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Top Skills

Purchase Management
Financial Aid Administration
Operations Management

Joy Kono

State Executive Director, USDA Farm Service Agency
Honolulu, Hawaii, United States

Summary

- October 2015 Sr. Director of Education Support Services & Administration Group Operations.
- July 2014 named Kamehameha's Interim Vice President for Administration Group through April 2015. Responsibility included over 200 staff in Admissions, Financial Aid, Data Center, Distance Learning and Information Technology.
- 2002 joined Kamehameha Schools as the organization's Purchasing Manager. She is credited with reorganizing the group to provide required governance in procurement practices.
- 2005 with new processes in place in the Purchasing Department, moved to the Financial Aid & Scholarships Division, where processes and standards were re-engineered and documented. The department was able to support growth in new programs, such as revitalized post-high scholarships, preschool scholarships and K-12 non-KS scholarships.

Born and raised on a family farm on the island of Kaua'i, Kono's background was dominated by ranching and farming, which is reflected in much of her work ethic and ability to get the work done.

Career and experience span from years of 4-H and Future Farmers of America to working on a feedlot and piggery on Maui, work at Intel Corporation in Sunnyvale, California, Gilroy Foods in Gilroy, California, and eventually, BEI Hawaii, a C.Brewer Company. At BEI Hawaii, held various positions over a 14-year period, such as marketing analyst, sales associate, branch manager, sales and marketing vice president and purchasing director.

Dedicated to organizations such as the Hawaii Farm Bureau and Agriculture Leadership Foundation where various leadership

positions were held over time. A former Pacific Century Fellow and an active super donor with the Blood Bank of Hawaii.

A Kaua'i High School graduate who pursued a bachelor's degree from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in agriculture economics. At Santa Clara University, earned a master's in business administration, agribusiness.

Experience

Department of Agriculture

Hawaii State Executive Director, USDA Farm Service Agency

June 2022 - Present (1 year 2 months)

United States

Kamehameha Schools

20 years

Senior Director of Education Support Services & Administration Group
Operations

October 2015 - June 2022 (6 years 9 months)

Honolulu, HI

Interim Vice President of Administration

2014 - June 2022 (8 years)

Responsible for management and strategic oversight of the following areas: Education Support Services-Admissions, Financial Aid and Data Center, Information Technology, KS Resource Center and Distance Learning. Provide alignment and change management leadership to groups as the organization shifts to fulfill its new strategic goals. Create a foundation for high performing divisions led by accountable and strategic leaders in the units noted. Provide direction for operational controls by raising process efficiency challenges to leaders.

Director of Financial Aid and Scholarship Services

2005 - 2014 (9 years)

Manage programs that award financial aid of \$46 million to over 8,000 campus students and scholarship recipients each year. Responsible for processing within compliance procedures established for financial aid and scholarships to uphold the highest standards. Ensure fair, consistent and timely processing. Manage change management to ensure the department implements programs

within policy and in-line with the educational strategic plan. Responsible for 23 regular staff and up to 16 temporary staff for seasonal processing.

Purchasing Manager

2002 - 2005 (3 years)

Responsible for purchases of \$50 million in goods and services for 39 preschool sites and three K-12 campuses. Responsible for purchasing within compliance with policy and procedures established for purchasing to uphold the highest standards. Reviewed and updated policy and procedures annually, interacted with KS wide divisions to communicate policy and procedures. Developed processes that align with policy, monitored and adjusted for quality assurance annually. Negotiated multi-year and large service contracts for copiers, consultants, advertising, etc. Managed change management and restructured the department in 2002 to focus team buying based on products and compliance. Processed 20,000 purchase requisitions and purchase orders annually.

Education

Santa Clara University

Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Bachelor's Degree