



Agricultural Leadership
Foundation of Hawai'i

AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CLASS XVI **CAPSTONE PROJECT PRESENTATIONS**

Monday, October 14, 2019

12:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Hawai'i Convention Center, Room 302AB
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Agricultural Leadership Program Class XVI members will present their final capstone project presentations during this special event. Each individual or group will be given up to 15 minutes for their presentation followed by 5 minutes of Q&A. Approximate times are listed below but are subject to change based on actual presentation length.

1:00 PM Opening and Intro to Capstone Presentations

1:05 PM Capstone Presentations Begin

1:05 PM - Jayme Barton
Healthy Soils Hawai'i

Healthy Soils Hawai'i is a pilot program that works with farmers and ranchers who are interested in improving the health of their soil. Producers receive incentive payments to implement climate smart agricultural practices that sequester carbon, reduce GHG emissions, and improve the resilience of their operation.

1:25 PM - Yarrow Flower, Brian Kau
Alternative Water Sources for Hawai'i's Agriculture

Reliable and affordable water availability is one of the biggest and most prevalent challenges for all agricultural operations in Hawai'i. The competing demands for potable use, cultural practices, and agriculture production often lead to community dividing conflict. Once we take into consideration regulatory requirements, the need to protect our environment and climate change, it becomes even more difficult to navigate water issues and find balanced solutions. In order to explore this complex issue, we have put together a panel discussion of industry professionals to explore the potential of alternative water sources for modern agriculture in Hawai'i. Topics include the local availability of R-1 water, the

potential for desalination, and the feasibility of wastewater scalping plants. In addition to opportunities, panelist will discuss roadblocks such as cost, availability, health concerns, and perception. Alternative water sources may provide an opportunity for some in the agricultural industry to break free of conflict by tapping previously unutilized or underutilized water sources, given the right economic and social conditions. The potential exists for reliable and affordable agriculture water that doesn't compete with traditional ground and surface water sources. How do we realize this potential in Hawai'i?

1:40 PM - Jonathan Ho

Using Technology and Compliance for Increased Efficiency: Electronic Manifesting and Transitional Facilities

The Plant Quarantine Branch is the State's first line of defense against the introduction of new invasive species. With the entire Department of Agriculture getting less than 0.4% of the entire State budget, there is a need to utilize technology and compliance agreements to allow the Plant Quarantine Branch (PQB) to accomplish its mission. This project will discuss how the PQB is using these tools to keep up with the reality of a global system of trade and the threats that they pose to Hawaii's agriculture and environment.

2:00 PM - Dana Sato

Transforming Hawai'i's School Food System Through The Eyes of Hawai'i's Youth

The future of agriculture lies in our hands and the hands of our youth. At the 2019 Hawai'i Agriculture Conference, a thread of three sessions will be dedicated for students to learn, develop, and present a vision of the future of Hawai'i's School Food System. The students will work with professionals in the industry who will focus on the key gap areas in Hawai'i's School Food System and who will work with them to develop their vision to close those gaps. All conference attendees will have the opportunity to hear the students' vision and to provide comments, encouragement and guidance to the students while their vision is displayed at the conference. The goal is for the students to take what is learned and to become teachers and advocates for change at home, at school, and at the legislature.

2:15 PM - Drew Wilkinson

The Development of a Fruit Tree Propagation Business Plan

Is there a market opportunity for grafting or topworking fruit trees? Current demands from farmers, homeowners, and future ag development projects show there is a demand for additional supply of fruit trees. This project explores this question with an intent to develop a business plan around the premise of fruit tree propagation. Related research includes a survey of existing fruit tree production nurseries to gather baseline information such as client base, highest selling varieties, and price points for trees as well as research on existing and future client bases, such as farmers, homeowners, and future ag development projects. Limiting factors that may be preventing the planting of more fruit trees will be identified. Future demands based on current legislation to increase local food production, local food security, and increased desire for food production in urban spaces will also be

explored. A business plan for the production of fruit trees and a clear pitch that explains the value and benefits of purchasing a grafted tree or having top work services performed and the positive impacts this can have on Hawaii agriculture will be formulated based on research results.

2:35 PM Break

2:50 PM - Nick Reppun

Wetland Taro Auwai/Water Management: Successful Strategies and Common Challenges for Growers

Access to water has long been a challenge for wetland taro farmers in Hawaii. While several landmark legal cases have restored water to streams to the benefit of taro farmers, there are still numerous challenges that face those wishing to farm wetland taro. Understanding what farmers have done to effectively manage their water resources is critical to document and can serve as a guide for the increasing numbers of people interested in the cultivation of taro. It is also critical to understand what challenges growers are still facing so that resources may be directed appropriately to solve them. In partnership with Oahu RC&D and a UH Manoa DURP graduate student the project team travelled throughout the state to interview farmers to gather information and mo'olelo of their experiences. All interviews are kept anonymous to protect the identities of the farmers, but their collective mo'olelo and mana'o speak volumes about what it takes to be a taro farmer in this day and age.

3:10 PM - Olelo pa'a Ogawa

Bringing Awareness and Light to Hawai'i Agriculture

Does our community really know about the challenges that farmers, ranchers and producers are facing on a daily basis? What can be done to bring awareness to our communities? Through awareness we can educate the public and have our lawmakers support Hawai'i agriculture. Hear about how word is spreading on Hawai'i Island and also about other ideas for spreading awareness. Find out how you can play a more proactive role in making a difference. We need to have this on-going conversation and we need to do it NOW!

3:30 PM - Jonathan Tanouye, Julia Nemoto

Career Opportunities in Agriculture

For a thriving agriculture industry in Hawai'i to exist, we must grow the number of new farmers. Along with that, we must be able to find qualified candidates for a wide range of supporting positions that provide services which help ensure the success of our farmers. This capstone project involved developing a special interactive session that introduces careers as part of the AG2019 Student Program. During this one-hour session students will learn about some of the career opportunities in the field of agriculture. They will meet professionals that work in Hawai'i's agricultural sector as farmers, ranchers, scientists, managers, administrators, and more. They will learn what led the professionals to a career in agriculture and what it took to get there and will have time to ask questions and network.

3:45 PM - Gene Ross Davis

Axis Deer: A Challenge to the Agriculture Industry in Hawai'i

Axis deer were introduced to Hawai'i as a gift to King Kamehameha V in the 1860's from Hong Kong. Only a handful of deer were brought to the island of Moloka'i. As the population increased, deer were introduced to the island of Lana'i and Maui. Because there are no natural predators in Hawai'i, the deer population has increased 20-30% each year. Farmers and Ranchers that operate in areas with axis deer experience difficulties with crop production and production of dry feed for livestock. State and Federal agencies can aid farmers and ranchers by providing loans for deer fencing and other population management assistance. Programs that provide control permits to decrease deer populations in a focused area also exist and government agencies can, in some cases, perform the control measures. Private sector options for deer management programs also exist to assist farmers and ranchers. This project aims to organize available resources to simplify the process for farmers and ranchers. The overarching goal is the reduction of the axis deer population to a level that does not impact farm and ranch production.

4:05 PM - Sarah Styan

KCoRD - Kaua'i Community Resource Directory: Building Connections and Colleagues

A great way for students to learn about careers in Agriculture, or any career, is by connecting them with professionals in the career. All three Kaua'i Public High Schools are changing to an Academies Pathway structure that includes Career Connected and Work-Based Learning . A significant element of this change is connecting students and teachers to professionals in the community and supporting more work-based learning opportunities. This capstone project is to build an initial version of the Kaua'i Community Resource Directory, KCoRD. This is a searchable database with information about professionals in Agriculture and across all industry sectors on Kaua'i. KCoRD will serve as a resource for teachers and students to get connected, build relationships and learn from professionals on Kaua'i. It will also enable professionals on Kaua'i to support the change in education and to meet future colleagues.

4:25 PM - Will Lydgate

Want to Make Money Farming? Ag-tourism Can Help

Many think that ag-tourism and production agriculture do not go together. This presentation will disambiguate the popular belief that ag-tourism is a distraction and explain how it is well suited to be a massive revenue engine for production agriculture. Hawai'i farmers have a dire need to tap into our visitor industry revenue stream, and our visitors have a deep craving to get back to the land and learn where their food comes from. This presentation will arm agriculture professionals with specific tips and tricks to get the job done and make farming lucrative again in Hawai'i.

4:45 PM - Buddy Nichols

AG2019 Presentation: Finding Your Financial Happy Place

A business can only be successful if it is profitable - this is the basis for the development of this presentation that will be provided during the 2019 Hawai'i Agriculture Conference session entitled "Financing Makes the Farm Go-Round" (October 16, 2019, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Room 306AB). The presentation will provide fundamental financial information that can be used to develop a financially happy environment for any business or family. The goal of the presentation is to provide a stress-free environment as the business develops into a sustainable enterprise for future generations. Presentation tips will encourage participants to pursue the opportunity of becoming a price maker instead of a price taker in the marketplace with the actualization of the true value of the products they produce.

4:50 PM Capstone Presentations Complete/Break

5:00 PM ALP Class XVI Debrief

5:30 PM Event Ends