

Community Colleges

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Windward CC: A vision of the future

A SPECIAL 35TH ANNIVERSARY RETROSPECTIVE

If you haven't visited Windward Community College lately, you may be in for a surprise. All across the campus there are exciting signs of what the future holds. Construction is under way for major new facilities. Enrollment is up. Yet, for the 1,600 credit students, Windward CC remains a uniquely intimate and awe-inspiring education environment. The spectacular campus at the foot of the Ko'olau Mountains in Kane'ohe still offers a special combination of quality instruction and personal attention in a friendly island atmosphere.

WINDWARD ROOTS

Established in 1972, Windward Community College is the youngest of the seven UH community colleges. Situated on 52 acres of land, the college initially renovated five buildings inherited from the Hawai'i State Hospital to use as classroom and office space. When Windward CC opened on September 18, 1972, it offered classes in 20 different subjects for 525 students, ranging in age from 17 to 60 years old.

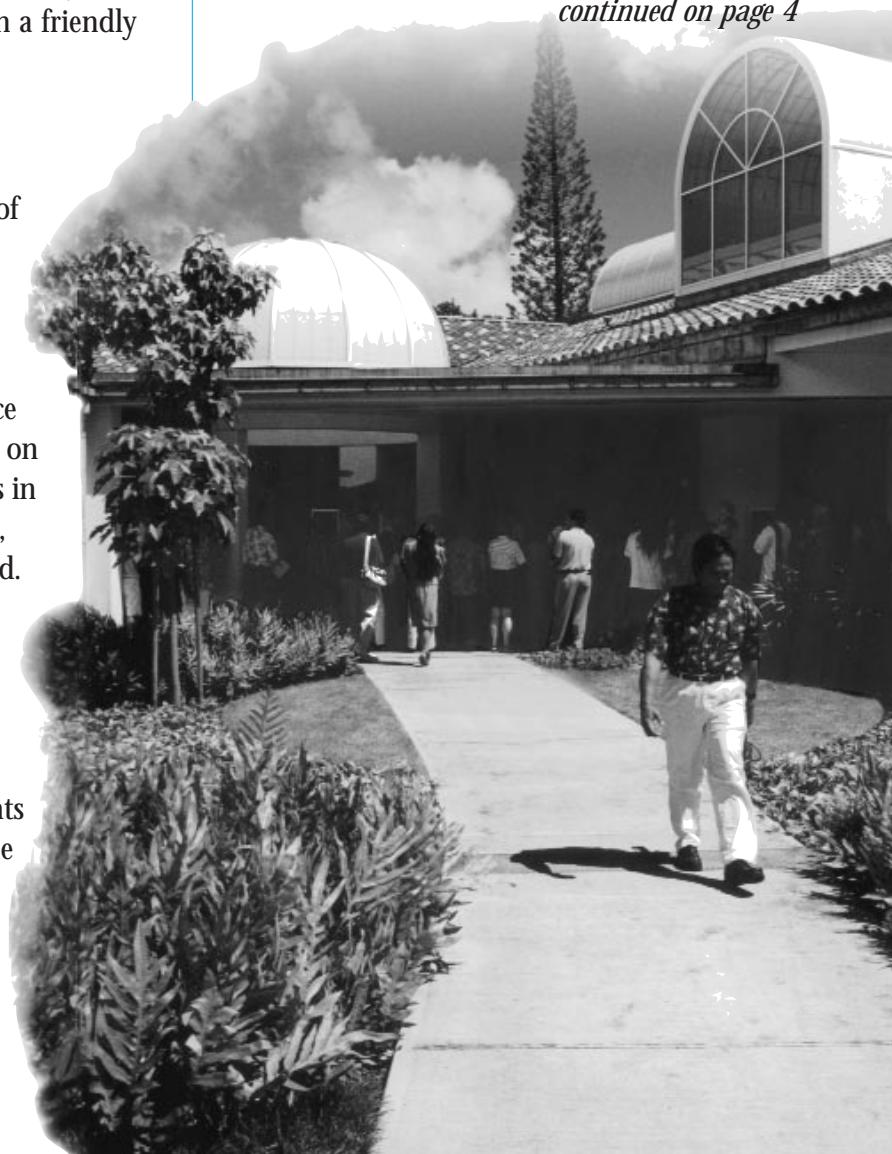
Since then, Windward CC has grown into a vital resource for the Windward community. Although only seven miles from Honolulu, Windward CC seems a world away. The College primarily serves residents from Makapu'u to Kahuku along the northeastern coast of O'ahu. However, students from all over the island seeking a quality liberal arts and career-oriented education in an

intimate environment now flock to the campus. It is a place where the imagination can soar and students find inspiration not only in the excellent programs the college offers, but also in the physical surroundings.

PURPOSE CLEARLY DEFINED

From the beginning, Windward CC was designed to increase access to education for Windward O'ahu residents by offering a strong

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Joyce S. Tsunoda
Senior Vice
President and
Chancellor for
Community
Colleges

"The UHCCs play a key role in the education, training, and retraining of the millennium workforce."

Meeting the challenges of the new economy

When this issue of the Community Colleges newsletter went to press, all the UHCC provosts and chancellor's office staff were busily assembling testimony and support materials to present to the Legislature in preparation for the opening of the 2000 legislative session.

In shaping my testimony, I reviewed the various goals, procedures, and issues at each of our campuses. I looked at budgets and program health indicators. I examined our track record in meeting the five goals of our strategic plan. I am proud to report that, despite the many fiscal setbacks we have experienced, our colleges have been very effective in developing strategies for "doing more with less."

The faculty and staff have done tremendous things with very little. They have reached out to our communities to gather their input; partnered successfully with business, industry and educational agencies; and created private fund raising campaigns. They have restructured, reorganized, and consolidated. The result has been an increase in efficiency and productivity. As the saying goes, the UHCCs have become "lean and mean."

Yet, we all realize these cutbacks have been costly. Further staff cuts and lack of increased funding for facilities and equipment will cause our educational programs to suffer. This is why our supplemental budget request to the Legislature detailed nearly \$9 million for the UHCC budget, all of which had been endorsed by the Board of Regents.

One of the most important items in the budget request is identified as "Human Resource Maintenance." (*See excerpt on next page.*) It is a plea for funds for faculty and staff

professional development. If the UHCCs are to play an important role in economic development, we must ensure our most important resource—our people—are given the support to do the job.

The same message is also being communicated through other forums. The UHCC executive staff, along with UH President Kenneth Mortimer, many key government officials, and business leaders, recently participated in a WICHE (Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education) Roundtable. In this two-day meeting, we discussed the "new economy" and what it means for Hawai'i. To succeed in the new economy, workers must be prepared to enhance their skills and make a commitment to lifelong learning. The UHCCs play a key role in the education, training, and *retraining* of the millennium workforce. In my presentation at this roundtable, I again emphasized the criticalness of maintaining and updating our faculty and staff's knowledge, skills and *entrepreneurial spirit*.

The National Governor's Association describes its vision of a healthy education system as follows:

"States must ensure that they have a strong network of higher education institutions, including community colleges, and a solid technical and vocational school system. Also needed are high-performing elementary and secondary schools that prepare children for lifelong learning. All schools must provide students with the skills they need to work in the knowledge-based industries of the new economy."

Your continued efforts to move our campuses forward in this direction not only benefit our students, but the State of Hawai'i as a whole.

Happy New Year and new millennium! ☘

The Community Colleges strongly support the maintenance of our most valuable resource—our faculty and staff. The maintenance of our human resources (faculty and staff professional development) is the key component in the effective delivery of quality educational and related services to students and the community. To accomplish this, faculty and staff should be afforded the opportunity to participate in professional growth and development activities to be responsive to and current with advances in their field of study, improvements in technology, and new developments in educational delivery.

Repairs and maintenance of buildings and structures are essential to effective delivery of educational services. Likewise, the “repairs and maintenance” of human resources, which usually is approximately 80 percent of operating costs, should also be of high priority.

Even with ongoing budget reductions and ever increasing workloads, our faculty and staff have consistently and continuously given freely of their time and in-kind giving without complaint or hesitation. However, professionalism and pride alone cannot continue to sustain our employees through the years to come. Employees are exhibiting signs of burn out and we need to seek and implement ways to prevent or mitigate a potential negative work place situation from developing and escalating. We cannot afford to defer the maintenance of our human resources without serious consequences.”

Human Resource Maintenance

Excerpt from Chancellor Joyce Tsunoda's testimony, presented before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, January 5, 2000

WICHE Roundtable brings national experts to Capitol

In a two-day education roundtable, leaders in education, government and business met to discuss Hawai'i's economic future, and the education system's role in that “new economy.” Opening comments were presented by Dennis Jones, President of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), a research and development center founded to improve the management effectiveness of colleges and universities. Jones is considered an expert in state and institutional approaches to budgeting and resource allocation, educational needs assessment, and the development of educational indicators.

Randolph Court, Technology Policy Analyst, Progressive Policy Institute and Co-

Author of *The New Economy Index* was the keynote speaker and joined a panel discussion with Hawaii government and business leaders.

Breakout sessions focused on areas such as high technology, workforce planning and training, and aligning education for K-12 and beyond. The UH Community Colleges, often the “bridge” for people in transition from high school to college, or old career to new, was a key participant in many of these discussions.

The WICHE Roundtable was supported by a Ford Foundation grant sponsored by the Hawai'i State Legislature and several local agencies dedicated to revitalizing Hawai'i's economy and improving the quality of life for its residents. ■

JONES WILL KEYNOTE EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION



Dennis Jones
NCHEMS
President

The Excellence in Education Planning Committee is pleased to announce that NCHEMS President Dennis Jones will be the keynote speaker at the conference on March 3, 2000 at Leeward Community College. Jones is widely recognized for his work in such areas as: state and institutional approaches to budgeting and resource allocation, strategic planning, educational needs assessment, and faculty workload and productivity. To find out more about the Excellence in Education Conference, go to the UHCC web site at: www.hawaii.edu/ccc/Faculty/faculty_set.html. ■



WCC is community's catalyst for change

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Professor Joseph Ciotti with students in Windward CC's new Science facility Hale 'Imiloa.

liberal arts transfer program and selected vocational fields.

Career-oriented education is available in areas such as accounting, office administration, microcomputer applications, horticulture, and turf grass management. The College has also responded to strong community interest in focused areas, including Hawaiian studies and Polynesian voyaging; psycho-social development for human services careers; and earth, space and marine sciences, including high-tech training in Geographic Information Systems for business development and environmental mapping.

The college also has special strengths in fine and creative arts, writing, and opportunities for on-the-job training.

In 1999, Windward CC was one of five UH Community Colleges to receive a federal grant for Hawaiian Studies. With the \$1.7 million the college expects to receive during the next five years, Windward plans to expand Hawaiian Studies courses, facilities, computer literacy, student

services and library materials. The college also will renovate a spacious two-story house on campus as a Hawaiian Studies center and community gathering place.

"This grant will go a long way toward improving the success and retention of our Hawaiian students," said long-time Provost Pete Dyer. "It will also add to

the resources available to anyone who wants to learn more about Hawai'i."

The College not only promotes an active academic and community life for students on campus, but also reaches out to the larger community with many educational and cultural activities. Public lectures, dramatic and dance performances, art shows and fairs, bolster the campus's ties to the surrounding neighborhoods.

The college hosts a Ho'olaule'a in April that attracts thousands of island residents to the campus for a day of Hawaiian music and dance, and sponsors a Taro Festival in August which continues to grow in size and popularity. The campus-wide commitment to service learning, which allows WCC students to earn credit while working with area schools, hospitals and businesses, also helps to create vital links with the Windward community.

Through community advisory boards, partnerships with businesses and other organizations in Kane'ohe and across the state, the College is Windward O'ahu's resource for post-

secondary education, career training and workforce development.

The campus's recently completed science facility and planetarium and the new humanities building presently under construction, complement the natural beauty and gracious architecture of this special place. They also add long-awaited state-of-the-art labs, classrooms, studios and work space.

Provost Dyer, who has held his post for 21 years, has been key to much of the growth the campus has seen over the years. Dyer, who is planning to retire in July 2000, has helped move the campus to the "brink of this new era." Although current economic conditions in the state have limited growth for the next very few years, Windward CC is eagerly embracing the changes and renovations on its campus. As Dyer declares, "More and better facilities mean more and better possibilities."

TOWARD THE FUTURE

Windward CC remains committed to the potential of every person who walks through its doors. Over the years, students have consistently rated the personal attention faculty and staff offer as its greatest strength. One alumnus, who went on to become an architect, praised WCC's teaching excellence, saying it was among the best of his college career. "At Windward, you always felt the students came first," he maintained.

With three new buildings set to come on line in the next few years, Windward CC expects to expand its community reach. This fall, the col-



Cultural events such as the WCC Ho'olaulea and the Taro Festival complement programs such as the celestial navigation program with the Hawaiian Voyaging Society and other courses in Hawaiian culture and language.

lege will open its new planetarium/multimedia center, a high tech window to the heavens and other wonders of nature. The facility promises to be a rich resource, not only for astronomy students and stargazers but also for students of many disciplines. It will give Polynesian voyaging students and navigators from the Polynesian Voyaging Society a place to learn celestial navigation.

The 66-seat facility will give viewers a state-of-the-art virtual experience, using a Digistar projection system capable of producing images generated by a graphic computer.

"Given the way people learn



WCC still offers the serene atmosphere reflected in this 1972 photo, but there are also many new and exciting things happening.

human body as well as across space.

In 2001, Windward CC will open a new \$18.1 million performing arts center with a 300-seat theatre, art gallery and humanities classrooms for fine arts, music, history, and drama. The theatre will be the first of its kind in the islands, with a stage that can change from one with an orchestra pit to a theatre in the round. The theatre will share a lobby with the art gallery to encourage theatre-goers to visit exhibits downstairs.

Said gallery coordinator Toni Martin, "The design will be beautiful and functional. It will be a real gathering place for the arts."

In 2002, the college will open a campus/conference center with facilities for community meetings and business retreats, long-awaited food service and offices for student organizations and campus services.

This is Windward CC's promise for the future: to be one of the community's greatest resources and a catalyst for change. ☀

nowadays, with very dynamic visual effects, this will be a great way to learn," said astronomy professor and coordinator Joe Ciotti. Viewers will experience the illusion of traveling around pyramids, heiau or dinosaurs, through DNA molecules or the

Congratulations!



Rita Sinnikka Hayasaka, a professor of East Asian languages and language arts Division Chair at Leeward CC, has

been elected to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. At its annual meeting in November, which was highlighted by a visit from President Clinton, 15 board members from across the country were elected to this prestigious national organization. NBPTS's mission is to establish high rigorous standards for teachers throughout the US. Hayasaka currently serves as the National Education Association principal investigator for the NEA Building Bridges Grant. Hayasaka is also very active in cultural and educational exchange programs with Europe and Japan. ☀

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EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION 2000

March 3, 2000 • 8:30 am - 3:45 pm

Leeward Community College

Assessment: Running Barefoot through the Data

REGISTER TODAY!!

The keynote speaker will be Dennis Jones, President of NCHEMS (National Center for Higher Education Management Systems). In addition, ACT Corporation is supporting this year's event by bringing in presenters from mainland institutions to share their experiences in using the COMPASS placement test. Check your campus mailbox or our web site: www.hawaii.edu/ccc/Faculty/faculty_set.htm to register today.

Hon CC's Kessinger retires

At a dinner at the Hale Koa Hotel's Waikiki Ballroom, colleagues and friends joined in honoring Peter R. Kessinger on his retirement as Provost of Honolulu CC. Kessinger, who was provost since 1983, and worked within the UHCC system since 1971, officially retired on December 31, 1999.

During his years as HCC provost, Kessinger initiated the college's Early Childhood Education Program. He also worked for more than ten years to bring a commercial aviation program to the state. The campus is also modeled after his vision of a community college that

offers strong liberal arts education with solid technical training.

Kessinger has many educational affiliations and business affiliations, which has also helped the college in its efforts to connect the campus with its surrounding community. UH President Kenneth Mortimer and many UHCC staff were on hand to thank and congratulate Kessinger. ☑



Peter R. Kessinger

LCC's Han wins President's award

Leward Community College's building and maintenance worker, Jae T. Han, won the overall President's Award for Excellence in Building and Grounds Maintenance for the UH System in a ceremony which took place at Orvis Auditorium on UH Mānoa on January 14. President Kenneth Mortimer presented Han (shown at right with Leeward CC Provost Sharon Narimatsu at the awards ceremony) with a check for \$1000 plus a trip to Las Vegas. According to Leeward CC Provost Sharon Narimatsu, "Jae has done a terrific job for LCC since arriving more than a year ago. He continues to perform with exceptional skill and professionalism."

Some of Han's exceptional work can be seen in the new OCET facil-



ties on the Leeward campus. Han was responsible for much of the cabinetry, flooring and other aspects of the renovation of the portable buildings.

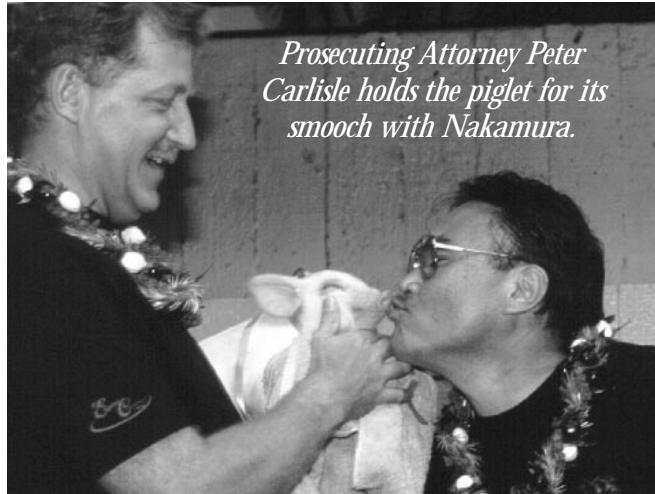
Maui CC's Theresa Sentinella was also one of the four finalists honored at the ceremony. ☑

UHCC Students win CAD awards

Three UHCC Drafting Technology students recently won an architectural design contest sponsored by JAIMS (Japan America Institute of Management Science). First place (\$200) went to Jennifer Phelan, a second-year student at Hawai'i CC for her solution in the renovation of JAIMS facilities in Hawai'i Kai to create their new "Business Education Technology Center of the 21st Century." Honolulu CC student Angela Phillips won second place (\$100), and Questor Lau, also of Hon CC won third place (\$50). Another Hawai'i CC student, Severino Urubio III, earned an Honorable Mention certificate for his architectural solution in the competition. ☑

Hon CC Club helps chief kiss pig

Honolulu CC lecturer and distinguished alumnus, retired Chief of Police Michael Nakamura, played a vital role in a fund-raiser for the American Diabetes Association. He was one of three local law enforcement figures to participate in a contest to "kiss a



Prosecuting Attorney Peter Carlisle holds the piglet for its smooch with Nakamura.

pig." Donations were solicited in October, and could be made in the name of either Marjorie "The Babe" Bronster, Peter "The Porker" Carlisle, or Mike "The Squealer" Nakamura. The "oinker" with the most donations was given the dubious honor of kissing a pig. Hon CC's Administration of Justice Club sought donations and contributed to the fund-raiser and, according to the 'Chief,' their support helped him win and many others to benefit. Nakamura finished first, with more than \$6,000 in donations in his name.

Now, you ask., "Why a Pig?" Insulin was first derived from the pancreases of pigs back in 1921. The American Diabetes Association created this event to increase awareness and honor the pig for helping save lives. ☐

KAP CC'S PARALEGAL PROGRAM GOES NATIONAL

Under the direction and guidance of Professor Robert J. LeClair, Kapi'olani CC's Legal Education program produced two national videotapes in October, 1999. The topics were Legal Ethics and Paralegal Utilization. Kap CC has sold more than \$4300 worth of these tapes in the last two months, and more than 70 paralegal programs are using the products all across the nation. LeClair also reported that he has four more national shows scheduled to be filmed in May, 2000. ☐

NOMINATIONS FOR VOCATIONAL AWARDS DUE SOON

Nomination forms for the 2000 Vocational Awards have been sent to all UHCC campuses and other organizations involved in vocational-technical education. The Hawaii Vocational Association, the Office of the State Director for Vocational Education, and the Vocational Education Advisory Council urge you to nominate the outstanding vocational/technical programs, students and advisory committees on your campus. Winners of these awards are honored at an annual luncheon in May. Nominations must be postmarked no later than March 17, 2000. For information contact Helene Sokugawa at the Office of the State Director for Vocational Education at 956-6203 or e-mail helene@hawaii.edu. ☐

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE TOKYO STRING QUARTET

February 1, 2000, Kaua'i CC Performing Arts Center. For ticket information, call 245-SING.

VOC FEST 2000

Join this celebration of career and educational opportunities, Pearlridge Center, Uptown on February 19 and 20, 2000, beginning at 10 a.m. each day. It is an important event to inform the community about workforce education and training during National Career and Technical Education Week. Join in the fun and visit the free exhibits, entertainment, and demonstrations at Voc Fest 2000.

BROTHER CAN I SPEAK FOR YOU?

Leeward CC Theatre, February 20, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. Philip Walker's one-man show celebrating the African American experience. Call 455-0385 for tickets and information.

KAUAI CC ANNUAL BOOKSALE

February 13, 2000, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Kaua'i CC campus.

MISHA AND CIPA DICHTER

February 27, 2000 Kaua'i CC Performing Arts Center.. Enjoy this piano concert presented by Kaua'i Concert Association. For ticket information, call 245 SING.

UHCC EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The theme is: Assessment—Running Barefoot Through the Data. March 3, 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Leeward CC. Share assessment practices and ideas on classroom, program and systemwide levels. For information call Cammie Matsumoto at 956-3871 or e-mail cammie@ccc.hawaii.edu.



The UHCCs are a bridge to opp

MCC Telemedicine may be isle healthcare solution

Mau Community College's Nursing Division has expanded their entrepreneurial Health Center services to new levels. A phone/video system called Home TeleHealth allows nurses to see and care for clients without leaving the office. The office phone line and the client's phone lines are linked to a television with a special camera device that allows audio and visual contact between client and nurse.

The project began one year ago when Nancy Johnson, Maui CC Nursing Division Chair, was awarded a grant through the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) for curriculum development related to telecommunications and homebound clients. The goal was to introduce the technical level nurse to expanding technology while meeting a real-life need in the community. Subsequent grants have expanded the curriculum training to graduate nurse level and allow access for educating physicians as well as nurses.

Rhonda Bentz, nurse practitioner, initiated the project into the clinic services in January 1999 by collaborating with Maui physicians and Hale Makua Home Health. So far, Home TeleHealth has proven successful in all studied uses. Using the videophone/computer system, Bentz has examined sores and identified rashes, checked dosages for client

medications, measured blood pressure and monitored services provided by in-home health aides. The device saves time and helps clients avoid emergency room and other medical care visits.

An average home visit takes about one hour—to drive to the house, see the client, chart and then drive again. A Home TeleHealth nurse can call and care for three or four clients from the office in the same amount of time. The machines also provide closer monitoring and ongoing patient education. Many clients wait to call the physician until they are in really "bad" condition. Through early intervention, the cost and inconvenience of a hospital admission was often avoided.

HMSA has now joined the Maui CC Health Center's project to collect data and examine the savings in hospital costs for homebound and island clients. The HMSA study will support sixty clients on TeleHealth care. Since the video machines are linked via "plain old telephone lines," the nurse can even monitor clients on Moloka'i or Lana'i.

Bentz reports, "We apply new ideas and techniques with the



Rhonda Bentz, APRN, at the TeleHealth monitor links to two graduate nursing students, Rose Marion and Jillana Jacobs.

machines each week. It is an ongoing creative technology. Cameras can be set to document the wound-healing process or to look back and forth between members in a group education session."

The program also received an additional grant of \$78,000 for a Native Hawaiian TeleHome care project specifically designed to monitor and preserve kidney function for patients in rural areas. Rita Webb, RN and Dr. Moser of Maui will use the machines to collect data, reinforce teaching and monitor high-risk renal patients over the next two years.

The Maui CC nurses agree that the most rewarding aspect of Home TeleHealth has been enhancing the quality of life for homebound people in the community. Bentz says, "The nurse is as important to a homebound patient as sunshine is to flowers. This new technology has let our light shine in the community, in our careers and on our campus." ☒

Opportunities for the community

UHCCs create Navy partnership

On December 7, 1999, the four Oahu campuses of the UH Community Colleges became certified as Non-Traditional Training Sites for the US Navy. The partnership allows the Community Colleges to provide training and teach required Navy courses in a wide spectrum of areas.

According to Navy Captain Carlton Puryear, who presented the certificates, the Navy views the new partnership as an opportunity to develop quality educational programs for all levels of its personnel. Some of the



courses with the Community Colleges that are presently in the planning phase include food service administration (Kap CC), general mess operations/ advanced food preparation (Kap CC/LCC), outboard motor overhaul (Hon CC),

and submarine yeoman/ personnelman advanced administration (Kap CC). The presentation of the NTTS certificates took place at the Submarine Base Training Center. Present were (l to r) LCC Dean of Instruction Mark Silliman, Kap CC Provost John Morton, NTTS Program Manager Myra Yamada, WCC Provost Peter Dyer, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Michael Rota, Kap CC Dean of Business, Hospitality and Community Programs Carol Hoshiko; US Navy Captain Carlton Puryear; Hon CC Dean of Transportation & Trades Gerald Cerny; and Kap CC Food Service Instructor Dirk Soma. ■



Wong awards scholarships to LCC students

Chef Alan Wong, one of Hawai'i's premier Pacific Rim chefs, has once again demonstrated his commitment to the culinary community. Teaming with the Kapa'a Rotary Club in support of their annual culinary event, "Taste of Hawaii," Chef Wong has established a scholarship fund for the culinary arts program at Leeward Community College.

The first recipients of this prestigious award were recognized at the Pineapple Room on January 14. Students Alexander Caday (left) and Sandy Downham (far right) were all smiles as Wong, together with LCC Provost Sharon Narimatsu and Kapa'a Rotary Vocational Director David Outcalt, congratulated them and presented each of them with a \$500 scholarship. ■

ETC CELEBRATES SUCCESS

The Employment Training Center's fall award ceremony was held on December 16, 1999, and, as usual, was a wonderful, warm and touching event. Speeches by the fall session's outstanding students gave testimony to the value students receive from the caring counselors and staff at ETC. Guest speaker, Warren Kaminaka, Vice President of Automotive Warehouse, also attested to the importance of educating our Hawai'i residents. Automotive Warehouse is the parent company of CARQUEST, ETC's business partner. Chancellor Joyce Tsunoda also spoke during the ceremony, congratulating the students who completed ETC programs. ■

International Ed with service as its purpose

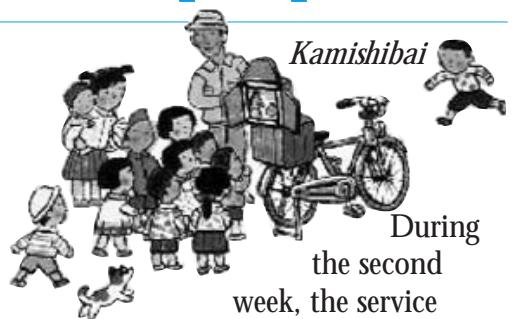
Kapi'olani CC Japanese instructor Linda Fujikawa has devised an effective service learning project for students of the Japanese language. Kapi'olani CC students can now volunteer their time to teach students at a local elementary school about Japanese language and culture. Ultimately they will provide a similar service to children in Japan.

Under Fujikawa's direction, these Kapi'olani CC service learning students are working with first through sixth graders at Wai'alae Elementary School and using the traditional Japanese story-telling method of Kamishibai. Kamishibai was originally presented in a box on the back of a bicycle. When opened, the box would

provide a miniature stage with panels of pictures used as props. The storyteller would also sell candy to make money.

Starting in the fall, Fujikawa and her students took their Kamishibai instruction to Wai'alae Elementary students, presenting stories in both English and Japanese. The Wai'alae students were then asked to recreate the Kamishibai and, in the end, put on a performance of their own.

"This prepares the students for their next step of service learning in Japan," Fujikawa said. From May 27 to June 14, the students will teach at two different schools in Kanazawa. The first one is in a tiny papermaking village, which Fujikawa describes as "a beautiful time warp."



During the second week, the service learning program will be headed to Kanazawa city to team up with Kapi'olani CC's sister school, Kanazawa Institute of Technology. Together, the students will participate in a hospital visitation program for children with terminal illnesses. They will interact with children through plays and shows.

Fujikawa hopes that travel with a purpose will catch on with other language programs and become an annual event. ☀

ACCREDITATION SELF-STUDY UPDATE

Self-study committee members have now completed the first draft of their reports for each of the ten standards. These are being reviewed by members of the committee and other UHCC staff. Evaluations and recommendations will be discussed, then the second draft of the reports will be sent out to various individuals across the system for review, comments and revisions.

The self-study committee has done a tremendous job learning about the UHCC system, gathering information, and incorporating their findings into these reports. Their success was dependent on the many staff members who gave of their time and expertise to help the committee members in this stage of discovery. ☀

HCC STARTS EVENING CENT PROGRAM

In order to meet the growing demand for computer training in a flexible environment for nontraditional students, Honolulu Community College began an evening program in January. The evening classes will be given in sequence, so that students who started in January will be able to attend evening classes over a period of three years in order to receive the degree. Each semester, including summer, two new courses will be given until the entire program has been completed.

The Computing, Electronics, and Networking Technology (CENT) Program is a two-year course of study designed to prepare students for entry level positions as computer, networking or electronics technicians. The CENT program is a Microsoft Authorized Academic Training Academy, a Cisco Training Academy and a Comptia A+ Training provider. Students can take additional elective courses which prepare them to become a Microsoft Certified Professional or a Cisco Certified Network Associate. ☀

HVA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE

The Hawaii Vocational Association has distributed scholarship applications to all UHCC campuses. Any vocational education student who is a Hawai'i resident, is a high school graduate and is registered (or will be registered) as a full-time student in AS or Certificate programs at the UHCCs is eligible to apply for this \$500 scholarship award. Completed applications are due by March 17, 2000. Contact Lori Maehara at 734-9466 for info.

PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY ACCESS



Kast summer, after attending a workshop on technology accessibility by Ron Stewart, Coordinator of the Technology Access Program at Oregon State University, Professor Bert Kimura and Counselor Mary Joan Haverly of Kapi'olani CC decided to move into action. The bottom line message of the workshop, offered to faculty and staff throughout the UH system, was that any institution that is a recipient of federal funds shall provide equal and equitable access to all of its programs, services, and facilities for individuals with disabilities.

Kimura and Haverly took the message to heart and to their campus. They developed a plan of action that now has the Diamond Head campus moving forward in providing technology access for all its students in areas such as publications, web site access, program access, and information technology. According to Kimura, Kap CC's Educational Media Center coordinator, "We decided we needed to create an advisory committee that spanned the spectrum of technology and student services. Some of Kap CC's most active and involved staff members came forward to volunteer."

One of the first actions of the 20-member committee was to invite current students with special needs to speak to them. "We gave students with technology access needs the opportunity to tell us about their challenges. They talked; we listened.

It was an enlightening experience for all of us, and helped us solidify our commitment to achieving some specific goals," said Kimura.

The campus is now reviewing a second draft of their technology access plan, which is based loosely on some of the guidelines handed down by Ron Stewart in June 1999.

For assistance with adaptive technology, Kap CC also relies on a company called Island Skill Gathering (ISG). ISG, a local business that provides devices, software, and tools for people with disabilities, has worked with several of the UHCCs to provide for students with special needs. Kap CC has also asked them to participate on their committee and provide consultation and support to help the campus achieve its goals.

Kimura notes that the issue of access will be an ongoing challenge for the college as new technologies become available. He feels the key to success is awareness. "Creating ADA compliant web-pages or online courses is not difficult, if those creating the web pages and courses are aware of the simple guidelines to follow," Kimura states. "I know a great number of elaborate web pages I created over the past few years are not very accessible to

people with disabilities.
But you can be assured that all the new ones I create meet accessibility guidelines."



ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES AND SERVICES

Where can you find help in making your web page accessible? Several free, easy-to-use HTML validation services and applications are available on the Internet. These services check for accessibility, alert you to possible coding errors, and in some cases, suggest fixes. These include *Bobby* from the Center for Applied Special Technology (www.cast.org/bobby), the World Wide Web Consortium's HTML validation service (<http://validator.w3.org>), and the WWW HTML Accessibility Tool from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (<http://cmos-eng.rehab.uiuc.edu/what>).

PDF Files

PDF (portable document format) files are not decipherable by screen readers and therefore do not meet accessibility requirements. Fortunately now there are several translation methods available. An Adobe site (<http://access.adobe.com>) provides free PDF to HTML conversion of PDF documents located on the Web. Adobe Acrobat Access plug-in for Windows is also available free of charge at the above Web address, and allows users to display the textual content of a PDF file within Acrobat Reader or Exchange.

Ward Takamiya at UH's Information Technology Services recommends a \$160 plug-in for Adobe Acrobat called Gemini that appears to do a decent job of converting PDFs into HTML documents. There's a free demo version of Gemini available online at <http://www.iceni.com/>.

LCC's OCET opens new facility

January 6, 2000 was a big day for the OCET (Office of Continuing Education and Training) team at Leeward CC, as Director Lucy Gay and staff celebrated the grand opening of their new facility on campus. OCET at Leeward CC has taken over the portable classrooms on the west side of the campus, (formerly UH West Oahu facilities) to make more spacious, friendly and accommodating quarters for OCET students and staff.

Honolulu's First Lady, Ramona Harris, was on hand for the ceremony and thanked the OCET staff for their dedication to providing opportunities to Leeward residents. The Royal Hawaiian Band entertained and guests were

treated to tours, refreshments and ongoing entertainment during the three hour event.

Leeward CC's OCET office provides educational opportunities that range from computer networking skills to commercial vehicle driver training to ukulele. ☀

Many guests looked on as celebrants untied a maile lei recognizing the new OCET facilities. Present were (l to r) Educational Specialist Bill Souza, Ramona Harris, Lucy Gay, and LCC Professor Manny Cabral.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The Diplomatic and Consular Officers, Retired, the official organization of retired U.S. Diplomats, has joined two other foundations devoted to supporting education in foreign affairs and diplomacy in granting the Institute for Experiential Learning (IEL) funding for several scholarships for its "Embassy and Diplomatic Scholars Internship" program. Students accepted to the program participate first-hand in the operations of Washington DC's diplomatic community. Please advise students of this opportunity and find out more at the IEL website: <http://www.ielnet.org>.

The Watamull Scholarship for the Study of India provides support for three University of Hawai'i students who want to study in India. Scholarships of \$5,000 each will be awarded to students who wish to learn more about the culture and history of India and its people. Applications for the scholarship are due March 1, 2000. Contact the Office of International Affairs for guidelines and application forms at 956-3101. ☀



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