



- Local News
Obituaries
Weather
Traffic Hotspots
Town Hall
Hali'a Hawaii
Military News
Discussion Boards
Live Chats

Printable version | E-mail this story

Posted on: Friday, July 27, 2001

UH delays decision on site for new medical school

By John Duchemin
Advertiser Staff Writer

New University of Hawaii President Evan Dobbelle intends to scrutinize the university's plan to build a medical school campus in Kaka'ako, and a top UH official indicates they may consider other sites.

Dr. Edwin Cadman, dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine, said Dobbelle wants to make sure the proposed \$140 million center is in the right spot — and that Kaka'ako has enough space.

The new campus would not only replace the existing medical school in Manoa, but supplement it with a research center designed to attract life science companies to set up shop nearby.

The proposed campus near Kewalo Basin is considered crucial to Kaka'ako planners, who have made it the main element in a sweeping waterfront redevelopment project.

A university spokeswoman confirmed yesterday that Dobbelle intends to review the plan.

Cadman said Dobbelle is not certain that Kaka'ako can house both the medical campus and companies that would want to cluster nearby. Cadman said the area has "sufficient space, but it is limited."

"(Dobbelle) has no feeling about the site, because he hasn't been down there yet, but what he wants to do is make certain that if Kaka'ako's the site, everyone's behind it," Cadman said. "If not, then he wants to decide where should the campus be if not there."

Dobbelle, who was in California this week, said the university needs to build its medical center on a site "that provides maximum benefit to all our citizens."

"We must reach closure on the site of a new medical school with a biotechnology park with strong and urban planning," Dobbelle said in a faxed response to The Advertiser. "We must ensure that not only can we afford to build it, but that we can financially sustain it."

The statement mirrored Dobbelle's comments in a speech this month to the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii.

Dobbelle declined further comment, except to say he was excited about the potential of the medical school.

The statements are in contrast to the earlier enthusiasm of UH officials led by Cadman, who helped convince the Legislature this year to put \$13 million toward planning and design of the Kaka'ako campus.

The medical school has been in its Manoa building since the 1970s. Cadman said new facilities are needed to attract quality faculty and increase medical research at UH.

Construction is to begin next year, provided the university can raise between \$50 million and



\$75 million in private donations to supplement state bond financing. Cadman said the project has attracted interest from many potential backers, but no commitments yet.

A university decision to back out of Kaka'ako would deal a blow to the Hawai'i Community Development Authority's long-running effort to attract businesses, residents and visitors to the area.

Despite years of effort, the state authority has seen many of its development plans for Kaka'ako fall through.

Most recently, technology company Adtech Inc. pulled out of negotiations to lease state land and build a headquarters next to the proposed medical campus.

Jan Yokota, the authority's executive director, said she thought Dobelle's comments could indicate a shift in the university's thoughts toward Kaka'ako.

But Yokota said that planning for the medical campus still is moving forward, and that the authority will continue to prepare the land, moving tenants off the property and upgrading the infrastructure.

"We have not been told that the medical school will not be on this site," she said.

She noted that the university selected Kaka'ako after an extensive site survey last year. She said Kamehameha Schools, owner of a nearby tract of land, has expressed willingness to develop up to 11 acres for use as lab space, so the university should have adequate land.

[▲ Top](#)

MINI SITE MAP

LOCAL NEWS : [Obituaries](#) | [Weather](#) | [Traffic Hotspots](#) | [Town Hall](#) | [Hali'a Hawai'i](#) | [Military News](#) | [Discussion Boards](#) | [Live Chat](#) | [Columnists](#)
SPORTS : [Surf Report](#) | [UH Sports](#) | [High School Sports](#) | [Recreation](#) | [Sports Calendar](#) | [On the Air](#) | [Golf Report](#) | [National Sports](#)
ISLAND LIFE : [Ohana](#) | [Taste/Recipes](#) | [Book Review](#) | [Faith Calendar](#) | [Hawai'i Ways](#) | [Comics](#) | [TGIF Calendar](#) | [Tube Notes](#)
ENTERTAINMENT : [TGIF Calendar](#) | [Movie Showtimes](#) | [Restaurants](#) | [Visitors](#) | [National Arts & Leisure](#)
BUSINESS : [Hawai'i Stocks](#) | [Hawai'i Mutual Funds](#) | [Island Bank Rates](#) | [Stock Quotes](#) | [Moneywire](#) | [Coming Events](#) | [Tradewinds](#)
TECHNOLOGY : [Click!](#) | [Hawai'i Tech](#) | [Didgets](#) | [Bytemarks](#) | [National Tech News](#)
OPINION : [Letters to the Editor](#) | [Dick Adair's Cartoons](#) | [Submit a Letter](#) | [Submit a Commentary](#)
HELP PAGE : [Contact Us](#) | [Back Issues](#) | [How to Subscribe](#) | [How to Advertise](#) | [Frequently Asked Questions](#) | [About Us](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Corrections](#)
CLASSIFIEDS : [Classified Ads](#) | [Cars](#) | [Homes](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Marketplace](#) | [Business Directory](#) | [Restaurant Guide](#) | [Kama'aina Koupons](#) | [Place an ad](#) | [Contact Advertising](#)

© COPYRIGHT 2001 The Honolulu Advertiser, a division of [Gannett Co.](#) Inc.
Use of this site indicates your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) (updated 08/02/01)

IF YOU SEE THE LIST OF SECTIONS BELOW, IT IS BECAUSE YOU ARE USING AN OLD BROWSER.
PLEASE UPGRADE YOUR BROWSER TO ACTIVATE SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS TO YOUR NEWS-READING EXPERIENCE.

[Obituaries](#)
[Weather](#)
[Traffic Hotspots](#)
[Town Hall](#)
[SAT Scores](#)
[Hali'a Hawai'i](#)
[Military News](#)
[Discussion Boards](#)
[Live Chat](#)

[Surf Report](#)
[UH Sports](#)
[High School Sports](#)
[Recreation](#)
[Sports Calendar](#)
[On the Air](#)
[Golf Report](#)
[AP Sports](#)

['Ohana](#)
[Taste/Recipes](#)
[Book Review](#)
[Faith Calendar](#)
[Hawai'i Ways](#)
[Comics](#)
[TGIF Calendar](#)
[Tube Notes](#)

[TGIF Calendar](#)
[Movie Showtimes](#)
[Restaurants](#)
[Visitors](#)
[AP Arts & Leisure](#)

[Hawai'i Stocks](#)
[Hawai'i Mutual Funds](#)
[Island Bank Rates](#)
[Stock Quotes](#)
[National Business](#)
[Coming Events](#)
[Tradewinds](#)

[Click!](#)
[Hawai'i Tech](#)
[Didgets](#)
[Bytemarks](#)
[AP Tech News](#)

[Letters to the Editor](#)
[Dick Adair's cartoons](#)
[Submit a Letter](#)
[Submit a Commentary](#)

[Contact Us](#)
[How to Subscribe](#)
[How to Advertise](#)
[About Us](#)
[Site Map](#)
[Terms of Service](#)
[Corrections](#)