

Hawai'i SBDC Network O'ahu Center Newsletter

Michael Yasunaga Joins the SBDC as a Summer Intern



Hi, my name is Mike Yasunaga. I am currently an undergrad at Harvard University studying Economics. I grew up here on Oahu, and graduated from Punahou in 2012. I took a gap year after high school and worked and studied with entrepreneurs such as Jeff Hoffman, former CEO of Priceline, George Kemble, founder of the Stanford D. School, Tom Chi, who works on rapid prototyping at Google X, and Kamran Elahian, who founded Cirrus logic, Centillium Communications and 8 other companies.

These entrepreneurs taught me about the rewards of starting a business, the importance of putting together a good team, and the long hours, hard work and stress that come with starting a business.

Dear Andra,

Welcome to the 2014 Third Quarter newsletter of the Small Business Development Center, O'ahu office. Our resource and strategic partner, the federal Small Business Administration (SBA) has many programs and resources which contribute the ongoing success of small businesses. We encourage our clients and friends to see the article below listing the SBA events for July, 2014. It's not too late to register and learn about these valuable programs. And don't forget that one of our roles at the Hawai'i SBDC is to work with you on a consulting basis to enhance your ability to take advantage of these programs.

I hope you enjoy this issue, and look forward to hearing from you. Like us on Facebook and see our new YouTube channel.

[Joseph Burns](#)
O'ahu Center Director

Success Story: Restaurant Grondin



David Segarra and Jenny Grondin are the proprietors of Restaurant Grondin. Although this is their first venture in Hawai'i, both have extensive restaurant industry experience that spans from NY, St Johns (Virgin Islands) and now on Oahu. The new eatery that recently opened this April serves up delicious French Latin comfort foods at 62 N. Hotel St in Chinatown. David being Ecuadorian and Jenny's late father being a French chef, it came naturally for the couple to fuse the regions together. Their vision is entrusted to head chef Andrew Pressler, who came from Fatty Cue's in New York to introduce this new concept to Hawai'i. Now serving lunch as well as dinner, Grondin has had a packed house every night since its opening and there is a wait to get a table in the quaint 45 seat restaurant.

David and Jenny became clients of the SBDC when Grondin was just a concept. We were able to work closely with them and assist with their business planning and loan packaging, with an emphasis on start up costing and cash flow projections. The great thing about David and Jenny are that they are meticulous and very well organized. Although they encountered bumps along the 8 month journey to get the restaurant up and running, their persistence and willingness to adapt quickly to changes are their real strengths and a testament to how they run their business.

The SBDC looks forward to working with David and Jenny as they continue their successful venture and perhaps pursue possible expansions in the future. Please check out their [website](#) and a [great](#)

My interest in business consulting was sparked when I joined the Harvard College Consulting Group which is composed of undergrads who are interested in consulting. We have 16 clients a semester who range from non-profits to fortune 500 companies. My interest grew as I saw how consulting allowed me to create solutions for businesses that did not have the resources to invest in solving these problems or were looking for an objective outside opinion. Each case is unique and gives me the ability to learn about diverse fields and businesses.

I ventured into consulting only after leaving my original path on the way to becoming a doctor. In many ways, though, Consultants are like the doctors of the business world. Just as a patient goes to the doctor for medical advice, a business goes to consultants for business advice. Hawai'i is not a large economy like New York or California, but in a smaller economy, small businesses are critically important. It is very difficult to run a business in Hawaii and almost prohibitively expensive. I decided to intern at the SBDC to help local small businesses, who I know are fighting an uphill battle, in the hopes of encouraging them and helping them to grow.

Aloha,
Mike

Consultants to Hawaii's Business

"Enhancing the Economic Well-Being of Hawai'i - One Business at a Time"

Contact Us

[About Us](#)

[Business Events Calendar](#)

[review](#), among many.

-Dennis Kwak

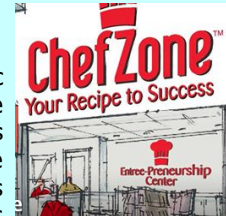
SBA Announces July Workshops



The Hawai'i District office of the SBA has announced four workshops for July: How to do Business with the General Services Administration (GSA); GSA Contracting Options; 12th Annual Hawai'i Small Business Forum; 8(a) and Other SBA Contracting Programs. With the exception of the 12th Annual Small Business Forum, these workshops are **free** and open to the public. However, registration is required. For further information, and to register online, [click here](#).

ChefZone Under Construction

The Oahu SBDC is developing a strategic partnership with the [Chef Zone](#), a 45,000 square foot cash and carry warehouse for restaurants and food service customers. When it opens in the fall of this year, our office will conduct business classes focused on the food industry, as well as client consulting, as part of the Chef Zone's "Entreé-Preneurship" Center. In addition to the community room, there will also be a fully-equipped state of the art commercial kitchen, for classes and demonstrations given by resident and guest chefs. Watch this space for further updates.



New Contribution Link on the HISBDC Site

On occasion clients ask us if they can make a financial contribution to support the work that we do. As a program of University of Hawai'i Hilo, the Hawai'i SBDC is now set up to receive monetary donations through the University of Hawai'i Foundation. For further detailed information, please click the UH Foundation link at the bottom of [our home page](#), or click here:

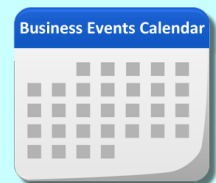
[University of Hawaii Foundation SBDC Donation](#)

Calendar

[07/15/14 - How to Start a Business](#)

[07/23/14 - SBA 8\(a\) and Other Contracting Programs](#)

[08/23/14 - Small Business Fair \(free to attend\)](#)



In the Media

[The SBA's Plan to Boost Loans to Minority Entrepreneurs](#)

[Counseling Is Often More Valuable Than a Small-Business Loan](#)

[Good planning and a mission statement can help guide your family business](#)



Quote of the Quarter:

andra.carroll@hisbdc.org

(808) 945-1430

"The only thing worse than bad news is bad news late."

-Military saying



[Supported by HMAA](#)



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAI'I®
HILO

U.S. Small Business Administration



SafeUnsubscribe™



Try it FREE today.

Hawaii SBDC Network | Manoa Innovation Center | 2800 Woodlawn Drive | Suite 299 | Honolulu | HI | 96822