Happy New Year to all of you! We hope you had a relaxing holiday and a smooth transition into 2010.

We have a lot of exciting things happening this year. For one thing, COP staff has been working hard screening the 450+ COP applications we received for this coming summer program. We haven’t had this many applications since the early 1990s! Great Job COP Alumni who helped recruit students across the state!

We have already started testing students and will soon be conducting interviews. Do you remember your interview? During this time all COP counselors get very busy, so if you need help, make sure to make an appointment or email us.

Other things in store for COP are the Club COP activities, Alaka’ina Peer Mentor workshops, and Manawa Kūpono’s Hui Kama‘ilio! Make sure to check your email and COP website: www.hawaii.edu/cop for updates and details.

Here’s to a great 2010! Have fun, study hard, be safe, and let’s make this year a memorable one! CHEERS!
CALENDAR

January 11
First day of Instruction

January 18
Holiday: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 19
Last day to drop courses/switch sections without "W"

January 20
Last day to register/add courses/change grade option

January 29
Last day for undergraduate and classified graduate students to file spring degree applications

February 10
COP Peer-Mentoring Alaka’ina Workshop

February 15
Holiday: President’s Day

March 12
Last day for restricted withdrawals (with "W")

March 17
COP Peer-Mentoring Alaka’ina Workshop

March 22 - 26
Spring Break Recess

March 26
Holiday: Prince Kuhio Day

March 31

April 2
Holiday: Good Friday

May 5
Last day of instruction

May 10 – 14
Finals Week

May 15
Commencement Day

SUPPORT CLUB COP

Hungry in between classes?
Stop on by the COP office to buy some snacks! Club COP is fundraising for their Spring 2010 activities. View the “menu” below...

SNACK MENU

Large Candy (M&Ms, 3 Musketeers, Starbursts, etc.)...$1.00
Red Vines.................................................................$1.00
Kellogg’s Fruity Snacks.................................................$1.00
Pudding........................................................................$0.75
Assorted Chips..............................................................$0.50
Quaker Chewy Granola Bars...........................................$0.50

COP REPRESENT!!!
Limited Edition CLUB COP T-Shirt

Get your Club COP Shirt! Shirts will be sold in the COP office. Hurry while supply lasts!
Active members will receive shirt at next meeting.
Hi, I am Peter Raneses and this fall I will be graduating with a Bachelor in Education at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. I am also a proud alumnus of the COP 2004. Words can’t really describe how thankful and gracious I am of COP. The College Opportunities Program has truly been a blessing in my life. COP has provided me with the opportunity to fulfill one of my life long goals, which is to graduate college. It is been four and a half years since I completed the summer program but COP has been there every step of the way. They provided guidance, encouragement and support throughout my college career. They made sure I stayed on track and stayed focus. I remember Uncle Mike always giving me pep talks and making sure I stayed on top of everything. COPs staff and counselors always had my back and never let me go astray. COP is one of the contributing factors to my success in college. COP made accomplishing my goals very real and made me believe that skies the limit. COP is family. I am proud to say that I was part of COP. I am where I am today because of COP.

--Peter Raneses, COP ’04 Thank you for your love and support. I couldn’t have done it without you guys. Aloha.

**CHEERS TO COP ALUMNI GRADUATES!**

Six COP Alumni graduated this past semester and participated in the Fall 2009 Commencement Ceremonies that took place on Saturday, December 19, 2009! Congratulations Graduates and good luck in your future endeavors!

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**GRADUATING IN SPRING 2010?**

Visit your college’s Student Academic office to compete a Spring Degree Application. Deadline to file for graduation is **January 29th**.

Also, don’t forget to register to participate in the commencement ceremonies, which will be on Saturday, May 15, 2010.

Visit manoa.hawaii.edu/commencement for more information

Evette Bass, COP ’05
With graduation approaching, I’ve come to realize the best times I had at Mānoa were those with COP. The friends I have made during the program will be my friends forever. Not only did COP give me a chance to receive a quality education, but it gave me a chance for a better life. How blessed are we to have people like Gina and Uncle Mike who dedicate their lives for us. There were times where I felt that it was just too difficult and the pressure became unbearable. It was the trips to the COP office and the guidance of my counselors which kept me sane.

Now that I am graduating, I feel great appreciation for the people who got me here. I thank my mother for keeping me motivated through all the times I wanted to quit. I thank my COP friends for giving me the best times of my life. I thank Tasha for her patience and kindness. Last but not least, I thank Gina and Uncle Mike for their love, wisdom, and seeing the potential in me that I did not see in myself. For all you incoming students, here’s a little advice. Always be thankful for this gift which has been given to you, never give up, and do not take this experience for granted because it’s done before you know it. The ride may be over but the memories will last forever. Another special thanks to Gina for keeping me out of trouble and in school.

Sincerely, Ryan Paulo  COP ‘04