

Open Letter to the Members of the UH Faculty Senate
March 16, 2005

Aloha Kakou

We appreciate the serious consideration this body has given to the important issue of classified and proprietary research at the University of Hawai'i. As members of a unique island community that is intimately connected to the University of Hawai'i, we wish to take this opportunity to encourage further consideration of the implications this body's decisions will have beyond the imaginary borders of this campus.

DMZ-Hawai'i / Aloha 'Aina, a network that includes members from the general public and campus community, is gravely concerned about the implications of classified research being conducted at the University of Hawai'i and the proposed establishment of a University Affiliated Research Center (UARC) at UH. We believe that the changes sought by the administration in the classified and proprietary research policy would facilitate the establishment of the UARC at UH and further the militarization of this University.

Classified research by its very nature violates academic freedom that is an essential component to the purpose and spirit of higher learning. While proponents of classified research appear to equate classified research with "academic freedom", we maintain that classified research actually undermines that freedom. It limits the ability of professionals in the academy to intelligently scrutinize the research being done in their name, and it severely handicaps the public's right to determine what should or should not take place in their communities.

We are alarmed by revelations from the Navy that the University would be involved in weapons-related research through the UARC program. Both the UARC and classified research issue represent the consolidation and entrenchment of various elements of the military industrial complex in Hawai'i, and contribute to the bigger problem of military expansion, which we strongly oppose.

Further, we are disheartened by what could be construed as a secretive, elitist, culturally insensitive and even racist agenda by some faculty and administrators to proceed without consulting or obtaining consent from the wider community. While the UH administration may decide to exert its power and pursue classified research out of the desire for money, doing so will diminish community support for this institution.

We are also deeply troubled by the proposal before this Senate to accept classified research at an off-campus location, which would only foist the problem onto the community at-large. We strongly oppose any

classified research on or off campus, and will fight any attempt to expand classified research programs in Hawai'i.

We urge the UH Faculty Senate to endorse a policy that **prohibits all classified research at the University of Hawai'i, whether conducted on or off campus.**

Thank you for considering the community's concerns as you deliberate.

In solidarity

Kyle Kajihiro, Terri Keko'olani Raymond, Keli'i Collier, and Ikaika Hussey

For DMZ-Hawai'i / Aloha 'Aina
c/o 2426 O'ahu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822. Tel. (808) 988-6266 /
www.dmzhawaii.org

**NO
CLASSIFIED
RESEARCH
ON / OFF CAMPUS**

**STOP
UARC**