



'Ahahui o nā Kauka
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May 20, 2008

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NEW LEADERSHIP FOR HAWAIIAN PHYSICIANS

2008 Board

Nathan A.K. Wong, MD
President
William R. Ahuna, MD, MS
Vice-President
J. Kūhiō Asam, MD
Secretary
Gayland Yee, MD
Treasurer
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R. Kekuni Blaisdell, MD
Dee-Ann Carpenter, MD
Miriam Chang, MD
Wayne R. Fukino, MD
Richard Lee-Ching, MD
Michele K. Shimizu, MD
Kelli-Ann N. Voloch, MD

(Kaka'ako, Hawai'i) Dr. Nathan A.K. Wong has been elected president of the board of directors of 'Ahahui o nā Kauka, the Association of Native Hawaiian Physicians. Dr. Wong is a family physician in practice at the Waipi'o Clinic of Kaiser Permanente. He replaces outgoing president Dr. Dee-Ann Carpenter.

Dr. Wong was raised in Honolulu, a graduate of 'Iolani School and Cornell University. After serving as an artillery officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, including a tour in Viet Nam, Dr. Wong was accepted to the UH John A. Burns School of Medicine. With only three other Native Hawaiians in the class, he graduated from the first four-year class in 1975. He completed his family practice residency on O'ahu and opened up Kaiser's Mililani Clinic in 1983.

Dr. Wong has served as medical officer in the Hawai'i Army National Guard, from which he recently retired. Dr. Wong currently serves as Clinic Chief of Kaiser's Waipi'o Clinic.

Serving as physician/crewmember, Dr. Wong sailed on Hōkūle'a in 1980, 1987, 1992 & 1995, and presently serves on the board of the Polynesian Voyaging Society. "Nate" is also known to share a spirited hula rendition of *Ka Uluwehi o ke Kai*.

Administrator

Kim Ku'ulei Birnie

Dr. Wong has participated in the Kauka Hui's medical and cultural activities since its inception, serving on the board of 'Ahahui o nā Kauka since 2006.

Administrative Assistant

Geraldine J. Keleponi

Other 2008 officers are Dr. William R. Ahuna (vice-president), Dr. J. Kūhiō Asam (secretary), and Dr. Gayland Yee of Maui (treasurer). Two new members join the board in 2008: Drs. Miriam Chang of Hau'ula and Michele K. Shimizu of Kahuku.

Directors Dr. Kekuni Blaisdell and Dr. Noa Emmett Aluli are two founders of 'Ahahui o nā Kauka.

A roster of members and their specialties can be found at www.kauka.org.

'Ahahui o nā Kauka, founded in 1998, is the professional association of Native Hawaiian allopathic and osteopathic physicians. Its mission is to champion superior health and wellness for Native Hawaiians and their families.

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