

September 26, 2013

Dr. Jerris R. Hedges, MD, MS, MMM Dean, John A. Burns School of Medicine University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Medical Education Building, 2nd Floor 651 Ilalo Street Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: NIH Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Program

Third Biennial Western Regional IDeA Scientific Conference October 6 – 8, 2013, Waikiki Marriott Beach Resort and Spa

Dear Dr. Hedges:

As Interim President of the University of Hawai'i, I applaud your participation in developing collaborations and promoting progress in biomedical science research among UH and other states and institutions.

This letter is to express my enthusiastic support for the IDeA Program sponsorship of the Third Biennial Western Regional IDeA Scientific Conference that will be held on October 6 – 8, 2013 at the Waikiki Marriott Beach Resort and Spa. This meeting will bring together student and faculty researchers from the IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) programs and the Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) programs that are part of the seven Western Regional states (Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Wyoming, New Mexico and Hawai'i).

I am delighted that this conference has received significant recognition and attendance from other IDeA state universities. It will give the University of Hawai'i and our many partnering institutions the opportunity to share biomedical research, learn from each other, develop collaborative relationships, and most importantly, advance biomedical science research in the United States.

Şincerely,

David Lassner Interim President