

Dear AISES Board of Directors Nomination Committee,

I am writing in strong support of Hokulani Sharp's nomination to the AISES Board of Directors. As an AISES member for 10 years, a non-profit director, and Assistant Professor at UCLA, I can attest that Hokulani has the experience, skills, and aura that would make her a strong member on the AISES board of directors. I have known Hokulani Sharp for over 2 years, since first meeting at the AISES Leadership Summit in Tulsa, Oklahoma. At the Leadership Summit, I found her advocating and spreading the word about local Native Hawaiian organizations (including one that I work with - Honua Scholars, a Native Hawaiian STEM-mentorship program) focusing on making lasting change in Hawaii's social ecosystem. Although she was thousands of miles from our home in Hawaii, she still spread the Aloha spirit while advocating and rallying support for our local movements back at home.

Her determination to advocate for others and make new connections to the kanaka maoli back at home is what makes her well suited to be on the AISES board of directors. Hokulani has a unique blend of skills that will be invaluable to AISES, especially in the coming years with significant funding cuts and challenges. Hokulani has experience both in the public and private sector, making her well-suited to advocate for AISES and lead our organization through a position of strength. Hokulani has had extensive experience, being a part of multiple AISES programs, while also having extremely valuable experience at Amazon and Sourcewell. Notably, Hokulani has also contributed to AISES, serving on the Corporate Advisory Council, her local professional chapter, and on scholarship review panels.

Hokulani has a vision well-suited for AISES especially at this time. As a member of the Pasifika community, I believe that Hokulani is uniquely positioned to help grow AISES into the Pacific which can open a wealth of opportunities for collaboration. Having Hokulani on the AISES board would be a very strong strategic step towards guiding our future, opening up a wealth of possibilities from the public sector, private sector, and beyond the continent.

I firmly believe that Hokulani will help AISES grow, even in difficult times as many grants are being cut. I enthusiastically endorse Hokulani for a position on our AISES board of directors, and I look forward to her many strong contributions in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kyle Yoshida', written in a cursive style.

Kyle Yoshida  
Assistant Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering  
University of California at Los Angeles