

# *Melvin T. Yokoyama*

## **MELVIN T. YOKOYAMA ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP**

### **REASON FOR THE GIFT**

The faculty in animal science gave the donor, as an undergraduate student, inspirational support and outstanding training that led to a life-long academic career in teaching and research. In return, the donor created this endowed fund to provide scholarships for undergraduate students majoring in animal science in the Department of Human Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR).

### **ABOUT THE DONOR**



Dr. Melvin T. Yokoyama was born and raised in Hawai'i and received his B.S.Ag. in Animal Science at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in 1966. He pursued his graduate education at the University of Illinois, where he received his M.S. in Dairy Nutrition (1969) and his Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences (1971) under Dr. Carl Davis. His Ph.D. dissertation was on the biohydrogenation of unsaturated fatty acids by *Treponema (Borrelia) sp. B2 5*, a ruminal spirochete. He did post-doc research (1971-75) on the etiology of bovine pulmonary emphysema at Washington State University under Dr. James Carlson.

In 1975, Dr. Yokoyama joined the faculty in the Department of Animal Science at Michigan State University as an Assistant Professor in teaching and research. His research area of expertise was microbial ecology in the rumen and gastrointestinal tract of domestic livestock. During his career, he was the faculty mentor to 21 Ph.D. and 6 M.S. graduate students, who came from 10 different countries. He did sabbatical research at the Animal Research Institute, Department of Primary Industries in Brisbane, Australia. He conducted collaborative research with animal scientists in Mali, West Africa to assess feed quality and availability, biofuel potential and donkey management. He retired in 2012 as Professor Emeritus after 37 years of service at Michigan State University. CTAHR recognized Dr. Yokoyama as the CTAHR Distinguished Alumnus in 2008.

Dr. Yokoyama is married to Anna Nakamura Yokoyama, who worked at the East-West Center, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. They have two sons, Charles and John.