

Council Highlights

April 12, 1996

Roger Kimura MD, Secretary

The HMA Council was called to order by President Dr Carl Lehman at 5:30 pm.

Present

Officers.—President-elect John Spangler, Secretary R. Kimura, Immediate Past President F. Holschuh; AMA Delegates: C. Kam, R. Stodd; AMA Alternate Delegate: A. Kunimoto; Speaker: H.K.W. Chinn; Vice-Speaker and Honolulu County President: P. Blanchette; Component Society Presidents: E. Bade, Hawaii; T. Smith, W. Hawaii, M. Joshi, Maui; T. Crane, Kauai; Councilors: T. Au, P. Chinn, P. DeMare, M. Shirasu, K. Thorburn, R. Wong, W. Young, J. Betwee, B. Shitamoto, P. Kim, C. Kadooka, A. Bairos; Past Presidents: W. Dang, G. Goto, J. Lumeng, J. McDonnell; Medical Student Delegate: A. Matteo and (medical student guest, James Ing); Young Physician Delegate: C. Goto.

HMA Staff.—J. Asato, N. Jones, B. Kendro, L. Tong, J. Won, A. Rogness, recording secretary.

Minutes.—The minutes of the March 1 meeting were approved as corrected.

Introduction.—Dr Lehman introduced new Council member Dr Chiyome Fukino and medical student guest James Ing.

Dr Lehman reported:

- He had attended a meeting for the Cancer Association's 25th anniversary.
- The Hawaii Health Council meets once a month and is working on the business health-care package.
- On March 6, Drs Brady and DeMare, and HCCME coordinator Cheryl Sugita held an excellent CME workshop.
- On March 29, HMA officers and the Physician of the Year, Dr Ernest Bade of Hilo, went to the Legislature for the signing of the Doctors' Day Proclamation, read on floor of the Senate. They also were recognized in the House of Representatives. A two-page ad for Doctors' Day was placed in the newspaper sponsored by many organizations, including the HMA Alliance.
- On April 5, he presented awards to the Junior and Senior Division students at the Hawaii State Science and Engineering Fair.
- Dr Lehman reported he wrote a letter for the *Pacific Business News* April 8 issue;
- Fund-raising Events
 - The Aloha Medical Mission is having a fund-raising event on July 14, tickets are \$100 per person.
 - The University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society plans a concert on Saturday, May 4 from 4 to 9 pm at the Bishop Museum.
 - The Distinguished Medical Reporting Awards banquet "Shower of Stars" is set for Saturday, April 13 at the Ilikai Hotel.
- The deadline for resolutions for the AMA is May 17.
- Dr James Lumeng was appointed to the Drug Use Review Board of the Hawaii State Medicaid Program and was elected Chair of the HMA Investigative Committee.

For Action

- Council approved the Executive Committee's motion that the President write an article in the *HMNews* informing members that HMA has no involvement in the "Best Doctors in America" process and that a letter be sent to *Honolulu Magazine* expressing concern

about the selection process.

- Council approved the Tobacco Task Force's recommendation to submit a resolution to the AMA in June recommending that physicians cancel their subscriptions to magazines that advertise tobacco products.

- Council approved the Communicable Disease's recommendation that the HMA write to the governor stressing the importance of retaining the Hepatitis B surveillance and vaccination program.

Component Society Reports

Maui.—Dr Joshi reported that in his absence the Maui County secretary handled two or three meetings. There will be a meeting on April 14, with a lecture at the hospital and a cruise to follow.

Kauai.—Dr Crane reported there was a nice Valentine's Day County Society meeting with guests Dr Lehman, Mr Won, and significant others in attendance. There will be a spring meeting in the near future.

West Hawaii.—Dr Smith reported that Drs Lehman, Holschuh, and Don and Mr Won attended their County meeting last month. They discussed current legislation that will affect the Big Island. Dr Don presented information on HPPA. The next meeting will be about the AMA federation organization.

Hawaii.—Dr Bade had no report. Hawaii County is hoping to invite the HMA officers and Mr Won to one of its meetings in the near future.

Honolulu.—No report.

For Information

Credential Verification Service.—The contract with CIVS is being negotiated and is almost completed. HMA will help advertise the service in the near future.

Medicaid Payment Delays.—Delays in reimbursement for the Medicaid fee-for-service and General Assistance programs have caused considerable concern. HMA will meet with DHS to resolve this problem.

Quest.—A physician raised a concern that after caring for a Quest patient he has still not been paid 19 months later. He will write his concern and forward it to Dr A. Don or Dr Holschuh, who serve on the Quest Advisory Board.

Health-care Professional March on Washington.—This march is to oppose managed care and will be held on May 10. Last year 30,000 professionals attended.

Physician Legislator.—Dr Michael Loftus will be running for state Representative in District 47.

Parliamentary Law.—Dr H.K.W. Chinn is interested in teaching a parliamentary law course at the HMA. This will be open to all members. More information at a later date.

Prison System.—Dr Holschuh wrote a letter to the governor in support of Dr Thorburn who has resigned as medical director for the corrections division. The issue of clinical autonomy must continue to be supported by HMA in conformance with nationally recognized standards and ethics. Council applauded Dr Thorburn for her outstanding service as a physician in the community.

PRO.—There has been no announcement regarding the selection of the PRO in Hawaii. Information is expected sometime between March 15 and April 30, 1996.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.