The issues of war and peace have taken on a special urgency in the current generation, as the weapons of destruction have developed the capacity to destroy our civilisations. Recognizing the urgent and universal desire for peace in the world, the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai‘i established the University of Hawai‘i Institute for Peace in December 1985.

FUNCTIONS

- To sponsor the support peace education and research projects at the University of Hawai‘i and within the community at large.
- To provide a peace studies curriculum for both undergraduates and graduates, and thereby to promote broader thinking toward the development of a peaceful world.
- To support research into nonviolent means of resolving disputes.
- To promote interaction and outreach with the local, national, and international peace communities.
- To cooperate with individuals and organizations in a continuing dialogue on the global quest for justice and peace.

The Institute for Peace will coordinate and stimulate research and education on topics such as the nature and conditions of a just and sustainable social order; the relationship between justice, human needs, and violence; the causes and conditions of violence; and the path and struggles leading toward the resolution of conflict. The Institute will pay special attention to the Asia-Pacific region, bearing in mind the problems of peace, like those of war, have no geographical boundaries.

The Institute for Peace has a Council composed of faculty members from various academic disciplines from the Manoa campus as well as faculty from other campuses. The program is an interdisciplinary Manoa program which works closely with other units in the University. The program has general funds but no permanent positions as of 1/89. The Director of the Institute is a faculty member selected by the Council and appointed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.