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Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2010 1:47 PM

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 CITY CLERK
 HONOLULU, HAWAII

Subject: Council Meeting Testimony

Aloha Council Members,

As a former graduate of the Kapiolani Community College culinary arts program who has worked my way up through the rank and file to become an executive chef, F&B director, general manager of hotels, culinary educator as well as being a restaurant owner, I know first-hand what challenges it took to gain all the knowledge and experience to get here. I was fortunate to gain basic culinary skills at the two-year culinary program but had to take a round about education experience and pure hard work to get the knowledge and experience on the job.

I feel that the advance Culinary Institute of the Pacific facility at Diamond Head will help future culinary students as well as professional in the industry with the right education program to help more succeed. It is vital that we provide the necessary tools in education for our community to be able to benchmark with the best around the world to insure they are confident in managerial position.

With Hawaii having its own Hawaiian regional cuisine that has position Hawaii as a food destination like major mainland cities, it is important that we perpetuate and educate our students and professionals to insure we are at the top of our game for the future of Hawaii' economy. It is also important to provide the right education platform for students and professionals to remain in Hawaii for Hawaii's future economic development.

Currently as director of the Culinary Institute of the Pacific, I am aware that out of all the graduates from the six culinary program through the UHCC campuses, only two graduating students on the average can financially afford to go to the mainland to gain their bachelor degree. I strongly feel that the advance Culinary Institute of the Pacific at Diamond Head will definitely provide far more majority of graduates the opportunity to gain their advance certificates and bachelor degree.

I urge you to support Resolution 10-144, *Granting a Special Management Area use Permit for the Kapi'olani Community College Culinary Institute of the Pacific (Applicant: Kapi'olani Community College, University of Hawai'i)*

Thank you,

Conrad Nonaka
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 Culinary Institute of the Pacific
 University of Hawaii - Community Colleges
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MISC. COM. 1180

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