News Release

November 7, 2016

UH Cancer Center Reaches Major Milestones and Welcomes New Director

HONOLULU – The University of Hawai‘i Cancer Center welcomed its new Director, Dr. Randall Holcombe on Monday, November 7. The Center also celebrated its 45th anniversary, and the 20th anniversary of its National Cancer Institute designation with a "University of Hawaii Cancer Center Day" proclamation presented by Governor David Ige.

"The Cancer Center is really a unique Hawai‘i institution. It's different than other cancer centers across the country. It focuses on the cancer problems of the people of Hawai‘i," said Dr. Randall Holcombe.

The UH Cancer Center is one of only 69 cancer centers in the United States with a National Cancer Institute designation, and the only one in Hawai‘i and the Pacific. Since the Center was founded in 1971, thousands of Hawai‘i residents have been able to participate in UH Cancer Center coordinated clinical trials.

"For 45 years now the Cancer Center has contributed to the health of our residents by providing research and access to clinical trials, which offer innovative life saving treatments that would not otherwise be available to our community here in Hawai‘i," said Governor David Ige.

"It's clear to those of us who have worked with him that Randy is the right person to lead us in the polishing of this jewel in the University of Hawai‘i and the Pacific," said David Lassner, president of the University of Hawai‘i.

Dr. Holcombe plans to take the lead in the UH Cancer Center's mission to reduce the burden of cancer in our communities through research, education, patient care and community outreach with an emphasis on the unique ethnic, cultural and environmental characteristics of Hawai‘i and the Pacific.

"The welcome that I have received from the Cancer Center faculty, from the University, from all of the people of Hawai‘i has really been outstanding. My wife and I feel so welcomed to be here on the islands, we’re very honored. Thank you very much."

Speakers
Joe W. Ramos, UH Cancer Center Deputy Director
Governor David Ige, proclamation presentation
Representative Scott Saiki
Darlena Chadwick, Queen’s Medical Center Vice President of patient care
Randy Moore, University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents Vice Chair
David Lassner, University of Hawai'i President
Dr. Jerris Hedges, John A. Burns School of Medicine Dean
Dr. Randall Holcombe, UH Cancer Center Director

The event included a blessing by Kahu Kelekona Bishaw and performances by Wahine Hula Akala, UH Cancer Center study participants.

Photos: http://owl.li/oYdO305X61R

The University of Hawai'i Cancer Center through its various activities, cancer trial patients and their guests, and other visitors adds more than $54 million to the O'ahu economy. This is equivalent to supporting 776 jobs. It is one of only 69 research institutions designated by the National Cancer Institute. Affiliated with the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, the center is dedicated to eliminating cancer through research, education, and improved patient care. Learn more at www.uhcancercenter.org. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UHCancerCenter. Follow us on Twitter @UHCancerCenter.