



Chapter Malama O Pa!



Take Care Lest You be Hurt!



ASSE Chapter Recognition
2009-2010

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Chocolate lover's 3
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more employees in
good moods!



Volume 2, Issue 9

Science Fair Special

SCIENCE FAIR 2011

At the Hawai'i Convention Center March 28-30, 2011

Keynote Speech by Hank Wuh, M.D.

By Les Onaka

Invent. Disrupt. Inspire. Hank Wuh, M.D., presented these three words to the students at the Hawai'i Academy of Science's 54th Hawai'i State Science & Engineering Fair. Dr. Wuh, founder and CEO of Cellular Bioengineering, Inc., a multi-divisional biotechnology company based in Hawai'i had many other inspiring words for us. His SKAI Ventures division in Moiliili currently has a project to develop artificial corneas to fill the world's need (10 million people need corneal transplants to see but living will donors currently only provide about 100,000 per year).

Dr. Wuh related an interesting story of his initial arrival as a 10-year old in Hawai'i and starting school in Niu Valley without knowing a word of English. He told of struggling to open his combination lock in P.E. He overcame that by getting a lock with a key then moved on to greater challenges at Iolani School, Johns Hopkins University (B.A. in Human Biology), Harvard University (Masters in Public Health), back to

Johns Hopkins (M.D.) and the University of Hawai'i (internship for surgical residency).

Dr. Wuh then went to Stanford University where he became a Resident, then Chief Resident of Orthopedic Surgery.

See Dr. Hank Wuh (Continued on page 4)



Dr. Hank Wuh, surgeon, researcher and businessman addresses the audience at the 54th Annual Hawai'i State Science and Engineering Fair.

A note from the Editor...

For the second straight year, **John Ramos** could not make it to the Science Fair judging and asked me to fill-

in. This year I actually sat in the audience to listen to the opening ceremony.

See Editor (Continued on page 4)

Open Division Winner: Kelsy Palsgrove
Project—Noise Pollution: the Invisible Danger
Advisor: Mr. Jacob Hudson
By Les Onaka

A Sophomore at St. Andrew's Priory, Kelsy impressed me with her knowledge of OSHA noise action levels and her knowledge of noise-induced hearing loss. She used a noise level meter to take high and low readings at 11 different locations, each for three different 10-minute segments.

She concluded that three locations should be considered dangerous: football games, recycling center and driving in traffic with the window open. While her readings were not eight-hour time-weighted averages, she realized that one of the shortcomings of her study was the noise detection duration.

Kelsy also had a lot of information of the effects of noise pollution, including added stress in our lives and the distraction effects that result in loss of focus on what we are doing.



Kelsy Palsgrove, Open Division winner of the \$50 ASSE Hawai'i Chapter prize standing in front of her display

Senior Research Division Winner: Jessica Mina
Project—How Much Biocide would a Person Consume by Eating An Apple A Day?
Advisor: Marites Barangan
By Les Onaka

I eat an apple a day so Jessica's research project naturally caught my eye. A senior at James Campbell High School, her project budget could not support actually biocide assays and so Jessica painstakingly sampled three parts of eight different kinds of apples, stained the specimens and used a microscope to look for non-endogenous (foreign) residues.

Her research involved finding out on the average how much biocide was sprayed onto each tree and the average number of apples per tree to estimate biocide applied. Much to my dismay, my favorite apple (Fuji) turned out to have the most. Jessica kindly assured me that my daily exposure was still below the toxic level.



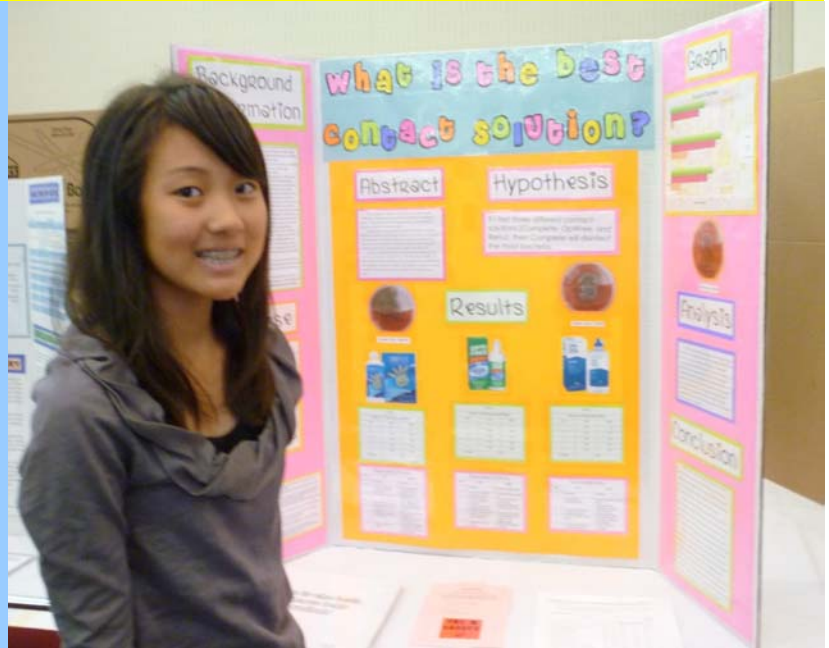
Jessica Mina winner of the Senior Research Division Prize

Junior Research Division Winner: Tarin T. Tanji
Project: What is the Best Contact Lens Solution?
Advisor: Mr. Todd Jinbo
 By Les Onaka

Deciding on the right contact lens solution can be a daunting endeavor because there are so many to choose from. An 8th grader at Mid-Pacific Institute, Tarin Tanji tried to determine which of three common contact lens solutions was the most effective at killing bacteria. Using a standardized hand-washing, lens-cleaning and lens-soaking protocol, she cultured each lens surface and did bacterial colony counts on each after cleaning and soaking.

Tarin realized that not all bacteria that grew out would be considered normal pathogens to the human body and that a better (more expensive) study would be to determine what species of bacteria actually grew.

She found that Complete® did a better job of killing bacteria than the other two brands she tried.



Tarin Tanji, winner of our Junior Research Division prize

Junior Display Winner: Emily C. Moss
Topic: Do Foods Affect Your Mood?
Advisor: Mr. John Kedrowski
 By Les Onaka

A typical busy 8th grader attending Island Pacific Academy, Emily Moss realized that the hectic balance of academics, sports and social life may have been impacting her moods. She decided that perhaps what foods she ate may have been contributing to how she felt as well so started her research project that she made into her display.

Junior display participants do not actually conduct experiments but do extensive research and put them together into a display of their findings. Much to my delight, chocolate, especially dark with high cocoa content, are an excellent food to put us in the right mood. Emily found that quite often what people used as "comfort foods" may actually contribute to moodiness.



Emily Moss, winner of our Junior Display prize

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Mahalo to Those who Helped

Many thanks to the following students (grade, school) who kindly spent time telling me about their projects: Alyssa Fukunaga (10, Mililani High School), Donna May Ibera (12, Waipahu High School), Lisa Yu (11, McKinley High School), Lindsey Lee (7, St. John Vianney School), Andrea Chen (6, St Andrew's Priory), Rhea Erice, Ivette Najar and Paul Rose Abarcar (8, Wahiawa Middle School), Mia Nako (8, Hilo Intermediate) and Kelvin Rasmussen (6, Our Lady of Perpetual Help).

Editor (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

After Bruce Anderson (President of the Hawai'i Academy of Sciences) and Governor Neil Abercrombie spoke, Dr. Hank Wuh delivered the Keynote Address. While his words were directed more to the 650 student participants (largest turnout in the history of the Fair), they prompted me into thinking that as safety professionals, we do a lot of inventing on our jobs.

Many of us need to come up with creative ways and ideas to get the safety message across to our employees. While we may start with the regulations and safety theories, each of our jobsites represents a unique challenge and often with a cast of varying employees. We need to think (invent) on our feet and try (experiment) ideas that we feel would work in each situation.

Dr. Hank Wuh (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

He worked as a surgeon by day and inventor by night and developed a passion for research for the betterment of medicine for mankind. Twice he won the Vernon P. Thompson Prize for outstanding research in orthopedic surgery. He began his first business venture and since then has started numerous others including SKAI and CDI Polymers that develops polymers to clean up the environment. That very week, CDI had plans to ship donated supplies and technicians to Japan to help clean up the mess created by the catastrophic earthquake and ensuing tsunami.

"You have an opportunity to invent the future" Dr. Wuh told the students. Inspiring words from a man who has already done so. Walking around and looking at the various projects after the opening ceremony, I got the comforting feeling that many of the students were well on the way to do that.

54TH HAWAII STATE SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR

MARCH 28-30, 2011 HAWAII CONVENTION CENTER 1801 KALAKAUA AVENUE