

# Hawaii Kukala



## Two Day Seminar Planned for September 2014



*Attendees packed a recent luncheon meeting*

The AGA Hawaii Chapter will host the AGA Yellow Book Seminar on September 10 -11, 2014, at the Hale Koa Hotel. The seminar will provide attendees the opportunity to earn 16 CPE hours of which 14 are Yellow Book qualified.

The main presenter will be Bill Broadus, a Washington D.C. consultant, who will discuss changes to governmental auditing, financial reporting, and internal controls.

Other presenters and their topics include: Kalbert Young, Director of the State Department of Budget and Finance-challenges facing government finances; Donny Shimamoto, Intraprise Technologies LLC-AICPA Profession 2025 Outlook; Amy Hudson and Lynn Anderson from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs-financial fraud; and Mark Anderson, State Department of Budget and Finance-management of Federal grants.

The flyer and registration form are available at [www.agahawaii.org](http://www.agahawaii.org). The cost will be \$275 to \$350. Save money by registering by June 30, 2014.

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**AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.**

## 2014-2015 Nominations

The Nominations Committee has proposed the following slate of officers, directors and committee chairpersons for the 2014 – 2015 program year:

*President:* Edwin Young  
*President-Elect:* Vacant  
*Treasurer:* Sean Nakamura  
*Secretary:* Robert Hatanaka  
*Past President:* Dallas Weyand  
*Board of Directors (2 years):*  
 Donn Nakamura;  
 Valerie Shintaku;  
 Wei Lum;  
 Ross Okumura;  
 Ralph Kanetoku; and  
 Mark Chandler  
 The above group of directors join directors appointed last year that are serving the second year of their term:  
 Cindy Yee;  
 Dwayne Takeno;  
 Kerry Yoneshige; and  
 Ray Kim.

*Committee Chairpersons are:*

*Audio Conferences:*

Casey Ratica

*Bylaws & Policies:*

Cindy Yee

*Community Service:*

Ross Okumura

*Luncheon Programs:*

Dwayne Takeno

*Media:*

Pamela Young, Mark Eber

*Membership:*

Donn Nakamura,

Mabel Yeung

*Networking/Aloha Event:*

Valerie Shintaku

*Newsletter:*

Debra Mott

*Nominations:*

Vacant

*Student Relations:*

Bowha Kang,

Robert Hatanaka

*Awards:*

Pamela Young

*Website, Social Media, Citizen Centric Report:*

Bowha Kang,

Ryoko Lung

*Chapter History:*

Clarence Kuwahara

There are still some vacancies.

If you are interested in the vacancies or on serving on a committee, please contact Edwin Young at [eyoung@honolulu.gov](mailto:eyoung@honolulu.gov) or Dallas Weyand at [dweyand@kmhllp.com](mailto:dweyand@kmhllp.com)

We'd like to thank the nominating committee for their time and efforts to come up with the slate of officers and chairpersons. The committee was chaired by Edwin Young and included Dallas Weyand, Cindy Yee, Pamela Young, Kerry Yoneshige, and Clarence Kuwahara.

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## The Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM®)



**The Mark of Excellence in Federal, State and Local Government**

### Initial Certification Requirements

To earn the CGFM, candidates must apply for the CGFM Program and meet the following requirements:

**Ethics**—read and agree to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics.

**Education**—have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

**Examinations**— pass three comprehensive CGFM Examinations.

**Experience**— have at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management.



*Pictured left to right, Shena Bocalbos, Ryoko Lung, and Mamina Tahara.*

## **University of Hawaii-West Oahu College National Winners of AGA Case Challenge Competition**

Contributed by Clarence Kuwahara

Congratulations to the University of Hawaii – West Oahu team of Shena Bocalbos, Ryoko Lung, and Mamina Tahara who were named winners of AGA's nationwide Government Finance Case Challenge competition. The students constructed a Citizen Centric Report (CCR) for the City of Garland, Texas and produced an impressive video presentation demonstrating their case findings, as well as convincing the Garland City Council to distribute their CCR to the public. Other finalist institutions that UH-West Oahu competed against were University of Guam, Wright State University, and University of Maryland.

The Hawaii Chapter is very proud of this tremendous accomplishment by the UH-West Oahu team of whom Shena and Ryoko, who are AGA Hawaii Chapter members. In addition, they keep this crown in the Pacific Rim Region for another year, since the University of Guam had won the previous competition.

### **2014 Case Challenge Winners Announced**

This past year, AGA invited undergraduate students to form teams to compete in the virtual Government Finance Case Challenge. Student teams collaboratively analyzed data for a specified state, city, or county, and developed a Citizen-Centric Report (CCR).

A panel of governmental finance experts judged submissions and the top teams also presented their findings via video format. The experience was to raise the students' awareness of accountability and open doors to careers in governmental accounting.

The announcement of the winners was made in the February 24, 2014 issue of *AGA Topics*. To view the winning report, visit 2014 Case Challenger Winners [https://www.agacgfm.org/AGA/TOPICS/2014/022414/topics\\_index022414.htm](https://www.agacgfm.org/AGA/TOPICS/2014/022414/topics_index022414.htm)



### President's Message

We are already into the second half of our fiscal year and I sincerely hope you are all ready for a great 2014.

We began this part of our year with our Chapter Executive Committee meeting Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> and then on January 15<sup>th</sup> we had the third of our Chapter Sponsored Audio Conferences, followed by our Chapter luncheon meeting that provided us with our annual income tax updates. Our next sponsored audio conference will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup> and it will be on Ethics. Our last Chapter luncheon meeting was held on May 8<sup>th</sup> and featured Chris Grandy of the State's Council on Revenues.

It is with sadness that we let you know of the passing of Myrna Nip. Myrna was a long-time member of AGA, having joined in 1978. Always active and cheerful, Myrna continued to attend our events even as she enjoyed her retirement. She will be missed by all.

I wanted to take this opportunity to again point out that the success of our chapter is entirely dependent

on YOU, the members, for your involvement and support. Your attendance at the various educational and networking events is critical to our success. Additionally, your involvement in Chapter administration is essential to the continued delivery of quality education and networking opportunities.

I ask that you consider getting more involved. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any of the other officers, directors, or committee chairs. If we reach out to you to fill an officer's or director's position or committee chair or committee member, please give it serious consideration. While there is a commitment of time and effort, the experience is both valuable and rewarding.

We are beginning our work on upcoming training seminars and development of the 2015 two or three day conference (name yet to be determined). We will be asking for your support in this effort also. The 2015 conference is a significant undertaking and your involvement and support will be critical to ensuring its success for 2015 and the years beyond.

As always, I encourage all of you to check out our website for updates to our events calendar and other news of interest.

Aloha,

Dallas Weyand, President

## Coming Events



### End of Year Social

Wednesday, June 18,  
2014 at 6:00 p.m.

The Plaza Club at  
900 Fort Street Mall  
20<sup>th</sup> Floor

\$30 Member

\$40 Non-Members

RSVP June 11, 2014



### AGA Yellow Book Seminar

September 10 – 11, 2014

Hale Koa Hotel

Up to 16 CPEs

See Page 1

For more details

## Sectional Leadership Meeting

By Pamela Young

Pamela Young represented the Hawaii Chapter at the Sectional Leadership Meeting held on April 25 and 26, 2014, at Kansas City, Missouri. The SLM brought together national, sectional, regional and Chapter leaders along with the national office staff to discuss AGA's national direction and initiatives, expectations of AGA's leaders, ways to improve member services, and how to recruit new members and leaders.

Relmond P. Van Daniker, DBA, CPA, Executive Director, will be retiring after an 11-year tenure having led AGA through a wide range of initiatives without increasing membership dues. He was also a professor of governmental accounting at the University of Kentucky. Van Daniker advised students to join a professional organization when they graduate. It will benefit their career, help them get their next job, make more money and have better opportunities.

Many of the national AGA leaders provided guidance on how individual chapters can improve. Below are some of their suggestions:

Susan Fritzen, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer: Consider issuing press releases for future community service projects. Revisit the past practice of joint luncheon meetings with other accountability organizations.

Jill Murphy, Membership Manager: Don't give away student memberships. Students need ownership, are partial to community service projects, are proficient at communicating online, and need help with face-to-face interaction.

Katya Silver, Director of Professional Certification, CGFM: Continue to promote the CGFM designation as it benefits the chapter, the employer, and you. In AGA's 2010 compensation survey, the average salary of CGFMs was 55% higher than those without the certification.

Organize a Chapter CGFM activity (maybe as a fundraiser). Bring CGFM courses onsite to your Chapter or employer (if you can reserve a room for at least 12 – 14 participants over a period of five to six days).  
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*National AGA President William Miller and Pamela Young at the SLM Conference.*

## A Talk Story Night With AGA

By Sean Nakamura



*(Left to Right)- Matt, David, Francin Asotigue (Professional), Kelu, Dillon, Craig Nakama (Professional), Gloria Nakama-Ly (Professional), Nikolos, Mei Photo by Mark Eder.*

On Monday, April 21, 2014, a number of the Hawaii Chapter of AGA members met with over thirty students at the University of Hawai'i Shidler College. The purpose of this student interaction event was to inform students of the career opportunities in government service and the related benefits.

The students who attended the event were from the University of Hawai'i Accounting Club and Beta Alpha Psi as well as the University of Hawai'i West Oahu. The students are at various stages in their journey toward graduation, ranging from those taking introductory accounting classes to those in their final semester before graduation.

The event started at 5:30 PM and officially ended at 7:30 PM although many stayed until after 8:00 PM. The students were genuinely interested in hearing about the experiences of the various professionals and were actively engaged. Professionals discussed questions such as, "What made you go into government accounting?", "What do you like about government accounting?" and "What do you find most interesting and challenging about your job?"

Thank you to Dallas Weyand and Bob Hatanaka who were instrumental in persuading current and potential AGA members to attend the event and to Jasmi Regmi, Patrick Ma and Melissa Hryszyn from the Beta Alpha Psi and Accounting Club for coordinating the event with Bob Hatanaka.

Representatives of AGA and federal government agencies were Linda Siu, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Mabel Yeung, U.S. Probation Office; Francin Ansotigue, Defense Contract Audit Agency; and Christina Castillejo, Defense Contract Audit Agency. City and County representatives included Edwin Young, City Auditor; Ryan Yamasaki, City and County of Honolulu; Raelynn Gaspar-Asaoka, City and County of Honolulu; and Nancy Abilay, City and County of Honolulu. Hawaii State representatives were Madelaina Lai, Hawaii Office of the Auditor; Mark Eder, State of Hawaii; Craig Nakama, State of Hawaii Department of Taxation; Gloria Nakama-Ly, State of Hawaii Department of Taxation; and Amy Surratt, Department of Education. The private sector members included Dallas Weyand, KMH LLP; Sean Nakamura, Accuity LLP; and Bowha Kang, Deloitte.

## Membership Corner

Myrna Nip, 73, a long-time member of the Hawaii Chapter passed away in January 2014. She was one of six members who joined the chapter in the 1970s. (The others were Mike Ishikawa, Winnie Loo, Tom Stanton, Dennis Tshako and Clarence Kuwahara.) Myrna worked for many years as a finance administrator at the University of Hawaii and continued her membership after she retired. Myrna attended many of the local functions and national AGA conferences for many years.

Don't forget to renew your membership if you haven't already done so. Most membership renewals were due at the end of May 2014.

We'd like to congratulate any members who are graduating from college. Happy job-hunting!



### Section Leadership Meeting (continued from page 5)

Talk to your employer and work on getting the CGFM recognized by proclaiming March as CGFM month and by having extra points awarded to job applicants with the CGFM designation.

Due to regular updates, do not buy the CGFM study guides more than six months in advance of when you will be taking the examinations. Chapters may buy the study guides for their members, but be sure the participants have some sort of ownership or buy-in. Study groups should have a set structure such as covering pre-determined number of sections per week; there may be one facilitator or the participants may take turns reading the study guides. Make sure something is always in the Chapter newsletter about the CGFM, using the new CGFM logo. Consider offering an incentive or scholarship for earning the CGFM.

William David Miller, National President-Elect: Examine your objectives: Is it a job or a mission? Use your talent to make a difference. Migrate to additional roles for versatility and exposure of your talents. Assuming the Chapter Presidency should be a goal.

Everyone has talent but how is the talent used and for what? Everyone can contribute to something. Stuff happens; don't worry about making a mistake. Your experience can lead you to additional leadership roles. A good leader listens first, then acts. If you're not making a difference, you're wasting your time.

Pamela will provide additional takeaways from the SLM to the Chapter Executive Committee and Committee Chairs, covering the following topics: How to encourage members to serve on the CEC, how to gain employer support for AGA membership, recruitment, retention, recruiting students, general ideas for chapters moving forward, issues moving forward, and services to chapters and regions.

Van Daniker, the Executive Director, encouraged AGA members to take the lead in government financial management and reporting. If not AGA and its 15,000 members, then who? If not now, when? In other words, what do we want? He hoped that we want to be part of something bigger than ourselves. He reminded us that accounting is not just a job but a profession. AGA is meant to do big things with the big things coming from all of us.

If not AGA and its 15,000 members, then who?

If not now, when? In other words, what do we want?

## 2013-2014 Hawaii Chapter

### Executive Committee and Committee Chairs

President	Dallas Weyand II, KMH LLP
President-Elect	Edwin Young, C&C of Honolulu Auditor
Treasurer	Donn Nakamura, Accuity LLP
Secretary	Robert Hatanaka, CW Associates, CPAs
Immediate Past President	Ross Okumura, Air Force Audit Agency

#### Directors:

Mark Chandler	Valerie Shintaku
Milagros Handel	Mabel Yeung
Ray Kim	Kerry Yoneshige
Howard Todo	Cindy Yee
Wei Lum	Dwayne Takeno

#### Committee Chairs:

Audio Conferences	Casey Ratica
By-laws & Policies	Cindy Yee
Community Service	Michelle Gibson
Education and Conference	Board and Officers
Luncheon Programs	Dwayne Takeno / Warren Lum
Media	Pamela Young / Mark Eder
Membership	Warren Lum / Sean Nakamura
Networking/Aloha Event	Valerie Shintaku
Newsletter	Kay Murakami
Nominations	Edwin Young
Student Relations	Robert Hatanaka / Bowha Kang
Website/Social Media	Milagros Handel
Citizen Centric Report/ Student Liaison	Bowha Kang
Chapter History	Clarence Kuwahara




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