

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA**  
**2465 Campus Road, Campus Center 211A**  
**Honolulu HI 96822**

**SENATE RESOLUTION 04-23**

**Renaming UH Mānoa's Life Sciences Building after Isabella Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:**

- WHEREAS,* Isabella “Izzie” Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott was born in Hāna, Maui to Chinese and Hawaiian parents, and;
- WHEREAS,* Abbot’s pastime activities consisted of searching for limu on the Lahaina Shores with her mother, and;
- WHEREAS,* Abbott was the first woman biology professor of color at Stanford University, then became the first Native Hawaiian woman to earn her doctorates in science at 31 years old. After teaching at Stanford University for 22 years, Abbott pursued teaching botany at the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa<sup>1</sup>, and established the first ethnobotany undergraduate program.
- WHEREAS,* Heavily relying on the oral histories told by kupunas about reintroducing seaweeds and cultivating limu, Abbott spread traditional Hawaiian marine life knowledge, and
- WHEREAS,* Publishing over 150 texts in the marine biology field, Abbott also received accolades throughout her career, such as the Darbaker Prize and Lifetime Achievement Award. Abbot discovered more than 200 algae species which were named after her, including a genus of the red algae family called Abbotella (Little Abbott).<sup>2</sup>
- WHEREAS,* Despite Abbott’s passing at 91 years old in 2010, her legacy inspires younger generations to pursue the biological sciences, and;

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<sup>1</sup><https://womenshistory.si.edu/stories/marine-botanist-isabella-aiona-abbott-and-more-women-know-asian-american-and-pacific-islander>

<sup>2</sup><https://maui.hawaii.edu/hooulu/2019/03/14/a-celebration-of-womens-history-and-dr-isabella-aiona-abbott/>

*BE IT RESOLVED,*

The School of Life Sciences is an integral part of the College of Natural Sciences, preparing students for various careers in medicine, research, conservation, and technology, and;

*BE IT RESOLVED,*

Currently, 5 out of 125 buildings are named after Native Hawaiians meanwhile two are named after Native Hawaiian women.

*BE IT RESOLVED,*

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa should stand more committed to being a Native Hawaiian Place of Learning by reflecting its spaces to honor Native Hawaiian scholars and figures.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,*

ASUH stands firm that the University needs to do more to serve the Native Hawaiian community, especially women from underrepresented demographics. ASUH firmly believes in renaming the Life Sciences Building to honor Isabella "Izzie" Kauakea Yau Yung Aiona Abbott.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,* that copies of this resolution shall be sent to:

the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents Chair Randolph Moore and Members, President David Lassner, Provost Michael Bruno, Vice Provost for Students Success Lori Ideta, the Graduate Student Organization, Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Excellence, Campus Climate Committee, Kualii Council, Mānoa Faculty Senate, School of Life Sciences Interim Dean Alison Sherwood, Honolulu Civil Beat, Commission on the Status of Women, Botanical Society of America Executive Director Heather Cacanindin, Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, Stanford University's Associate Vice President for Community Engagement Megan Swezey Fogarty, Hawai'i Public Radio Community Advisory Board chair Kelsie Aguilera, and Ka Leo O Hawai'i.

INTRODUCERS: Hayden Kasal-Barsky, Vice President, and Kyle Martin, Vice-Chairperson, Committee of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, Senator, Shidler College of Business

⅔ MAJORITY ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE SENATE BILL 03-23: RENAMING UH MĀNOA'S LIFE SCIENCES BUILDING AFTER ISABELLA KAUAKEA YAU YUNG AIONA ABBOTT Aye(s): Vice President Kasal-Barsky, Secretary Cha, SAL Chen, Senator Genova, Senator Goo, SAL Dizon, SAL Hermoso, Senator Kang, Senator Kim, Senator Crowell, Senator Kirwan, Senator Stewart, Senator Lum, Senator Martin, Senator McCarten Senator Sambrano, Senator Tran, Senator Yee [17] Naye(s): [0] Abstention(s): [0]

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE 110TH SENATE ON THE 29th of NOVEMBER 2022