The History of the Botany Department at UH Mānoa

Spring 2017 Interviews with persons with long association with the dept.

Products:

Interview transcript for use by the department, university, and/or the public available on scholarspace. Interviewee will have the opportunity to edit the document before it is made available to others. Interviewee can choose to withhold all or parts of the transcript from publication on scholarspace and from any other use of the material.

Potential Questions:

1. Describe the history of your relationship to the Botany Department at UH Mānoa.

2. Describe what the Botany Department was like when you first became associated with it.

3. Who were your key mentors in Botany? How did they influence you?

4. Who are some major figures in Botany in Hawaii? How would you describe the importance and contribution of these individuals? Do you have any stories to share about these individuals?

5. Who taught you about the native Hawaiian flora (including canoe plants, marine plants)?

6. What were/are some of your favorite plants that grow in Hawai‘i and why?

7. Describe the origin or any stories associated with the trees planted on the UH Mānoa campus.

8. Describe your current involvement with the Botany Department.

9. Describe your current botanical or ethnobotanical work.

10. What value has the Botany dept. added to your life?

11. What has been the role (if any) of the Botany department in shaping your life trajectory?

12. What do you see as the main values or contributions of the Botany Department to Hawaii and/or the country more broadly? Do you have any stories or anecdotes to describe this?
13. What value do you see has been provided by the Ethnobotany Program?

14. What has been the relationship of Ethnobotany to the rest of the Botany Department over time? (prompt for stories, anecdotes)

15. How has the local and Native Hawaiian community been integrated/related to the Botany Dept. over time? (prompt for stories/anecdotes)

16. What are some key events that have occurred within the department?

17. What would you say has been the emphasis or focus of the department in terms of research over time? How has this changed?

18. Describe other major changes that have occurred for the department over time.

19. How would you suggest that Botany evolve (if at all) moving forward—any areas for improvement you see?

20. Have you been associated with other Botany or Ethnobotany programs? If so, how do these compare to Botany at UH Mānoa in terms of research, culture, student body?

21. What would you say are the major strengths and weaknesses of the department?

22. What do you see as some major research/program gaps?

23. What is your impression of the current state of the department and the students?

24. What additional comments or areas of conversation would you like to add to our discussion?

25. What have we missed so far in this conversation that you would like to share?