MESSAGE FROM MAYOR KIRK CALDWELL

I am pleased to send my warmest aloha to everyone attending the Biennial Western Regional IdeA Conference at the Marriott Waikiki Beach Resort.

I applaud the National Institute of General Medical Sciences for their sponsorship of the Institutional Development Award (IdeA) Program, an awards competition that provides approximately $10 million in grants to support the University of Hawaii and other academic institutions.

Mahalo to students and faculty researchers for their important contributions to biomedical research. This meeting brings together student and faculty researchers from a large number of academic institutions in Western states. These exchanges create new opportunities for advancement in this critically important field.

On behalf of the people of the City and County of Honolulu, I extend appreciation to all participants for their contributions to this field and best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable gathering.

Kirk Caldwell