

To: East HI IPA Members

From: Melanie Arakaki, MD

RE: John A Burns School of Medicine Admissions Process

Hi All,

I was approached by Dr. Ivy Nip-Asano, the Dean of Students at JABSOM, to be a part of their Admissions Task Force Committee. The purpose of the committee is to work on streamlining the admissions process for prospective medical students and figuring out ways to find and recruit the best possible candidates. One of the items being considered is setting aside certain mass interview dates where there would be several interviewing stations, with each interviewer focusing on certain characteristics, then rotating. Sort of like speed-dating. This would be in addition to a more in-depth one-on-one interview with the Dean or school representative, followed by a campus tour with current medical students. The speed-interviewing style has apparently been successful in several mainland medical school programs, though we are looking at incorporating a more hybrid-type process.

One of the primary goals of the medical school is to get providers to the neighbor islands. Firstly, are there any suggestions or comments on how to improve the admissions process in general? Secondly, would anyone be interested in participating as an interviewer? This would entail some level of interview training, of course, and the logistics would have to be worked out. If there is any interest at all, then we can get the ball rolling.

Please email me at mel_arakaki@yahoo.com with any questions or comments. We would appreciate your feedback.

Mahalo!

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