

NEWSLETTER



C-MĀIKI Logo Competition



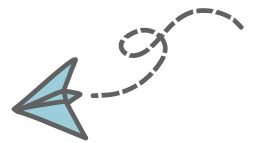
Logo Criteria:

- Includes the word "C-MĀIKI" and optionally "Center for Microbiome Analysis through Island Knowledge and Investigation"
- Must include a microbial theme that is consistent with the center's mission (click to see our mission)
- Simple, graphic design that is readable in various formats (e.g., as a letterhead or on merch – multiple forms may be submitted)
- Limited color scheme with minimal gradients for printability
- Provided in high resolution
- Optional: submit a banner to go along with your logo

Any UH-affiliated student, staff, postdoc, or faculty may enter!

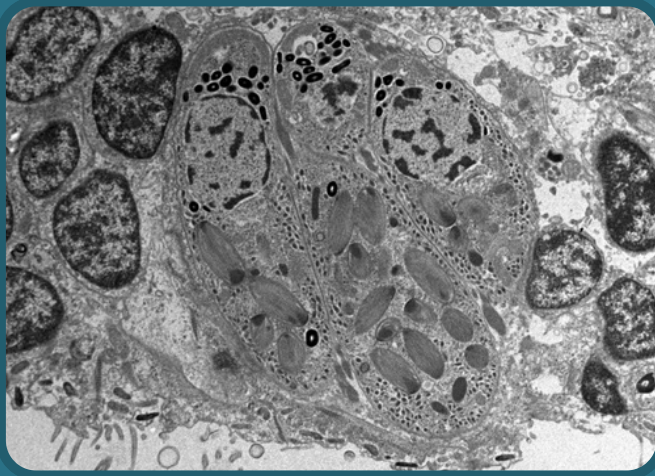
Prize: \$150 and a newsletter spotlight

Email your submissions to cmaiki@hawaii.edu by Nov 14, 2025



Upcoming M4 Seminars for October

Oct 8	Makena Coffman <i>Director</i> <i>ISR</i>	Challenges and Opportunities of Sea Level Rise Response for Hawai'i
Oct 15	Daisuke Takagi <i>Associate Professor,</i> <i>PBRC/Math</i>	Directed Dispersal of Motile Bacteria in Confined Environments
Oct 22	Jiho Yang <i>Postdoc</i> <i>PBRC</i>	Culture-Dependent and -Independent Characterization of Lichen Mycobiome Diversity
Oct 29	Hans Wu Singh <i>Postdoc</i> <i>PBRC</i>	A Global Analysis of <i>Legionella</i> Distribution and Diversity Across Soils



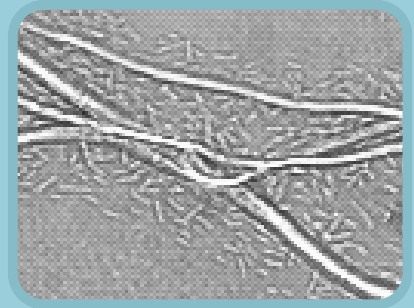
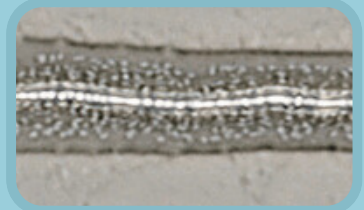
\$1.07M NSF Grant Awarded for the Microscope Imaging Core

Congratulations to Alex Culley on being awarded a \$1.07M NSF grant to purchase a new TEM (Transmission Electron Microscope) for the [MICRO/BEMF lab](#)! This new, state-of-the-art TEM will further enhance the core's research and training abilities.

How do Bacteria Travel on Fungal Freeways?

Daisuke Takagi and Nhu Nguyen have been featured in the UH News for their study on bacterial dispersal and nutrient transport along fungal highways! They received a 3-year NIH/NSF grant to explore these microbial interactions, which combine mathematic modeling with biological research.

> [Click here to read the UH News article](#)



Reefs, Rainforests, and Resistance: C-MĀIKI's Microbial Mission

UH Foundation has released a new article featuring C-MĀIKI's mission and the research of four of our faculty members!



Matthew Medeiros
Infectious disease control
with sterile mosquitoes



Craig Nelson
Coral reef resilience
on Maui



Joanne Yew & Nicole Hynson
Biodiversity conservation
with indigenous pomace flies

> [Click here to read the full article and Q&A Interviews](#)

Microbiome Centers Consortium (MCC) News



STREAMS

The STREAMS community is seeking participants for a new effort to advance microbiome reporting guidelines. They are asking contributors to provide curated benchmark data crowdsourced from the research community.

> [Click here to get more information](#)

Careers in Conversation: From Grad School & Beyond

October 10, 2025 @ 3 PM ET (9 AM HST)

A panel discussion on exploring career pathways focused on microbiome science in academia, industry, and beyond hosted by the MCC Early Career Working Group. Open to students, postdocs, and early-career researchers.

> [Click here to get more information](#)

Postdoctoral Research Position – Jani Lab (PBRC)

The Jani lab at the Pacific Biosciences Research Center of the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa, will be recruiting a postdoctoral researcher to work on a project that aims to understand the stability and function of animal-associated microbiota when faced with perturbations.

The project leverages both laboratory *Drosophila melanogaster* and wild Hawaiian *Drosophila* species to understand interactions between the microbiome and pathogens in the context of environmental stressors.

The successful candidate will design and execute laboratory studies on the microbiota of *Drosophila*; conduct bioinformatics and data analyses; expand the field aspect of the project. There are opportunities to expand the research based on the incumbent's specific research interests as they align with the overall project objectives.



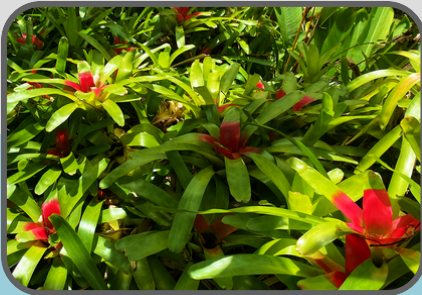
> [Click here to view the job listing and apply](#)
or email jania@hawaii.edu for questions



Do you have anything you'd like to include in next month's newsletter?
Send your submissions to cmaiki@hawaii.edu.



Musings with C-MĀIKI Members



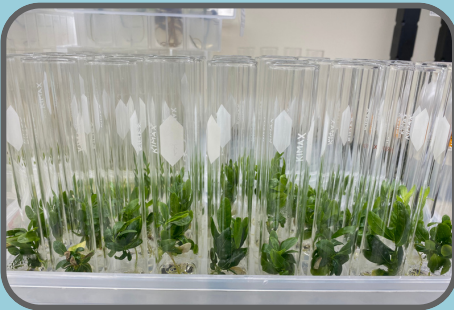
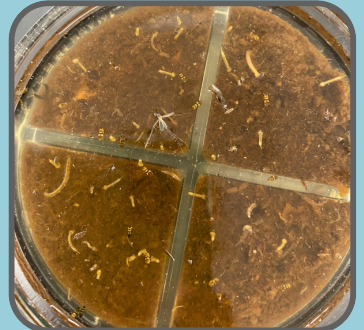
Allie Jasmine Hall

*Botany PhD Candidate
Hynson Lab*



Can you provide a short research summary?

My research explores how fungal ecology drives interactions within broader microbial communities and ecosystems. Currently I'm investigating the distribution of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi associated with endangered Hawaiian Gardenia (Nanu) across the Hawaiian archipelago, and their contributions to host fitness. In parallel, I use bromeliads as natural microcosms to study the spatial variation in the function and composition of fungal-bacterial communities, and their cascading effects on trophic dynamics.



What impact do you hope your research will bring?

I hope my research highlights the vital roles fungi and other microbes play in ecosystem dynamics, providing insights to guide conservation and restoration of native habitats and threatened species.



What's your favorite or least favorite microbe?

Currently, my favorite microbes are mycorrhizal fungi that form symbiotic relationships with plants.

