



News & Events

PLAYING WITH WATER

The Family Education Training Center of Hawaii (FETCH) is sponsoring a workshop on "Hydroponic and Aquaponic Systems in an Urban Setting," which will be held at the Magoon Research Facility at 2717 Woodlawn Drive on Dec. 3. Participants will learn how to set up and manage hydroponic and aquaponic systems within the constraints of a small urban lot or inside an apartment and will also learn how to construct a functioning rainwater catchment system. The class is free and open to the public. For more information, you can reach Mary Martini (FCS) at 956-2249.



INSURANCE AND ASSISTANCE

Two workshops will be given on the Big Island to inform participants about risk management, AGR-Lite, crop-specific USDA-RMA crop insurance products, and USDA-FSA disaster assistance programs that concern all Hawai'i growers. Producers of all crops are encouraged to attend to learn about what applies to their crops, what it takes to qualify, and how to apply. The workshop in Hilo will take place Wednesday, Dec. 7, at the Komohana CES Office, and the one in Ka'u will be held on Friday, Dec. 9, at the Pahala Community Center. Each workshop will be from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Producers are reminded that USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) disaster assistance programs are only available to producers who have crop insurance or NAP coverage. Please RSVP at least 3 days before the event to reserve your space with Didi or Perci at (808) 887-6183 or mddiaz@hawaii.edu or proque@hawaii.edu. This way you can be contacted in case a workshop needs to be cancelled or if there are changes in the location. If you have any questions, you can contact Stuart T. Nakamoto at snakamo@hawaii.edu or (808) 956-8125.

TO CHINA WITH LOVE

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on international exchange was recently signed between CTAHR and Qiongzhou University in China. The 2 institutions agree to cooperate on international programs based on the principle of reciprocity for a period of 5 years. The MOU encourages the exchange of faculty, scholars, students, academic information, and materials, and the organization of joint research



programs and conferences, in the belief that the research and educational processes at both universities will be enhanced and that mutual understanding will be increased. Pictured are Dean Sylvia Yuen and Wei Yong, Chairman of the University Council of Qiongzhou University.

MESSAGE FROM CTAHRAA PRESIDENT

Aloha, fellow alumni and friends of CTAHR! Over the years the CTAHR Alumni Association has been working to build an endowment fund to provide scholarships to CTAHR students. Through fundraisers and your generous gifts, we're close to reaching the \$35,000 needed to establish a scholarship endowment. We hope we can reach that amount in the coming months and begin awarding scholarships in the near future! During this season of giving, please consider making a gift toward the CTAHRAA Scholarship Endowment. Checks can be made out to CTAHRAA and mailed to:

CTAHRAA

University of Hawai'i at Manoa

3050 Maile Way, Gilmore 211

Honolulu, HI 96822

Mahalo for your support!

Susan Yasuda

Grants & Awards

THE DEATH OF FIRE

Anna Tomita (APDM student) triumphed at the recent 2011 International Textiles and Apparel Association meeting in Philadelphia. Anna won the ATEXINC Award and \$300 cash scholarship for Excellence in Marketable Textiles Design at the undergraduate level. Her textile design entry was entitled "Morte di Fuoco"; it combines wearability with an abstract concept of a dying fire—fire that engulfs an object, turning to dust and ashes, as she poetically put it. Her fabric was hand-dyed to produce the desired dark orange and red colors, and the dress was designed to create the impression of dying flames. Anna is pictured with her two faculty mentors, Cynthia Tsark (left) and Shu Hwa Lin.



Spotlight on Our Community

BIOENERGY FUEL CELLS? THAT'S KID STUFF!

On Nov. 5, Samir Khanal (MBBE) and his graduate student Devin Takara gave laboratory training to 4 middle school teachers on key concepts necessary to offer hands-on lab experiences in bioenergy to their students. Jennifer Kuwahara, Margaret Magonigle, David Wong, and Erin Yagi (pictured) learned how to teach students to apply and develop skills related to physics, chemistry, math, and biology, such as how to use energy released from soil microbes to power an LED light. Then the teachers created devices to teach their students about microbial fuel cells, biogas, and biofuel. Samir and Devin demonstrated how to run quick and simple experiments in a typical Hawai'i classroom with limited resources, like making biofuel from canned fruit juice and biogas from cafeteria food waste, for a material cost of less than \$10 apiece. Using the *Bioenergy Lab Manual for Middle School Teachers* developed by Samir and Devin and tested by UHM biological engineering undergraduate Nora Robertson, the four participating teachers are preparing to



implement the devices and concepts in their own classrooms. The teachers are part of the FIRST Pre-Academy RET program sponsored by UH, which works at **F**ostering **I**nspiration and **R**elevance through **S**cience and **T**echnology by providing **R**esearch **E**xperiences for **T**eachers. Two more training sessions are scheduled for January on Maui and O’ahu, and the manual is intended to be provided free of cost to all middle school science teachers within the state.

A FULL LIFE REMEMBERED

Tokushi Tanaka, who passed away earlier this year at the age of 89, is remembered by his nephew and his wife, Gerald and Robyn Tanaka, who have donated \$3,000 to CTAHR in his memory. Toku first attended UH in 1941 but entered military service in 1943; in 1946 he returned to UH to complete his BS degree—and to resume his baseball career! He graduated in 1948 and then worked as UH’s head baseball coach until returning to school to earn an M.S. in genetics in 1953. Afterward he agreed to volunteer as the coach for the UH baseball team again—with the proviso that his players be granted tuition waivers! He coached until 1960 and continued to work as a poultry specialist at the College of Tropical Agriculture until 1982, authoring many useful and influential publications. Toku was inducted into the UH Sports Circle of Honor in 2005, a fitting cap for a varied, active, and interesting career.



PADDLING TO PRESERVE

The HNFAS-sponsored **Rotaract Club** participated in a project to restore O’ahu’s last Hawaiian fishing village at Mokauea Island (located just off Sand Island) on Oct. 26. In order to get to the island, members paddled out in a canoe, some of them paddling for their first time! On the island they were first given a lesson on the history and cultural significance of Mokauea Island. Some members worked to remove invasive kiawe, so residents can start growing native Hawaiian plants. Other members worked in the fishpond and removed invasive limu that were overgrowing and reducing marine life survival.

