

HERALD SALUTES

Dennis Yoshita Teranishi, vice chairman and CEO of Hawaiian Host Inc., has been selected to receive the Foreign Minister's Commendation for 2010 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Foreign Minister's Commendation is awarded to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the promotion of understanding and friendly relations between Japan and foreign countries through economic and technical cooperation, information and cultural activities and other activities that enhance international relations. This year, 58 individuals and 39 groups (eight individuals and 10 groups from the United States) received the award. Teranishi is the only 2010 recipient from Hawai'i. A presentation ceremony will be held Aug. 11 at the Japanese Consulate in Nu'uuanu.

In addition to his role at Hawaiian Host Inc., Teranishi serves as vice chairman of the board of the Pacific International Center of High Technology Research. PICHTR was established in 1983 as a result of an agreement between Japan and the U.S. to develop and deploy appropriate sustainable energy technologies for Hawai'i and the Asia-Pacific region.

Teranishi has served on PICHTR's board since 1999 and has played a key role in spearheading the planning and operational aspects of its various high-technology projects. In particular, Teranishi successfully led the Renewable Energy Based Rural Electrification Project and the Pacific Island Nations Education and Training Program, which was funded by Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), thus contributing to promoting cooperation between the U.S. and Japan in the field of high technology.

Moreover, Teranishi provided substantial assistance to the development of the Hawaii-Okinawa Partnership on Clean Energy which was agreed upon by the American and Japanese governments last November. His involvement has further strengthened U.S.-Japan relations and has strengthened Hawaii's sister-state relationship with Okinawa.



Chinen

Dr. Joyce N. Chinen, Ph.D., has been appointed director of the University of Hawai'i's Center for Okinawan Studies. Her appointment was announced by Dr. Edward J. Shultz, interim dean of UH-Mānoa's School of Pacific and Asian Studies. Chinen succeeds Dr. Kyoko Hijirida, who



Teranishi

taught Japanese language and Okinawan language and culture at UH-Mānoa. Hijirida, who was born and raised in Okinawa, retired from the university on July 31.

Chinen, sister of *Hawai'i Herald* editor Karleen Chinen, is a professor of sociology at the University of Hawai'i at West O'ahu. She is involved in Hawai'i's Okinawan community as a member of Bito Doshi Kai, a locality club founded by immigrants like her paternal grandfather who immigrated to Hawai'i from Misato-son in what is today known as Okinawa City. She is also a member of the Hui O Laulima Okinawan women's organization.

Chinen has participated in academic conferences at the University of the Ryukyus in Okinawa and at Musashi University in Tōkyō. Last year, she co-chaired a COS conference on the direction of Okinawan studies with Dr. Leon Serafim, the center's founding director. Chinen was also guest editor for the Social Process in Hawai'i volume titled: "Uchi-naanchu Diaspora: Memories, Continuities and Constructions."

The UH Center for Okinawan Studies was established in July 2008 and is currently the only center in the United States focusing on historical and contemporary studies of the Ryūkyū Islands and the Okinawan diaspora. The first immigrants from Okinawa, Japan's southernmost prefecture, began arriving in Hawai'i in 1900, 15 years after the start of large-scale immigration from mainland Japan.

Liane Watanabe of Kāne'ohe recently earned a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M.) degree at Midwestern University's Arizona Podiatric Medicine Program.

Watanabe graduated from Castle High School and earned a bachelor's degree in Asian Studies from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. At MWU, she received the Samuel Mason DPM Pioneering Service Award. She is now in a three-year podiatric medicine and surgery residency program at Rancho Specialty Hospital/Camp Pendleton in California.

AZPod trains physicians and surgeons who practice on the lower extremities, primarily feet and ankles. It is the first podiatric medicine program in Arizona, where active lifestyles and the aging populations contribute to the need for more podiatric physicians.

Evan Higa of Honolulu has been chosen as a Diversity Scholarship Fellow by the New York Life Foundation and the Washington Center.

Higa is an accounting major at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and earned a semester-long internship with the U.S. Department of Defense.

The New York Life Foundation Diversity Scholarships enable scholars to gain valuable work experience at government agencies and private for-profit and nonprofit organizations based in Washington, D.C. Students are selected based on relevant major, internships and/or specific professional skills relevant to the industry.

Since 2002, the New York Life Foundation has awarded \$435,000 worth of scholarships to more than 100 Washington Center's New York Life Foundation Diversity Scholars. Established in 1975, the Washington Center for Internships and Academic seminars is an independent, nonprofit organization that serves hundreds of colleges and universities in the United States and other countries by providing selected students challenging opportunities to work and learn in the nation's capital for academic credit. The Washington Center has more than 41,000 alumni who have become leaders in numerous professions and nations around the world.



Higa

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