



For Immediate Release

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VISIONARY FORMER MEDICAL SCHOOL DEAN EDWIN C. CADMAN DIES AT AGE 70

Donations in his honor may be made to the Edwin C. Cadman Fund for the Study of Neurodegenerative Disorders

Dr. Edwin C. Cadman, former dean of UH Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM), died at 0545 Wednesday morning, September 23, at the age of 70, surrounded by his family in Corvallis, Oregon. Many people across Hawai'i will join the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) in mourning his loss.



Dr. Cadman arrived at Hawai'i's medical school at a critical time in 1999, leaving his post as Chief of Staff and Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs at Yale New Haven Hospital for a much bigger challenge.

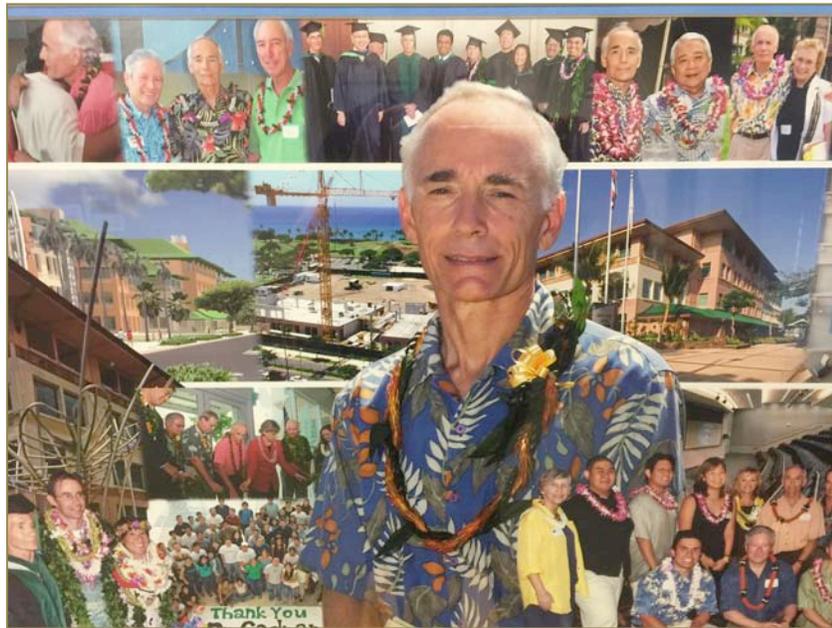
Dean Cadman inspired faculty and students "to be the best medical school in the world with an Asia-Pacific focus," and led JABSOM's physical and academic renaissance. "We must really believe that we

can become great," said Cadman. To be great, Cadman knew the medical school need its own campus and a robust research program.

Dr. Cadman allied with then-Governor Ben Cayetano, who suggested a state parcel in Kaka'ako for the new campus. "I took Dr. Cadman up to the tenth floor of the Gold Bond Building," Cayetano says. "That's where the Hawai'i Community Development Corporation was. And I took him to the window, and I pointed down to the space toward the beach in Kaka'ako, and I said 'Doc' – that's what I called him – 'Doc, that's where your new medical school will be! He was overjoyed.'"

In return for the promise of a new medical school, Gov. Cayetano says he asked just one simple favor of Dr. Cadman. I said, ‘We build the school for you, you can’t leave!’” Cayetano recalls. “He promised me he wouldn’t leave – and he said, ‘Governor, this will be my life’s last work.’”

It was Dr. Cadman’s last work.



In 2005, Dr. Cadman stepped down as dean after learning that he suffered from Primary Progressive Aphasia (PPA), a rare degenerative condition that robs those it strikes of the ability to articulate thoughts in speech or writing. There is no cure for PPA. Dr. Cadman retired on October 31, 2009. On October 29, 2009, JABSOM faculty, students, staff and Hawai‘i business and political leaders gathered in a ceremony at the Kaka‘ako campus to honor him.

"As the driving force behind the creation of the new facilities in Kaka‘ako, Dean Cadman envisioned a school that in only five years under his leadership would experience unprecedented growth in biomedical research," said Dr. Jerris Hedges, who succeeded Dr. Cadman as Dean of JABSOM. "I was honored to follow his lead and to build on the contributions to the medical school that were made by him and others who came before him."

Dr. Cadman’s legacy at JABSOM is a research enterprise that brought \$58 million in external funds to the State of Hawai‘i in the past fiscal year, and this past March (2015) was recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as the 19th best medical school in the country for its primary care training.

The John A. Burns School of Medicine and its Graduate Medical Education (MD Residency) programs have trained more than 4,000 since the school was founded in 1965. Nearly 50% of the MDs currently treating patients in the State of Hawai'i are JABSOM alumni or faculty. This past July, the school celebrated its golden anniversary with a 50th Anniversary Scholarship Fundraising Gala, which raised some \$985,000 for scholarships for future medical students.

The Cadman family requests that those who want to make a donation in Dr. Cadman's honor do so by contributing to the University of Hawai'i Foundation's [Dr. Edwin C. Cadman Endowed Fund for the study of Neurodegenerative Disorders](#)

No plans have been announced for memorial services for Dr. Cadman.

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