



# Annual Global WUB Conference

Connecting the global Uchinanchu diaspora by promoting mutual support, cultural pride and strengthening our shared identity through **BUSINESS, COMMUNITY, EDUCATION and NETWORKING**

**Date:** August 29, 2025

**Location:** East-West Center Hawai'i Imin International Conference Center  
1777 East-West Road Honolulu, Hawai'i

## Schedule:

**Registration** ..... 8:00 am

**Opening Ceremony** ..... 8:30 am

**Celeste Connors, President of East-West Center**

**Honorable Denny Tamaki, Governor, Okinawa Prefecture**

**Conference Session 1** ..... 9:30 am

**Masanori Sunagawa, PhD, President, Meio University**

*WUB Network and Meio's collaborative relationship for the Global Uchinanchu Network*

**Conference Session 2** ..... 10:30 am

**Mark McNally, Director, Center for Okinawan Studies, University of Hawai'i**

*An Introduction to a unique, one-of-a-kind Center dedicated to Okinawa History and Culture*

**Conference Session 3** ..... 11:30 am

**Edward Kuba, Esq., Former University of Hawai'i Regent; Former UOA President**

*The Rise of Hawaii's Uchinanchu, a look at recent census data*

**Lunch Open Forum (WUB Network Board of Directors Meeting to be held simultaneously) ... 12:30 pm**

**Conference Session 4**..... 1:30 pm

**Steve Kishaba Sombrero, President|Owner, Cushman & Wakefield ChaneyBrooks**

**Owner and Co-Founder, Aloha Beer; Former WUB Network President**

*Trends and the current state of Hawai'i real estate*

**Conference Session 5**..... 2:30 pm

**Tony Sakuda, Immediate Past President, WUB Network**

*A Year in review of the WUB Network's Activities for Uchinanchu Week*

**Kana Kurihara, WUB Network Secretary, 2022 Obuchi Scholar**

**Hatsuho Kinjo, 2024 Obuchi Scholar**

*Celebrating 25 years of collaborating work with WUB and the Obuchi Program*

**Closing Remarks – Gregg Takara, WUB Network President**..... 3:15 pm

**Optional Breakdown Session- Robert Arakaki @ Asia Pacific Room (2F)**..... 3:30 pm



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# **Come Join Us In Hawai'i**

## **Annual Global WUB Conference**

**And 125th Anniversary of Okinawan Immigration to Hawai'i**

**28 August (Thursday)**

**Business Tour**

**Aloha Welcome Lū'au Party**

Bishop Museum

**29 August (Friday)**

**Global Conference**

East-West Center | University of Hawai'i at Manoa

**30 - 31 August (Saturday & Sunday)**

**43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Okinawan Festival**

Hawaii United Okinawa Association  
Hawai'i Convention Center

**1 September (Monday)**

**HUOA Aloha Party**

Hawaii United Okinawa Association  
Hawai'i Okinawa Center