

## Upcoming Back-to-Back TIM & TIMI Events!

We would like to invite all TIM Alumni & Friends to join us for this great two day event happening at the end of October: Ambassador Bill Lane Lecture on Sustainable Tourism and Celebrate a Legacy in Tourism.



The Lane Lecture will be held on Wednesday, October 28, 2009 at the TIM School, George Hall 227 from 4:15 pm to 6 pm. The topic of discussion is titled "Economic Sustainability for Hawaii Tourism: Asian Perspectives". What makes it even more amazing is that a few of our very own TIM alumni will be the guest speakers at this event, giving lectures/presentations on economic sustainability from their country. We have Alex Kong, Founder of Asiatravelmarket.com (Hong Kong), Aliana Ho, VP Sales and Travel Trade Marketing of Hong Kong Disneyland, Clyde Min, VP Asset Management for Pacifica Partners in Singapore, and Tsuyoshi Sakata, President for TSC Consulting Corporation in Japan. It'll be a great lecture and lots of discussion to follow. To make it an even better event TIMI has decided to hold an Alumni Mixer at the Zenshu Restaurant (the old Harpo's Pizza Place across of Rainbows Drive Inn) on Kapahulu Ave; owned by TIM alum and TIMI BOD, Wilson Chan. It'll be a great night of fun and laughter.

CELEBRATE  
a LEGACY  
in TOURISM

Thursday, October 29, 2009  
at the **Hawai'i Convention Center**

The second event is the TIM School's 10th annual Celebrate a Legacy in Tourism luncheon, held at the Hawaii Convention Center, 4th Fl Ballroom B from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm. This year, the TIM School and TIMI has once again partnered with the Hawaii Hospitality Hall of Fame to honor individuals who have made major contributions to Hawaii's tourism industry. The HHHF organization has chosen to honor six more pioneers: Alfred Apaka, Legendary Hawaiian Baritone, Hawaiian Village Hotel, Fred Dailey, Hotelier and Sportsman, Waikikian Hotel/Mokuleia Polo Club, Stanley Kennedy Jr., Airline Executive, Hawaiian Airlines/Continental Airlines, Richard Kimball, Halekulani Manager, Halekulani Hotel, Rudy Tongg, Hawaii Airline Founder and Entrepreneur, Aloha Airlines/Tongg Publishing Co., and Annalie Tatibouet, Pioneering Hotel Developer, Royal Grove Hotel.

Along with these honorees, TIMI will also be honoring two of their very own, Audrey Higuchi, Media Representative/TIMI Executive Board of Director and Alan Ong, Senior VP Operations and Projects for The Hotel Equatorial in Kuala Lumpur. These two have been chosen because of they have excelled in a tourism career and have also supported the success of the TIM School and the community. It will be a great two days of events so we hope to see you there!

For more information on the Lane lecture visit [www.tim.hawaii.edu](http://www.tim.hawaii.edu). If you would like to attend the alumni mixer at Zenshu please email Tia Ikeno at [tikeno@hawaii.edu](mailto:tikeno@hawaii.edu) to RSVP. If you would like to attend the Legacy event [click here for the RSVP form](#) or [click here for more details](#).

## Joe Pluta Receives SBCA's 2009 Best of Business Award



The Small Business Commerce Association (SBCA) announced on August 19, 2009 that Joseph D. Pluta ('74 TIM Grad) has been selected for the 2009 Best of Business Award in the Real Estate category.

The SBCA 2009 Award Program recognizes the top 5% of small businesses throughout the country. Using consumer feedback, the SBCA identifies companies that we believe have demonstrated what makes small businesses a vital part of the American economy. The selection committee chooses the award winners from nominees based off information taken from monthly surveys administered by the SBCA, a review of consumer rankings, and other consumer reports. Award winners are a valuable asset to their community and exemplify what makes small businesses great.

Joe has been in real estate and the travel industry for over 30 years working from the ground up. Straight out of college Joe started the "first dedicated condominium in the State of Hawaii" in Waikiki. Moved to Maui in 1979 to manage the Papakea Beach Resort later purchased the managemenet contracts and formed Resorts Pacifica Inc. In 1991, he opened Pluta & Associates Inc d.b.a. Maui Destination Marketing to focus on diversification and starting the posturing of a structure to expand his business beyond Papakea where he has maintained real estate and vacation rental clients for the past 20 years. He has been various community boards like Maui Hotel Association (Past President), Maui Visitors Bureau (past secretary an executive board member), etc. Congratulations Joe on such a great honor!

## TIM Alumnus Receives NBTA's Highest Award



The National Business Travel Association (NBTA) will honor TIM alum, Kevin Iwamoto ('77), with the Industry Icon Award, which is NBTA's highest award. This award is only presented occasionally to recognize contributions to managed travel that are so important as to elevate an individual to the status of an industry icon.

Kevin has been in the travel industry for over 20 years and has gained much experience throughout his career while working for big companies such as Hewlett-Packard, Walt Disney Company, Northwest Airlines, and now StarCite, Inc. Kevin is currently the Vice President, Enterprise Strategy for Starcite, where he "guides the overall strategy for engaging with buyers and suppliers." he also works with key individuals from various industries across the nation to raise awareness about the benefits of strategic meetings management. He is a former President & CEO for the NBTA Board of Directors and has been honored with every major business travel industry accolade. Congratulations Kevin on receiving such a prestigious and nationally recognized award!

## TIM Alumni Gathering in Macau

TIM alum and TIM Board of Director Roberta Wong Leung will be in Macau September 5-6 and would like to have a small TIM alumni gathering at the local coffee shop in the Sofitel Hotel in Macau. If anyone is interested please rsvp to her by Friday, August 28 by email at [robertawongleung@gmail.com](mailto:robertawongleung@gmail.com).



Pictured to the right is Roberta her family at daughter Robbieana's graduation from Pepperdine University this spring 2009 semester. Congratulations Robbieana!



# UH TIM Alumni Gathering in Sonoma!

