gregory Tong



Fax to 808-586-6120 on Feb 6 2010 4:00pm

Testimony to the COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Tuesday February 9 2010 2:30pm.

Conference Room 309

SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 2315 HD1 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT.

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima and Members of the Higher Education Committee:

My name is Dr and Professor Emeritus Roberta Wong Leung of 1661 Mott Smith Drive, Honolulu Hawaii 96822 and my company is City University. I appreciate the efforts made by the chair and the committee in addressing autonomy of the School of Travel Industry Management. I support HB 2315 to establishes a school of travel industry management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa that is separate and independent of any school or college of business administration established by the university.

I am writing in support of the school of travel industry management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa remain autonomous from the Schidler college of business administration. The autonomy of the school of travel industry management enables it to be the most efficient of the schools and colleges that comprise the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Such autonomy also enables the school to remain competitive with its peer institutions in both the nation and around the world.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at rwleung@cityu.edu.hk.

Roberta Wong Leung

My name is Robert W. Zoller, a 30-year travel industry executive (including a former President & COO for Hawaiian Airlines) and a former member of the TIM School – University of Hawaii Advisory Board of Directors (1999 to 2002). After completing a six-year professional assignment in Dallas, Texas, I returned to Hawaii in late 2009 only to find out that the continued independence and perhaps, even the very existence of the TIM School - University of Hawaii was under review.

As someone who actively supported TIM, its faculty and students in the past, I am deeply concerned about this latest turn of events. As someone who strongly believes in the need for a premier travel school in Hawaii, I find it extremely disturbing that the relatively new University Administration appears to be rushing to judgment over the future direction of TIM. Over the last 50 years or so, in spite of a lack of understanding and often limited support from the rest of the University, TIM has not only remained a relevant part of the University, the Hawaiian community and the worldwide travel industry, but it has actually excelled. Year after year, TIM, its students and faculty are the recipients of numerous academic and industry awards and certifications. Although those achievements and its innovative programs are sometimes overlooked, minimized or may be misunderstood by the University of Hawaii Administration and other stakeholders, TIM has long held a strong leadership position in the global travel and tourism industry. Its graduates, students and faculty have not only served as a unique resource in Hawaii, but are often at the forefront for identifying, addressing and providing innovative solutions for a wide variety of major travel industry issues.

Evidence of both the past accomplishments and future potential for the TIM program can perhaps be seen within its overseas partnerships and relationships. These are often being pursued in several ways that strengthen Hawai'i connections and commerce. Historically, many Asian institutions wishing to offer the best in travel and tourism curriculums for their students, contact TIM for use of their programs and faculty. TIM has also long been a preferred academic destination for the best and brightest travel, tourism and hotel management students in Asia. Most recently, the TIM School and the Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority (ADTA), the apex body managing the Emirate's tourism industry, has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). With proper focus and broad-based support brought about by the School's continued independence, I believe there will be even more opportunities to create these strategic academic and industry partnerships in the Middle East and Asia as well as export some or all of TIM's degree programs.

It is my opinion that a merger (as contemplated) will diminish the historic effectiveness and efficiency of the TIM organization, lay aside the almost 50-year history of academic and individual accomplishments, tarnish a hard-earned world-class reputation and severely limit the TIM School mission to be the leading travel industry and tourism education and knowledge creation program in Hawai'i and the Asia-Pacific region. If the independence of TIM were to be merged away, I believe it would be a tremendous loss for the State of Hawaii.

Very Respectfully Submitted,

Robert W. Zoller

//Robert W. Zoller//

3054 Ala Poha Place #601

Honolulu, HI 96818-1663

From: tokioka1-Elijah
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 12:14 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: 'Robert Zoller'
Subject: FW: Tuesday, 02-09-10 2:30 PM Hearing Room: 309 HB2315 HD1 HED – Jerry Chang RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT

HED-Here is testimony that came to our office.

Mr. Zoller,

You submitted your testimony to the wrong committee, however it will be forwarded to the correct committee which is HED. Thank you.

From: Robert Zoller [mailto:r_zoller@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2010 5:45 PM
To: TCItestimony
Subject: Tuesday, 02-09-10 2:30 PM Hearing Room: 309 HB2315 HD1 HED – Jerry Chang RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT

February 5, 2010

Reference: Tuesday, 02-09-10 2:30 PM

Hearing Room: 309 HB2315 HD1 HED – Jerry Chang

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY
MANAGEMENT

If Permissible Under Committee Rules –

**Written Statement Submitted In Support of The Independence of the Hawaii School of Travel Industry
Management**