



MESSAGE FROM CIO CHRISTINE SAKUDA

Aloha mai kākou!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. It was great to share a part of that joy with many of you at our annual holiday party.

In the final weeks of 2024, there was a huge team effort to finalize the **IT Consolidation Plan update, the State IT Strategic Plan update, and CIO's Annual report** to submit to the Legislature. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your dedication and hard work in making these reports a reality. Your commitment and effort are truly appreciated.



These reports are now posted on our website at <https://ets.hawaii.gov/reports/>. The reports contain a tremendous amount of input from a broad stakeholder base focused on where we are headed with IT in the future and what we accomplished in the last year.

The 33rd Legislative session begins January 15, and although ETS is not submitting any bills for consideration this session, we are watching closely for bills that will affect our office, state government, and IT in general.

For the first time we are planning to hold three IT summits in 2025 - Data and AI, Digital Government, and Cybersecurity. These events have proven to be very productive and are a great opportunity to meet with our peers in government and the private sector.

My best wishes for you and your families in the new year!

Mahalo!

*Chief Information Officer and administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services
Christine M. Sakuda*



ETS HOLIDAY PARTY INCLUDES FOOD, GAMES, UGLY SWEATER CONTEST

More than 60 ETS staff members attended our annual Holiday Party on December 18 which included bento lunches, games, prizes, a baking contest and an ugly holiday sweater contest.

Judges had a hard time choosing from the truly ugly sweaters worn by Tess Chan (above, from left), Jennifer Sprague, Sheena Ginn, Joe Pierce and Vianca Sorkin. Jennifer's plush green sweater with delightfully attached decorations was named the winner.

Everyone enjoyed the baking contest with its sweet treats and we were shocked by the aggressive competition during the package opening contest with contestants actually ripping the presents open with their teeth.

Lots of prizes were given out and everyone had a great time. Thank you all for taking the time to celebrate and share your holiday spirit together.

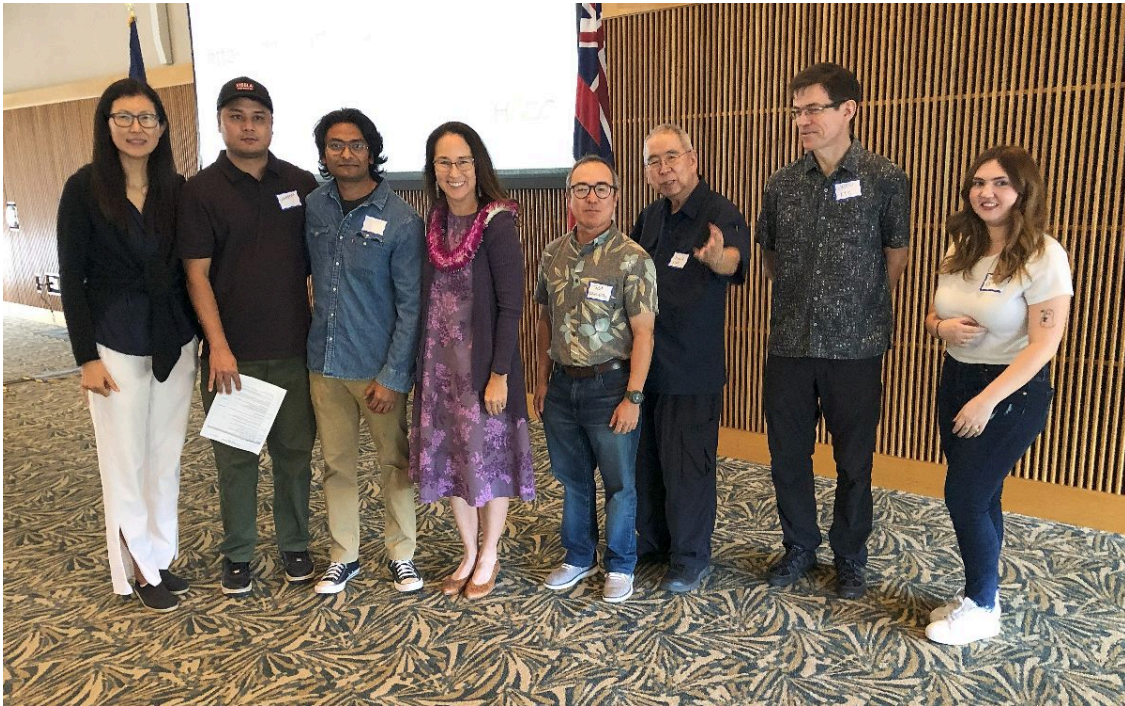


OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES
NEW HIRES AND RETIREMENTS



Retirements:

- Kenneth Yee, Computer Operations Supervisor I - 36 years
- Debra Whitten, Network Control Technician - 25 years



MAHALO TO ETS VOLUNTEERS AT THE HACC

A big MAHALO to all the ETS volunteers that helped make the 9th Hawai'i Annual Code Challenge a success. Without you we truly could not hold this event which includes both educational benefits for the participants and recruitment possibilities for the state.

Volunteers at the November 22 event included Rebecca Cai (from left), Shamanta Palikhey, Mishkat Rahman, Christine Sakuda, Todd Omura, Arnold Kishi, Jussi Sipola and Shelby Albertson. Not pictured Cindy Chung, Elijah Nabong and Bryce Fujii.

To read about the HACC visit <https://hacc.hawaii.gov/>



Governor Josh Green, M.D. presented CIO Sakuda with the DAGS Team of the Year Award on November 20 during a ceremony at Washington Place. The **Act 179 ETS Core Team** is credited for their efforts to improve state government. ETS staffer **Michael “Mikey” Kleckner** was also recognized as DAGS Employee of the Year for his outstanding performance and/or achievements. Both plaques are proudly on display in the Kalanimoku building room B10. Read more at <https://ets.hawaii.gov/ets-takes-top-team-employee-awards-at-dags-event/>

ETS IS HIRING!

ETS has several job openings to fill. If you know someone that may be interested in being part of our dynamic, innovative team that works on the latest cutting-edge technology in the industry, please visit [jobs](#), for more information.

A graphic with a dark blue background featuring a network of white nodes and lines. A hand is shown at the bottom, with the index finger pointing upwards towards the network. Text on the right side reads: 'TECH OPPORTUNITIES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS', 'ETS is hiring for 20 jobs!', 'More information: ets.hawaii.gov', and 'Send resume to: ets@hawaii.gov'.

Share *howz.IT* with friends and colleagues

Forward this email to anyone you think might be interested in state efforts to leverage technology to ensure an effective, efficient and open government.

FORWARD



Website



LinkedIn



Facebook



(X formerly Twitter)



Flickr



Instagram

Copyright © 2024 ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, a division of the State Department of Accounting and General Services. All rights reserved.

Our email address is:
ETS@hawaii.gov

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

