

MEDICAL SCHOOL HOTLINE

Annual Report for the John A. Burns School of Medicine – Fiscal Year 2018

Jerris R. Hedges MD, MS, MMM

In 1993, the Medical School Hotline was founded by Satoru Izutsu PhD (former vice-dean UH JABSOM), it is a monthly column from the University of Hawai‘i John A. Burns School of Medicine and is edited by Kathleen Kihm Connolly PhD; HJMPh Contributing Editor.

Annual evaluations provide the opportunity to reflect upon the accomplishments of the University of Hawai‘i–Manoa (UHM), John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) during the last academic/fiscal year. This report summarizes major activities across the JABSOM missions, and performance against pre-defined outcome measures.

Major Activities During FY 2018

In FY 2018, JABSOM was notified of a successful full 8-year reaccreditation by the Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME), full re-accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), and full institutional re-accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). This re-accreditation trifecta is unique in the University of Hawai‘i (UH) academic community.

During FY 2018, successful recruitments were concluded to fill the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (Alan Otsuki MD) and University Health Partners of Hawai‘i CEO (Larry Shapiro MD). Currently an active national search continues for the Associate Dean for Research.

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) annual data reports provide rankings for characteristic of all accredited medical schools in the United States and Canada; JABSOM’s rankings are highlighted below.

- In the top 25% of schools for the percentage of its graduates who are practicing medicine in the state of training.
- In the top 10% of schools whose graduates are now practicing in primary care medicine (front-line treatment of patients).
- In the top 25% of schools whose graduates (currently in residency training) plan to practice in Family Medicine.
- The nation’s leader in producing Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander physicians.
- In the top 10% of schools for the proportion of women faculty members.
- In the top 25% of schools for basic science instruction with clinical relevance, student satisfaction, and metrics related to diversity, cultural awareness, and health disparities.

The 2019 rankings for the Best Medical Schools in America by *US News & World Report* ranked JABSOM #59 in Medical Primary Care, tied with Rush University, and just ahead of Michigan State University, the University of Tennessee, and Wake Forest University. This ranking is based in part from data compiled and reported in 2017-2018 by the AAMC.

In Medical Research, the *US News & World Reports* magazine ranked JABSOM #41 for 2019. JABSOM is tied with the University of Florida and the University of Utah, and just ahead of Dartmouth and the University of Cincinnati. JABSOM faculty members brought in \$334,000 in NIH funding per full-time faculty member. This ratio was higher than for faculty at Johns Hopkins University (\$257,000 per faculty member, Research ranking #2), UCLA (\$239,000 per faculty member, Research ranking #8), Duke (\$263-thousand per faculty member, Research ranking #10), and several other medical schools closer to the top of the 2019 Medical Research rankings.

Medical student education (MD degree program) continues to be strong following the gradual enlargement of the entering class size (70 entering students in July 2016) - growing from 62 entering students in 2008. Ninety percent of incoming students are residents of Hawai‘i. This demonstrates a continued emphasis on supporting the educational aspirations of Hawaii’s citizens and enhancing retention of graduates in Hawai‘i, where a significant statewide physician shortage exists. Plans to expand the class size are subject to institutional and extramural funding. JABSOM leaders continue to explore external partners to match the necessary additional institutional support.

In the spring, the 2018 senior medical student class members were notified of their post-graduate training assignments (residency training). All students matched into residency programs. This is significant since there are two applicants for every training position in the United States. Nearly two-thirds of the class matched into a primary care (medicine, pediatrics, or family practice), or an initial patient contact specialty (obstetrics/gynecology or emergency medicine). Thirty-two percent of the graduating class will start residency training and associated practice in Hawai‘i, immediately increasing JABSOM’s impact on the Hawai‘i physician workforce.

The Graduate Programs (MS and PhD candidates) have responded to a program-wide review. Significant changes have been incorporated to build synergies. Refinement is ongoing with discussion regarding the development of an umbrella “fundamentals of medical sciences” graduate program. Already, the basic science graduate programs have integrated their courses in biostatistics, ethics, and grant writing. The Department of Clinical & Translational Research MS program has been extensively revamped and a second track focusing on quantitative health sciences has been added. The Department of Communications Science and Disorders MS program has gradually expanded its class size and begun to offer a course to prepare potential program applicants from various undergraduate degree programs for this degree. The department’s collaborations with China for the development of online educational activity have brought further educational innovation to Hawai‘i.

JABSOM continues to strengthen primary care with the evolution of a teaching service and planned teaching clinic for the family medicine residency program, partnering with Hawai‘i Pacific Health’s Pali Momi Hospital. Efforts to obtain additional legislative support for the physician shortage was successful with passage of a bill (and subsequent signing into law by Governor David Ige) to provide tax credits to volunteer instructor providers in rural and neighbor island settings. This new law allows volunteer doctor/professors from the Schools of Medicine, Nursing and Dental Hygiene, and UH Hilo’s College of Pharmacy, to receive an annual tax credit of up to \$5,000 per year.

JABSOM continued to contribute to the UHM international educational programs with the updating of Memoranda of Understandings with international medical schools. Thirty-six undergraduate and graduate medical students from Asian medical schools participated in a one-month exchange program in Hawai‘i hospitals, with 10 JABSOM students receiving reciprocal experiences at Asian institutions. In November 2017, the UH Post Graduate Medical Education Program in Okinawa, the longest-lived UH international academic partnership, celebrated its 50th anniversary. Satoru Izutsu, PhD, and I represented UHM during the official celebration in Japan. Each year 10 faculty consultants are sent to Okinawa under JABSOM’s sponsorship.

JABSOM continues to address the larger health needs of the Western Pacific through the Area Health Education Center in the Western and South Pacific. Over 20 students from Japan attended the Clinical Reasoning Workshop and 12 attended JABSOM’s Summer Educational Institute, which is organized and taught by JABSOM’s Office of Medical Education faculty members. In FY 2018, UHM undergraduate students under the sponsorship of the JABSOM Department of Tropical Medicine’s MHIRT-Hawai‘i Program spent the summer in Thailand, Cameroon, Laos, Liberia, and India conducting locally relevant research. The Step-up Program continued to mentor high school and community college students from the Pacific Islands, Guam, and Hawai‘i in basic science activities.

JABSOM faculty members continue to teach and provide research opportunities for undergraduate students from UHM

and other campuses. JABSOM supports the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Council (Dr. Michelle Talquist from JABSOM is on the committee), and the Honors Program. JABSOM has numerous undergraduate research internships, which include the NIH-funded INBRE program, led by Dr. Robert Nichols, and the Department of Native Hawaiian Health Summer Internship program (https://www2.jabsom.hawaii.edu/native/news_sri.htm). Students have the opportunity annually in April to present at the JABSOM Biomedical Sciences and Health Disparities Symposium (<http://jabsom.hawaii.edu/events/april-18-19-2018-symposium-on-biomedical-research-and-health-disparities/>).

JABSOM also teaches undergraduate courses in the Department of Cell & Molecular Biology and Department of Anatomy, Biochemistry, & Physiology at UHM. A new course in forensic anatomy was created by faculty from the later department through the UH Outreach College. The Department of Medical Technology continues to generate qualified lab professionals for the entire state. Recent graduates are currently completing their post-baccalaureate clinical training at affiliated labs: Clinical Labs of Hawai‘i, Tripler Army Medical Center, Kuakini Medical Center, Kaiser Permanente, and Diagnostic Lab Services.

In the community, JABSOM faculty members provided educational enrichment experiences for thousands of Hawaii’s youth this past year. Faculty and medical students give back to the communities that support JABSOM through various activities; examples include field trips, Teen Health Camps, Keiki Health Camps, teacher training programs, student research experiences, and a new Pre-Health Career Corps. New educational grant awards in 2018 continue to strengthen clinician/medical scientist and teacher partnerships, augmenting JABSOM’s capacity to mentor the next generation of health professionals for Hawai‘i.

The College of Health Sciences & Social Welfare leadership, including the Deans of the Schools of Medicine, Nursing and Social Work, along with the Director of the Office of Public Health Studies, continued to advance academic inter-professional education programs. Dean Noreen Mokuau (School of Social Work & Public Health) partnered with JABSOM to attain a new NIH U54 Clinical & Translational Research grant (Ola HAWAII) that will provide \$23 M over 5 years to UHM. The Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) U54 Ola HAWAII grant award will help strengthen inter-professional health disparities research at UHM. JABSOM investigators continue to work with Dean Mokuau to oversee the final years of the RMATRIX U54 grant. In addition, the consortium continued to work with the UH Cancer Center on an U54 grant focusing on reducing health disparities in Micronesian peoples and building research capacity at the University of Guam.

JABSOM was also awarded an NIH/NIGMS \$11.2 million/5-year grant to develop a Center for Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) on Diabetes with Dr. Mariana Gershenson as the Principal Investigator of the grant. The Center will consolidate and focus the efforts of many investigators addressing the causes, treatments, and evaluation of diabetes and insulin-resistance. The

Center will provide overall administrative and fiscal support for COBRE investigators and mentors, as well as actively seeking additional opportunities to build research capacity related to diabetes and insulin-resistance. Where appropriate, other UH research related to diabetes or insulin resistance associated diseases will be incorporated into the Center.

Repairs and renovations are underway to JABSOM's Kaka'ako buildings. In FY 2018 classrooms were enhanced by incorporating up-to-date audio-visual capacity. Work was also completed to improve safety throughout the building, including major outdoor trip hazards resulting from landscape settling and shifting. Continuing into FY 2019, work on renovations to the cafeteria and bookstore spaces to create multi-use learning facilities will ensue.

JABSOM's FY 2018 Internal Giving Campaign was a success with \$728,877 raised through the participation of 282 donors with benefit to 82 funds. To date, philanthropic gifts to JABSOM through the UH Foundation have totaled more than \$5M in FY2018, and included the following:

- The Satoru Izutsu PhD Endowed Professorship of Medical Education was established by Dr. Thomas Kosasa to honor retiring JABSOM Vice Dean Satoru Izutsu.
- Alumna Dr. Francine Tryka included a Department of Pathology Chair in her estate plan.
- Islands Hospice established a \$50,000 expendable scholarship for 4th year medical students who intend to practice geriatric medicine in Hawai'i.
- Four new endowed scholarships were established.
- A \$100,000 campaign for an endowed scholarship in honor of former JABSOM Dean Terence Rogers was launched.
- HEI (Hawaiian Electric Company) donated funding for an electric car for HOME (Homeless Outreach & Medical Education) patient transportation.
- A record 176 guests (including 33 scholarship recipients) attended the Dean's Circle reception in March.

Alumni activities for FY 2018:

- Annual reunion and CME (continuing medical education) combined, in July attracted more than 140 guests.
- Pre-game basketball mixer brought together close to 70 participants (students, alumni and friends).
- Reception for Seattle alumni held in conjunction with AAMC meeting was well attended.
- The Help Our Students Travel (HOST) program connected over 50 Alumni across the country to 3rd year medical students preparing for residency interviews.

FY 2018 Benchmarks and Performance

1. *Address any insufficiencies identified during the FY 2017 LCME re-accreditation site visit for the MD program at JABSOM.*

The JABSOMLCME compliance and quality improvement team has been actively making changes in policies, procedures, and bylaws as requested during the LCME reaccreditation visit. The support of the University Health Partners of Hawai'i practice plan has been essential to the implementation of changes related to patient immunization record management and strengthening of the clinical learning environment. It is anticipated that a full response to the LCME will be completed by the end of FY 2018.

2. *Complete the recruitment of a full-time Associate Dean for Academic Affairs to optimize JABSOM's educational mission structure & function.*

Alan Otsuki MD, began full-time in October 2017 and has led the efforts of the JABSOM LCME compliance and quality improvement team in response to the LCME accreditation update expectations. Dr. Otsuki brings great experience in educational programs and institutional preparation related to meeting accreditation standards.

3. *Continue to support the evolution of the faculty practice (UCERA – DBA - University Health Partners of Hawai'i) to strengthen JABSOM accreditation status and improve clinical department academic performance.*

The practice plan completed its recruitment of Larry Shapiro, MD, as its new Chief Operating Officer. Dr. Shapiro has most recently served as the Dean of the Washington University School of Medicine. He brings with him a great knowledge of Hawai'i and academic practice plan structure and function. The practice plan also has added key faculty members needed by the state and for supporting the clinical learning environment of students, residents, and other learners in Hawai'i.

4. *Continue to enhance the student status of JABSOM residents/fellows via entry into the UH Manoa Banner System of student registration.*

Strengthening the linkage between JABSOM residents/fellows and UH has been a major JABSOM graduate medical education effort. A strengthened bond should help with physician retention in Hawai'i and future philanthropic support of JABSOM and UH. Achieving resident/fellow registration in the UH Manoa Banner System was not successful; however, a number of other initiatives to help form a stronger bond between UH and these JABSOM trainees have been implemented.

5. Improve the JABSOM biomedical research efforts and contribution to UH Manoa through the acquisition of Kaka'ako campus infrastructure support.

Mariana Gerschenson PhD, JABSOM Director for Research, working with the JABSOM leadership team, has demonstrated fiscal need and research opportunities. A commitment from Vice Chancellor for Research Michael Bruno, PhD was secured to assign the UH Manoa portion of JABSOM-derived indirect costs back to JABSOM. This should help stabilize an aging research infrastructure and help bring resources to current and future JABSOM scientists yet to be recruited.

6. Continue to enhance the JABSOM national prominence by contributions to the AAMC Council of Deans (of medical schools) as an elected Administrative Board member.

As an elected representative to the AAMC Council of Deans Administrative Board, I have played an important part in the development of key policy and other responses to the turbulent federal, regulatory and economic environment impacting all medical schools and academic institutions. Additionally, I have remained active in the National Academy of Medicine and in the leadership of the Research Centers for Minority Institutions/ NIH. I also led the LCME accreditation site survey team to the University of South Dakota in fall 2017.

Author's Affiliation:
Dean, John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, HI