

Chronological: Dedication of the UH Agriculture Sciences Facility Phase III, 2000-03-14

Senator Daniel K. Inouye Papers
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**DEDICATION OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF HAWAII AGRICULTURAL
SCIENCES FACILITY, PHASE III
TUESDAY, MARCH 14TH, 4:00 P.M.
MANOA CAMPUS**

Talking Points

- ◆ **This new \$27 million agriculture facility is testament to the clear fact that agriculture is far from dead in Hawaii. In fact, the ag industry is sophisticated, high-tech, cutting edge, and one of the few sectors in our economy that experienced growth in the 1990's. This is true even with the decline of sugar.**
- ◆ **This facility - Ag Sciences III, together with the one under design by the Agricultural Research Service in Hilo, will provide our farmers with access to research and development support to improve their crops, reduce their pests, enhance and expand their markets. They will also provide exciting science opportunities for our students to pursue careers in a multitude of areas, including biotechnology and genetic engineering.**
- ◆ **We have waited a long time for this facility. As I said at the groundbreaking, while there are things that improve with age – a good wine and delicious cheese – this building could not afford to be aged much longer. Or, it will be old before its time. I am pleased that while it took about ten years to plan and design, it took less than two to actually construct. With the rate within which technology**

is changing and improving, we do not have the luxury of time.

- ◆ **It is critical that we seize the moment, lay claim to the areas in which we excel, and begin to grow and recruit new talent to enhance our areas of expertise.**
- ◆ **There are those who saw despair and heartbreak in the fallow fields where sugarcane once blew in the wind. There were others who saw fields of opportunity. I am very proud to say that through the Rural Economic Transition Assistance (RETA) program and the first 50 projects -- 275 independent businesses and 930 new jobs were created, and 17,000 acres put into diversified agriculture.**
- ◆ **This is the beginning of the new agriculture of the new millennium. We collectively must commit ourselves to aiding and encouraging their success. That, I believe, is the mission of Ag Sciences III. This state of the art facility must be tied to the land and the needs of our family and corporate farmers. We must never lose this focus -- it's not research for research sake, or biotech for the sake of biotech -- it is serving our agricultural industry**

and basking in their successes, and then in educating the next core of entrepreneurs and scientists to energize and improve what is there.

- ◆ **This new agriculture for the new millennium begins with a commitment to the land and the lifestyle. Add to this good science and good farm practices. Add to that a marketing strategy with export potential – and we're in business. Together. In many ways, Ag Sciences III and its faculty provide the glue, through their know-how and expertise. We all need to step up to the plate and commit to do our part.**
- ◆ **There are fields of opportunity and Hawaii's window is now.**

Fact Sheet: Center for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture (CTSA)

Federal funding: \$13.5 million, with funding beginning in Fiscal Year 1989 and ending in 1993. The State of Hawaii has matched this amount for a total project cost of about \$27 million.

Physical Facility: 86,000 square feet
4 stories

General Contractor: Albert C. Kobayashi, Inc.

Expected Completion Date: August 1999

Center for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture (CTSA):

Mission: Address tropical and subtropical agricultural issues of importance to the United States and Hawaii by generating and serving as a repository for tropical and subtropical agricultural sciences and technologies.

Building: The physical facility is referred to as the Ag Sciences III. This building will provide the facilities necessary for an effective CTSA. This includes laboratories and offices to support research activities, two multi-media classrooms and a multi-media conference room.

The Center will bring together an interdisciplinary cooperative effort of laboratories actively engaged in agricultural biotechnology research and education programs in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. The scientists represent the Departments of Animal Sciences, Biosystems Engineering, Environmental Biochemistry, Plant Molecular Physiology and Food Science and Human Nutrition.