

# Preface

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In 1973, Chief Justice William S. Richardson established Hawai‘i’s first and only law school. In doing so, he forged a path for all people of Hawai‘i to obtain a legal education without having to move away or worry about the prohibitive costs of a juris doctor degree.<sup>1</sup> Chief Justice Richardson did this with the hope that the law school’s graduates, many coming from the islands’ most marginalized communities, would develop the necessary tools to protect those without power and achieve justice for those wronged.<sup>2</sup> Today, Richardson graduates continue to seek justice in their roles as leaders in their fields across Hawai‘i – and beyond. Thus, this school year marks the 50th anniversary of not only the law school, but also the mission that Chief Justice Richardson began to achieve a more just and equitable society.

It is our great privilege to publish Volume 46’s first issue in this landmark year for our law school and community. All of the authors in Issue 1 are recent graduates and current students of the law school who have written these pieces under the guidance of our school’s most prominent thought-leaders. In line with Chief Justice Richardson’s vision for the law school, the scholarship presented in this Issue focuses on emerging legal issues of great impact to our Hawai‘i and Pacific Island communities. From indigenous self-determination and access to Native Hawaiian education, to the application of social and reparative justice principles for island peoples, each piece builds upon themes and values that best embody our school’s mission to shape future lawyers who advance justice and the rule of law.

We would like to offer our immense appreciation and gratitude to our faculty advisors, Professors Justin D. Levinson and Miyoko T. Pettit-Toledo, for their wisdom and guidance, our Law School Dean, Camille A. Nelson, for her and the law school’s continued support of the journal, and our Faculty Support Specialist Julie Suenaga for her commitment and devotion to supporting the Law Review. Lastly, we would like to thank the Volume 46 Editorial Board and Staff Writers for their invaluable time and work, and for going above and beyond to publish this Issue.

Mahalo nui for supporting the Law Review.

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\* Editors-in-Chief, University of Hawai‘i Law Review, Volume 46 (2023–2024).

<sup>1</sup> Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie, *Ka Lama Kū O Ka No‘eau: The Standing Torch of Wisdom*, 33 U. HAW. L. REV. 3, 5 (2010).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 15.