



Fall Semester Newsletter

The Dean's Column



Dean Mary Boland

Welcome to the first issue of the SONDH newsletter developed especially for our 'ohana – students, faculty, and staff of the UH Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene. I thank the

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs team – Dr. Vickie Niederhauser, Ms. Ashley Spencer, and all the contributing writers for making this first effort a success!

We hope that this newsletter will connect us during our very busy lives. Our support of one another is the reason for our vibrant and strong 'ohana! As an interdisciplinary school that has collaborative yet independent disciplines in nursing and dental hygiene, that has grown in size and enrollment, and that utilizes distance-based education especially in our graduate program, it

is increasingly important that we stay in touch. Each semester, as you read this newsletter, I hope you will find it informative, interesting and inspiring.

I know that the economy continues to be on everyone's mind. At the SONDH, our general and tuition fund allocation for this year was reduced by \$753,000 or by approximately 10% of last year's budget. Faculty, students, staff, and administration are working together on an ongoing plan to address the budget restrictions while meeting our education, research and service mission.

Due to our planning, we have reduced costs and increased revenue from research and training extramural funds, as well as private donor support. For this year, we expect to be able to continue our programs. We are carefully analyzing administration and support services, staffing, instruction, admission, and progression to do better with less. We will be making quality improvements as well as efficiency and cost savings.

Enjoy the rest of the semester and happy reading!

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If you are graduating...

Important Notes for ALL Students graduating in December 2009 or May 2010

Just a few tips, reminders and resources for Nursing and Dental Hygiene students who intend to graduate during this academic year.

December 2009 Graduates

Don't forget to register for commencement!

- The SONDH Recognition Ceremony will be held on Friday, December 18, 2009 at 6:30 pm in the Orvis Auditorium. Please let your class officers know whether you will be attending.
- UH Commencement ceremonies will be held at the Stan Sheriff Center on Saturday, December 19, 2009 from 9 AM -12 PM.
- Students planning to attend must register by December 14. [On-line registration](#) and other useful commencement-related information can be found at the [UH website](#).

mation can be found at the [UH website](#).

- Graduate students should check the [Graduate Division website](#) for procedural information regarding proper regalia, commencement cards, doctoral support for hooding, etc.

May 2010 Graduates

Remember to complete an "Application for Degree" form! The deadline for both graduate and undergraduate students is January 29, 2009

- Undergraduate students will receive their forms from the Office of Student Services during class.
- Graduate students may download the form from the [Graduate Division website](#).

“What I Did This Summer”: A Nursing Faculty Member’s Adventures in Nepal

“Due to the eleven-year civil war...the public health infrastructure is in need of repair”

Nursing Instructor Joe Niemczura made his third teaching trip to Nepal this summer. "It was what they call a 'busman's holiday' " said Joe. "I was teaching at a nursing school in rural Nepal, and supervising students as they delivered nursing care on the wards. It's a one hundred-sixty bed hospital run by Christian Missionaries, about a ten-hour ride from Kathmandu. People always think of Mt. Everest when they think of Nepal, but we were very far way from the

Himalayas." The hospital care is very different than in the USA. "Nepal is one of the poorest countries in Asia, and they lack certain supplies that we take for granted. Due to the eleven-year civil war that just concluded, the public health infrastructure is in need of repair. It's a shock when you first grasp the situation, but now, after several trips, I am able to function and get my teaching points across." In addition to his teaching activities, Joe found time this trip to

focus on the cultural side of Nepal. "One of the advantages of returning to a country is that you can appreciate the cultural aspects more and, as you make friends, there are people who will invite you into their homes and help you to understand what their lives are like." Joe's book, *The Hospital at the End of the World*, tells the story of his first trip to Nepal, and was published in May 2009. It's available at the UH bookstore.

Photo 1 (left): Joe Niemczura with the Nepalese nursing students, who were “younger than the equivalent UH student. They accepted a degree of regimentation which would seem foreign in the USA nowadays.”

Photo 2 (right): “The students in Nepal are required to wear the uniform sari on class days. To see them together made me think of a flock of tropical birds”



“What I Did This Summer”: Braving the Challenges of Mainland Dental Hygiene Exam-Taking

“In retrospect, taking the dental hygiene licensing examination in Hawaii is really a piece of cake”, concluded Dental Hygiene ‘09 graduate, Willon Ching, after spending part of his summer navigating the process on the mainland. Taking the test in Hawaii, he continues, means “resources abound and are readily accessible as the Hawaii setting is really home turf.”

Apparently, taking the same dental hygiene licensing examination when administered by the Central Regional Dental Testing Services, Inc. in Min-

nesota, can be best described as “unforgettable, challenging, and costly”.

Since this is a clinical examination, not only did Willon have to fly to Minneapolis himself, he also had to fly in his own patient, one who met qualifying criteria. An expensive proposition, to say the least. Willon estimates that he spent ~\$4,000 once application fees, airfare, housing, food and incidentals are factored into the total.

When also considering the logistical planning that was

required, from organizing and triple checking patient qualifications, instruments, equipment and supplies, to considering patient dependability and a using a “foreign” clinical setting, Willon concludes that it’s just not worth the effort. “My advice to future senior dental hygiene students” he says, is to “take the licensing examination on home turf.”

Willon Ching was the recipient of the Joan Lau-Kamimoto Memorial Endowed Scholarship. He is a registered dental hygienist in Honolulu.

“My advice...take the licensing examination on home turf”

Student & Faculty Awards

The SONDH would like to recognize and congratulate the following for their achievements:

Dental Hygiene Students

Rayann Bautista, Jennifer Madeisky, and Elise Park, recipients of the Department of Dental Hygiene Faculty Award, were recognized by the dental hygiene faculty for their scholarship and contributions to the dental hygiene program.

Jill Akimoto was nominated to Sigma Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Chapter, the National Dental Hygiene Honor Society, for excellence in scholarship and leadership.

Nursing Students

Richelle Magday-Asselstine was awarded the 2009 Filipino Nurses Organization of Hawaii Excellence in Nursing Education Award

Marife C. Aczon-Armstrong was awarded the 2009 Filipino Nurses Organization of Hawaii Excellence in Nursing Research Award

Dental Hygiene Faculty

Dr. Martin Oishi, long-time dental hygiene faculty and alumnus of Georgetown University, was honored for excellence in teaching by the Dental Hygiene Class of 2009. He was presented with the Class of 2009 Faculty Award.

Ms. Julee Omori, long-time dental hygiene faculty, was awarded the Outstanding Member award from the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association, in recognition of her excellence in mentoring.

Nursing Faculty

Ms. Norma Fujise, long-time nursing faculty and clinical nurse specialist, was honored for excellence in teaching by the Nursing Class of Fall 2008. She was presented with the Class of 2009 Nurse Educator Award.

Dr. Lois Magnussen: The University of Hawai'i honored Professor Magnussen with the UH Mānoa Chancellor's Citation for Meritorious Teaching at the Annual Convocation Ceremony in 2009. Demonstrating exemplary leadership in administration, scholarship and instruction, Magnussen believes a nursing teacher should show students how to "think like a nurse" so they can effectively transition into the practice world.

Dr. Maureen Shannon, associate professor and Frances A. Matsuda Chair in Women's Health, was inducted as Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing on November 7, 2009, honoring her accomplishments and contributions to the field of nursing.



Ms. Julee Omori (L) accepts the Outstanding Member award from the HDHA.



Dr. Lois Magnussen accepts the 2009 Chancellor's Citation for Meritorious Teaching at the Annual Convocation Ceremony.

UH Foundation Scholarship Opportunities for School of Nursing & Dental Hygiene Students

Online scholarship application for Fall 2010 opens in December 2009. To apply to for some of the many scholarship opportunities listed below, please log-in to the [UH scholarship website](#).

Undergraduate Level-Nursing

Achievement Scholarship (Tuition Waivers)
Felicidad T. Yoro Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Frances A. Matsuda Fellowship in Nursing Fund
Graceann Ehlke Ph.D. Memorial Scholarship Fund
Hawaii Keiki Scholarship Fund for Nursing
Kuakini Foundation Scholarship
Kulesh Memorial Scholarships
Kunimitsu and Jessie Tamai Scholarship
Milton Lau Memorial Scholarship Fund
Murabayashi Foundation Nursing Scholarship Fund at UH Manoa
Sigma Theta Tau Scholarship
Signe Widen Nyborg Scholarship in Nursing Fund
The Damsker Nursing Scholarship Fund
The Gordon and June Ito Foundation nursing scholarship program

Undergraduate Level-Dental Hygiene

Achievement Scholarship (Tuition Waivers)
Agnes C. Bickerton Endowed Scholarship Fund in Dental Hygiene
Dr. Alan Chang Memorial Scholarship
Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association scholarship
Joan Lau Kamimoto Memorial Scholarship Fund
Kenneth Kenji Koga and Yoshi Tanji Koga Scholarship for Dental Hygiene Students

Graduate Level-Nursing

Achievement Scholarship (Tuition Waiver)
Hawaii Keiki Scholarship Fund for Nursing
School of Nursing General Aid Fund
The Friendship Fund

SONDH Facts, Figures & Updates

Department of Nursing (DON)

Enrollment - Fall 2009

Undergraduate Baccalaureate in Nursing	357
Master's Entry Program in Nursing (MEPN)	32
Graduate Master's of Science in Nursing	125
Post Master's Certificate in Nursing	1
PhD in Nursing	60

NCLEX Pass Rates

Traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing	
Fall 2008	91%
Spring 2009	94%
Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (AC) & Masters Entry Program in Nursing (MEPN)	
Fall 2007	95%
Fall 2008 MEPN	86%

Accreditation Update

The Department of Nursing will be undergoing accreditation in 2010. The self-study portion of the process is due Summer 2010 and the site visit is scheduled for October 16-20, 2010. Faculty and staff will be working very hard to successfully complete this process.

Department of Dental Hygiene (DDH)

Enrollment (undergraduate) - Fall 2009 58

External Examination Results - Class of May 2009

National Board Dental Hygiene Examination	100% (on first attempt) 95.6%
Central Regional Dental Testing Service Licensing Examination accepted by the Hawaii State Board of Dental Examiners	(on first attempt) 100% (on 2 nd attempt by end of July 2009)

Employment Update (of those seeking employment) – Class of May 2009 100%
(by mid-Aug)

Accreditation Update

The Department of Dental Hygiene underwent an accreditation site visit by evaluators of the American Dental Association's Commission of Dental Hygiene in October of 2008. In January 2009, the Commission granted approval status to the dental hygiene program at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

The UHM Dental Hygiene Program is one of only 37 baccalaureate degree offering programs in the United States. We congratulate the faculty and staff for successfully completing the accreditation process!

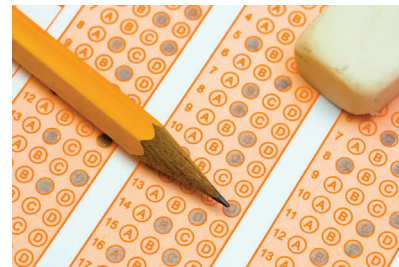
NCLEX-RN Procedures

Here are some helpful details regarding sign-up procedure for the NCLEX-RN.

1. Submit an application to the Board of Nursing (accessible on-line at the [BoN website](#)). *Note: Do not send the application too far in advance of your graduation date as it may get lost.
2. Submit a request to UH Manoa to have your transcript sent directly to the Board after your degree has been awarded. (Check the box on the form that says: "Send after degree awarded notation is posted").
3. There is no need to submit a 'request for letters'. The SONDH Office of Student Services will automatically generate and send a letter to the Board of Nursing for all graduating seniors.
4. Once the Board has verified that you have graduated, you will be notified of your eligibility to take the NCLEX-RN.
5. Sign-up for the NCLEX-RN, take the exam and pass with flying colors!

NOTE: You will need to let the Office of Student Services know if the letter (Step 3) needs to be sent some place other than the Hawaii State Board of Nursing.

If you plan to take the NCLEX-RN in a state other than Hawaii, you will need to determine the specific requirements of that state by contacting its Licensing Board.

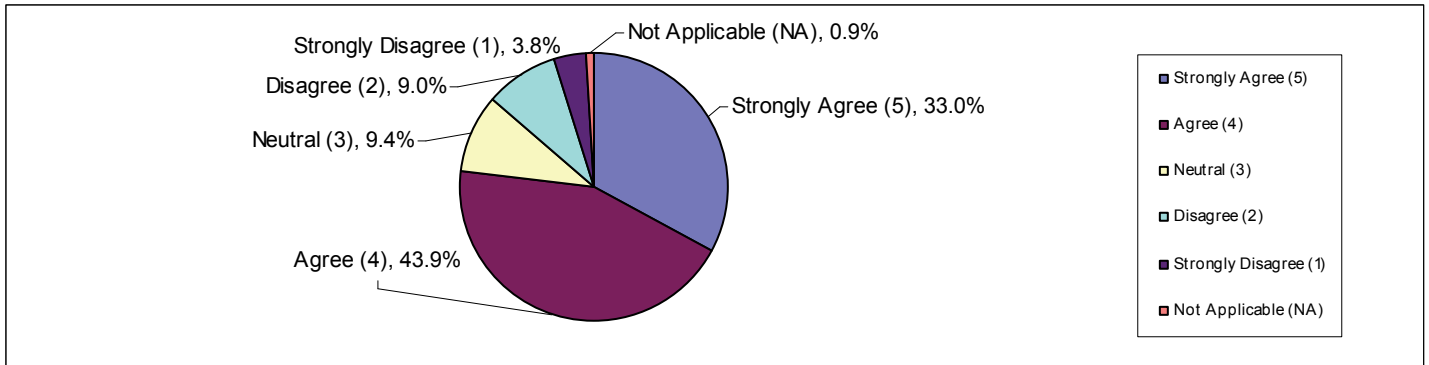


How Are We Doing?

Each spring, the Department of Nursing conducts a Student Progression Survey to assess student experiences. Below are samples of Spring 2009 survey findings and the actions for improvement. The next Student Progression Survey will include both dental hygiene and nursing students, and will be sent via e-mail in February 2010; please take a few moments to provide us with this important feedback.

Faculty responsiveness to my concerns.

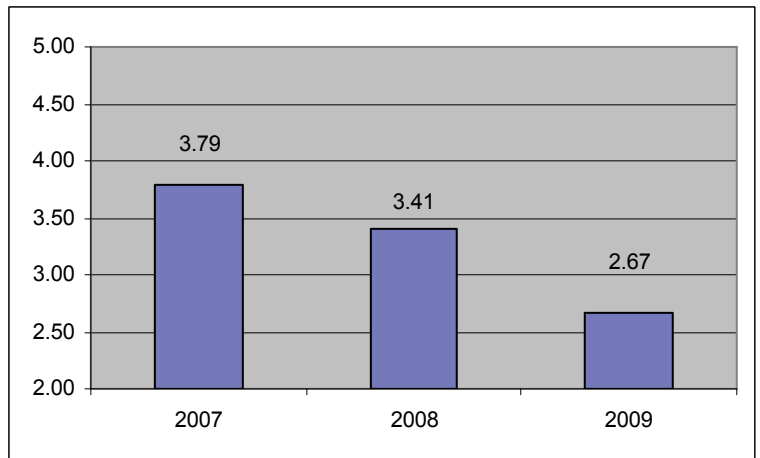
One question on the Student Progression Survey asks whether students feel that the faculty are responsive to their concerns. The chart below indicates that more than 75% of respondents either “agreed” or “strongly agreed” that faculty are responsive. To evaluate this issue further, the Department of Nursing has added the question “I received timely feedback on my assignments” to all course evaluations.



Note: The survey responses are on a Likert scale ranging from (1) Very Dissatisfied to (5) Very Satisfied. The scores presented are the mean of the responses derived from the 213 students that completed the survey.

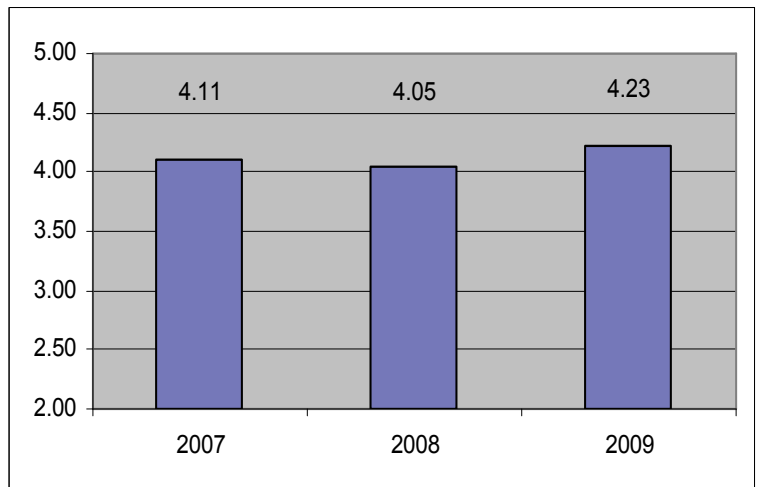
Satisfaction with Computer Lab Hours

During the previous 3 years, the mean scores for this question fell from 3.79 to 2.67 (out of a total of 5 possible points) indicating a decline in satisfaction with the computer lab. In an effort to address this issue, since August 2009, the computer lab has added personnel to support extended student hours, replaced 12 computers with new models, added a new high capacity printer and a scanning station, and upgraded the server.



Satisfaction with Services Provided by Faculty in the Learning Lab

Students are consistently satisfied with the learning lab experiences. Over the past 3 years, mean scores for this question were between 4.05 - 4.23 out of a total of 5 possible points.



Featured Nursing Faculty: JUDI FRERICK, MSN, RN



The SONDH is pleased to welcome new Instructor, Judi Frerick, into the ranks of our nursing faculty this Fall. Mrs. Frerick joins us from Northern Kentucky University (NKU) where she taught Community Health Nursing, coordinated the Distance Learning Programs for the College of Nursing, and served as President for the NKU chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI).

Though now based in Hawaii, Mrs. Frerick remains active in many of the nursing and health initiatives that she launched as Principal Investigator at NKU, including the Northern Kentucky Nursing Research Collaborative (NKNRC). This organization was recognized by the STTI Nursing Honor

Society in 2007 with the International Research Advancement Award. A second consecutive STTI International Research Advancement Award will be presented next month as a result of expansions to the NKNRC which include academic-community driven nursing interventions that address lead poisoning in children, as well as other health issues of concern to the community.

Mrs. Frerick currently teaches Community Health and Leadership and Management courses in the SONDH, while also pursuing her PhD in Nursing at UH.

Featured Dental Hygiene Faculty: ANN AKAMINE, RDH, BEd

Following a grueling and hectic schedule during Spring and Summer 2008, when she both assisted with the preparation of the Self-Study Report to the Commission on Dental Accreditation for the Evaluation of a Dental Hygiene Education Program, and maintained a full-time equivalent instructional workload, dental hygiene faculty member, Ann Akamine was finally able to spend time with children relocated to California.

Even with her travels, Mrs. Akamine never lost sight of the needs of dental hygiene students, prospective applicants and the community. She continued to advise and provide assistance to dental hygiene students over the Summer months, and also met with

prospective applicants and parents for guidance and question/answer sessions. And, despite her busy schedule and many obligations, Mrs. Akamine made time to continue her outreach efforts in the community through the Special Olympics and Alu Like, among others; always including student volunteers in these experiences.

Anne Akamine is an invaluable asset to the dental hygiene program, the University, and the community at large. As one student describes her: "Mrs. Akamine is not only a good faculty [member] with an abundance of common sense, but [she] is one who cares and is best described as SIMPLY AWESOME".

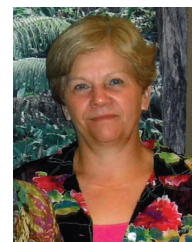


A Warm Welcome to Department of Nursing's Newest Faculty:

The VA Pacific Islands Health Care System (VAPIHCS) and the UHM School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene (SONDH) are teaming up to serve proud veterans in Hawai'i and the Pacific. On April 9, 2009, the U.S. Senate Committee on Veteran's Affairs announced that the SONDH and the VAPIHCS had been selected by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for the VA Nursing Academy's Enhancing Academics Partnerships Program. The SONDH is one of only 15 nursing schools across the nation selected for this honor. The partnership will add 40 nursing students and 10 additional faculty over the course of the 3 year program. The five new faculty members below are the first to join us through this exciting new partnership.

Lynette T. Dubbs, MSN

Lynette Dubbs was recently a nurse recruiter for the VA Medical Center in Muskogee, Oklahoma. She has been a nursing instructor in a practical nursing program as well as an instructor for Hospital Corpsmen and Emergency Medical Technicians at the Naval School of Health Sciences, San Diego. Ms. Dubbs has her BSN from the University of Washington and her MSN in Nursing Administration from the University of Mary, North Dakota. She is currently teaching N330L Health Assessment and N331L Professional Nursing II at the Community Living Center, VA-PIHCS.



Lynette Dubbs

Penny Morrison, MS, RN

Penny Morrison comes to us with teaching experiences at Kapiolani Community College, Texas University School of Nursing, and University of Phoenix. She has taught undergraduate students on acute and critical care adult and psychiatric units, and has assisted students with their research projects. Penny received her BS from University of Alberta, Canada and her MS from UHM SONDH in the Nursing Education tract. She is teaching N470L Adult Health II at TAMC and (temporarily) N371L. Ms. Morrison will also be helping in the Simulation Lab.



Penny Morrison

Abbie J. Neves, MSN, APRN-Rx, BC

Abbie Neves has worked as a Junior Specialist on the Department of Human Services Task Order #4 Mental Health Project Grant, providing outreach services to the underserved Native Hawaiian population in Waimanalo, as well as on the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Nursing Grant in a faculty practice at the Department of Health at the Leeward Oahu Family Guidance Center. Ms. Neves has her BSN and MSN in Child/Adolescent Psychiatric Mental Health from UHSONDH. She has taught N623 Psychopharmacology and is currently teaching N371L Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing at the VA-PIHCS and co-teaching N310 Psycho-Social Concepts.



Abbie Neves

Martha J. Parmelee, RNC, MSA, MSN

Marty Parmelee is the VA-Based Program Director of the Nursing Academy grant. She has worked at various agencies on Oahu serving in administration, in direct patient care and as a nursing instructor. She has lead Telephone Linked Care at the VA-PIHCS since 2001. She taught both nursing fundamentals and psychiatric/mental health nursing at Kapiolani Community College. Ms. Parmelee received her BSN and MSA in Nursing Administration at University of Michigan and Central Michigan University respectively and has an MS in Community Mental Health from UHM.



Marty Parmelee

Catherine B. Ryan, DNP

Catherine Ryan was the Program Director for Nursing (ADN & VN) and Health Sciences, the Assistant Dean at Hartnell College, California, and the Interim Assistant Dean of Nursing for Administration at Hawaii Pacific University. She has practiced as a Certified Nurse-Midwife and was Director of Women's Services at Castle Medical Center. She has taught Obstetric Nursing and Advanced Practice Women's Health. Dr. Ryan has her BSN and MSN in the Nurse-Midwifery Tract from Georgetown University and her DNP from Case Western Reserve University. She is teaching N471L Community Health Nursing at the VA-PIHCS and N441 Nursing Research with Dr. Vasquez Brooks.



Catherine Ryan



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Vision

The leader in nursing and dental hygiene education and research in Hawai'i with outreach to Asia and the Pacific Basin.

Mission

Provide an innovative, caring and multicultural environment in which faculty, students and staff work together to generate and transmit knowledge, wisdom and values to promote quality of life and health for present and future generations. To better reflect Hawai'i's unique cultural diversity and heritage, SONDH is committed to increasing Native Hwaaiian and other underserved people in all nursing and dental hygiene programs.

Helpful Hints:

Who to See in Case...

Who to contact when you have:

Problems in a Course

If you have a problem in a nursing or dental hygiene course, the first step is to talk to your course faculty member. Most issues can be resolved with open communication between student and faculty.

If the discussion does not resolve the issue, make an appointment to talk with the course coordinator (if applicable).

If the concern continues after speaking with the faculty member and course coordinator, contact your Department Chair (Dr. Ceria-Ulep for nursing and Mrs. Kuba for dental hygiene).

After consulting the Department Chair, if the issue is not resolved, contact Dr. Vickie Niederhauser, the Associate Dean for Academics.

Dean Boland may be reached when you and the faculty are unable to resolve the concern.

Dates to Remember

Please visit the [UHM website](#) for complete UH Manoa 2009 Fall and Spring 2010 Semester Academic Calendar

2009	
December 10	Last day of instruction
December 11-12	Study Days
December 3-10	Assigned Spring 2010 registration for continuing classified UH Mānoa students only (Note: registration continues through January 2, 2010 4:00 p.m. HST)
December 14-18	Final Examinations
December 19	Commencement; semester ends
2010	
January 1	Deadline PhD Nursing Application
January 2	Payment receipt deadline (4:00 p.m. HST) for registration transactions completed December 3 to January 2
January 7-8	Assigned registration for incoming (newly-accepted, re-admitted, and transfer) and all unclassified UH Mānoa students only
January 9-11	Continued registration for all UH Mānoa students
January 12	First day of instruction Late registration begins (\$30 late fee) UH faculty and staff registration begins
January 13	Dental Hygiene Seminar: The Developmentally Disabled Client
January 20	Last day to drop courses/switch sections without "W"
January 21	Last day for 100 percent tuition refund Restricted withdrawal begins (with "W") Last day to register/add courses/change grade option Payment receipt deadline (4:00 p.m. HST) for registration transactions completed January 7 to 21) Enrollment status finalized for financial aid awards
January 30	Last day for undergraduate and graduate students to file spring degree applications Last day to file summer degree applications for spring commencement exercises on May 16, 2009
February	Computer-based National Board Dental Hygiene Examination is scheduled on an individual basis at Pearson VUE testing centers year round. Applicant must be within four months of completing program.
February 1	Deadline Undergraduate nursing application Last day for 50 percent tuition refund (no refunds after this date)
February 7	HDHA/Dept. of Dental Hygiene Student Table Clinic Presentation /Continuing Education Program
March 1	Deadline MS nursing application
April	Licensing examination administered by the Central Regional Dental Testing Services, Inc. in Hawaii
May 6	Last day of instruction
May 7-8	Study days
May 11-15	Final examinations
May 16	Commencement; semester ends
May 19	Faculty grade submission deadline (4:00 p.m. HST)
May 20	Grades available via MyUH or STAR

Important Links for Students

SONDH [website](#)

Department of Nursing [Student Handbook](#)