The Center for Asian and Pacific Studies (CAPS) was established as an organizational unit to coordinate and focus the resources available on various aspects of Asian and Pacific studies in an integrated program of research and scholarship to provide broad and substantive academic support of instructional programs, and for faculty and library resource development. This unit is expected to generate the visibility and status necessary to enhance the contributions and advance the reputation of the University of Hawaii at Manoa as a leading center for Asian and Pacific studies, and to attract extramural funding in support of that leadership. The major objectives are:

1. To foster a deeper understanding of Asian and Pacific societies and cultures through research and scholarly activity and dissemination.

2. To support faculty research, including publication of research findings on topics appropriately selected to advance scholarship and knowledge about Asia and the Pacific.

3. To provide support for advancing the fields of Asian and Pacific studies through student graduate scholarship and research.

4. To seek extramural fundings, both public and private, to support research, fellowships, and dissemination of knowledge about the field.

5. To act as a resource unit for the development of educational materials on Asian and Pacific cultures.

6. To serve as a clearinghouse in response to informational requests on the Asian and Pacific region.
7. To assist in identifying and providing faculty consultants as requested by Asian and Pacific countries and state and federal governments.

8. To serve in its early years as the lead organization in coordinating University response to the report of the President's Commission on International Studies and Foreign Languages.