Extraordinary, elite honor from Royal College of Physicians for Native Hawaiian Health's Dr. Marjorie Mau – John A. Burns School of Medicine

Extraordinary, elite honor from Royal College of Physicians for Native Hawaiian Health's Dr. Marjorie Mau



Pictured: Dr. Marjorie Mau (Biomedical Faces of Science portrait.)

By Tina Shelton, JABSOM Communications Director

Dr. Marjorie Mau has earned another extraordinary honor for her life's work in healthcare and research. Dr. Mau, director of research for the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) Department of Native Hawaiian Health at the University of Hawai'i Mānoa (UHM), is one of only 25 U.S. who are designated as "Masters" in their profession who have now been selected to be fellows in the 500 year-old Royal College of Physicians. The elite group of 25 internists includes Dr. Griffin Rodgers, Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, who visited JABSOM recently.

Dr. Mau, the first woman from Hawai'i ever ranked a "Master Physician" by the American College of Physicians (ACP), is professor and founding chair of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health. She was the first Native Hawaiian woman board-certified in both endocrinology and internal medicine. She is principal investigator of multiple grants at UHM, where she has been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for the last 25 years. In 2017, Dr. Mau was recognized by Creighton University as one of only three women to receive the alumni merit award in the long history of the institution. Dr. Mau graduated from the medical school at Creighton in 1985. She also is a proud alumna of Kalani High School on O'ahu.

Dr. Mau, far left, in London for her induction into the Royal Academy of Physicians.

Dr. Mau, far left, in London for her induction into the Royal Academy of Physicians.

Mau's enthusiasm for health disparities research, with a special emphasis on diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and obesity, along with her advocacy for engaging diverse communities in the biomedical process and mentoring the next generation of emerging investigators reflect her commitments to public health awareness. She has widely broadcast her mission, caring for patients in rural communities on Molokaʻi as well as in urban Honolulu, Oʻahu, and served as the medical officer on Hōkūle'a, the iconic traditional voyaging canoe in the Pacific. She is the inaugural holder of the Myron "Pinky" Thompson Endowed Chair for Native Hawaiian Health Research, and earned the National Kidney Foundation Medical Professional of the Year 2002 and selection as an NIH Biomedical Faces of Science (2009-2013).



Dr. Mau with son Ray Kaiapo Mala.

She also is the mother of young twins, including Ray Kaiapo Mala, with whom she is pictured above, and Mia Maka'iwa Mala (not shown).

The full inaugural class list, ACP Royal College of Physicians:
Michael S. Bronze, MD MACP
David L. Bronson, MD MACP
Michael S. Barr, MD MBA MACP
Charles S. Bryan
Edward J. Burger, Jr MD ScD MAC
Virginia U. Collier, MD MACP
Molly Cooke, MD MACP
Joseph J. Fins, MD MACP (Joe)
Rosemarie L. Fisher, MD MACP
Paul L Kimmel, MD MACP
Michael A. LaCombe, MD MACP
Kenneth M. Ludmerer, MD MACP
Marjorie K. Mau, MD MACP
Heidi D. Nelson, MD MACP
Mukta Panda, MD MACP
Gregory A. Poland, MD MACP
J. Fred Ralston, Jr MD MACP
Griffin P. Rodgers, MD MACP
Gary L. Schwartz, MD MACP
Linda S. Snell, MD MACP
Harold C. Sox, MD MACP (Hal)
Robert M. Strieter, MD MACP

Thomas G. Tape, MD MACP (Tom)
William M. Tierney, MD, MACP
John Tooker, MD MBA MACP

Related Stories:

Dr. Mau first Native Hawaiian woman to receive rank of “Master Physician” by American College of Physicians

A lot of progress, says Dr. Marjorie Mau at Women in Medicine Month event

Mau and two other scientists at JABSOM named “Biomedical Faces of Science” for mentoring others

Dr. Mau hosts NHLBI director for insights into Hawai‘i and its health disparities

Diabetes Center of Biomedical Research Excellence established at UH-JABSOM

Native Hawaiian MDs set off on Hokule‘a voyage

US Library of Medicine features “Hawaiian Voyagers,” brings display to Hawai‘i

Native Hawaiian Health Department transition: Ten years of action and growth