January 4, 2013

Hannah Kihalani Springer and Dr. Greg Chun Join Mauna Kea Management Board

Don Straney, Chancellor, University of Hawaii at Hilo, is happy to welcome Dr. Greg Chun and Hannah Kihalani Springer to the Mauna Kea Management Board, which provides guidance in the management of UH's managed lands on Mauna Kea.

Greg Chun is Vice President of Kamehamea Schools where he oversees the Keauhou-Kahalu'u Educational Group. Hannah Kihalani Springer is a well known kama'aina of the Ka'upulehu ahupua'a in North Kona where her family has been associated with ranching for several generations.

"Serving on this volunteer board takes a lot of dedication, time and commitment. I'm excited to work together with Hannah and Greg who will provide tremendous knowledge, experience and support in helping us to achieve sustainable management of Mauna Kea. They join the other extraordinary individuals who make up the Mauna Kea Management Board," said Office of Mauna Kea Management Director Stephanie Nagata.

Greg Chun's primary responsibilities at KS's Keauhou-Kahalu'u Education Group include strategic and operational oversight of education and cultural programing and cultural asset management within Keauhou Resort. Previously, Chun was President of Bishop Holdings Corporation, Kamehameha Schools for-profit holding company for investment and real estate development activities.

He presently serves as a Historic Hawaii Foundation Trustee; Past Chair Hawaii Island Economic Development Board; Chairman of the Board of Directors, Hawaii Leeward Planning Conference;
Chun visiting Mauna Kea

Ulumau Leadership Series Executive Committee Chair; Neighborhood Place of Kona Board Chair; and Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union Supervisory Committee member. Chun is also a former Board member of Hawaii Community Foundation West Hawaii Fund, Kona Kohala Chamber of Commerce, Hamakua Health Center and Kalihi-Palama Health Center.

In 2006, Chun received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Hawaii at Hilo, recognizing outstanding alumni who have made significant contributions to the university, the local community and the world-at-large.

Hannah Kihalani Springer is also a long serving member of the Hawai'i Island community. She brings a kama'aina perspective to a variety of appointed, elected, professional, and voluntary positions she holds including the Daughters of Hawaii, Kaloko-Honokohau Advisory Council, Ka'upulehu Marine Resources Advisory Group, and West Hawai'i Fisheries Management Council. Springer is a former Office of Hawaiian Affairs Trustee, The Nature Conservancy Hawaii Trustee and a present Trustee of Hawaii Preparatory Academy.

Her ohana including two children and two grandchildren are the sixth and seventh generation to live in the family home at Hu'ehu'e Ranch. Hannah also has ancestral ties to Kohala and to Parker Ranch. John Parker Palmer and his wife Kipikane are her seven-times great-grandparents.

Springer is an alum of Punahou School and the University of Hawaii at Hilo and is a life-long student of the cultural and natural histories of Hawaii.

Chun and Springer replace long-standing Mauna Kea Management Board members Barry Taniguchi and Ron Terry whose terms have expired.

Springer leads tour in Kailua
ABOUT
The Office of Mauna Kea Management is charged with day-to-day management of the Mauna Kea Science Reserve as prescribed in the Master Plan. The adoption of the Mauna Kea Science Reserve Master Plan by the University of Hawaii Board of Regents in June 2000 marked a critical milestone in the management of Mauna Kea.

Meetings and public hearings spanning a period of nearly two years went into the formulation of the Master Plan, which established management guidelines for the next 20 years. The Master Plan reflected the community’s deeply rooted concerns over the use of Mauna Kea, including respect for Hawaiian cultural beliefs, protection of environmentally sensitive habitat, recreational use of the mountain, and astronomy research. It places the focus of responsibility with the University of Hawaii at Hilo (UHH). The UH-Hilo Chancellor established the Office of Mauna Kea Management and the Board of Regents established the Mauna Kea Management Board in the fall of 2000. The Mauna Kea Management Board in turn formed Kahu Ku Mauna, a council comprised of Hawaiian cultural resource persons to serve as advisors.

OMKM Mission
To achieve harmony, balance and trust in the sustainable management and stewardship of Mauna Kea Science Reserve through community involvement and programs that protect, preserve and enhance the natural, cultural and recreational resources of Mauna Kea while providing a world-class center dedicated to education, research and astronomy.