Lydia Kumasaka (MSN ’91 Manoa) Named Director of Nursing at The Queen’s Medical Center – West Oahu

UH Manoa Nursing adjunct faculty member and alumnus Lydia Kumasaka, MS, RN, APRN (MSN ‘91 Manoa) was recently named the director of nursing at The Queen’s Medical Center – West Oahu (QMC – West Oahu). Kumasaka will be responsible for directing nursing and patient care operations to ensure the delivery of high-quality, safe and effective patient care services.

Kumasaka has almost 30 years of experience in the health care industry. Prior to joining QMC – West Oahu, Kumasaka was the Manager of the Pain and Palliative Care Department of The Queen’s Medical Center. She has worked at QMC since 1992. “I am grateful that Lydia has decided to pursue this new and challenging role as a member of our QMC – West Oahu team,” said Art Ushijima, President of The Queen’s Medical Center.
“Lydia’s family roots are in Ewa, where her father grew up. Her mother is a retired physician who practiced in Aiea and was on the medical staff of St. Francis Medical Center. So, being the first Queen’s Director of Nursing for our new hospital in West Oahu has both professional and personal significance for Lydia and her family. This new role is another step in her journey to grow and to develop herself professionally and personally. It reflects her nature to tackle new challenges, to grow as a leader and to make a meaningful and positive difference for Queen’s and for the patients and communities Queen’s serves.”

Kumasaka is the recipient of the Queen Emma Nursing Leadership Award, Reginald C. S. Ho Pain Control Award (American Cancer Society, Hawaii Pacific Division), Sigma Theta Tau International Excellence in Nursing Practice Award, The Queen’s Cancer Institute Employee of the Year Award, and The Graduate Student Research Award.

Kumasaka’s community work includes serving as an adjunct faculty member with UH Manoa Nursing and as sponsorship chair for American Organization of Nurse Executives Hawaii Chapter. She is also a member of the State Board of Pharmacy in Honolulu, Hawaii and a Member of the Regional/National Board of Pharmacy.

She is currently a member of the American Society of Pain Management Nurses (“ASPMN”) and The American Organization of Nurse Executives (“AONE”). She is a past member of the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (“HPNA”). She is board certified in pain management by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the national certification body.

“We are delighted to have Lydia on board,” said Susan Murray, QHS Senior Vice President, West Oahu Region, and Chief Operating Officer, The Queen’s Medical Center – West Oahu.
“Queen’s goal is to build an active and vibrant presence in West Oahu to serve this large and growing community, and to fulfill the mission of our founders, Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawaii. Lydia shares the same goals.”

Kumasaka has an MS in Nursing focused in Oncology from UH Manoa Nursing and a BSN, from Seattle University. She is a resident of Kaneohe.

Download the original news release from The Queen’s Medical Center.