

HENC Agenda

February 12, 2004

1. Educational Access (EA) Plan for 2004
Marked-up copy for review
2. 2004 EA Funding
DCCA is reviewing Oceanic's figures- 2004 Funds Not Yet Released
3. Hawaii Schools Digital Media Initiative (HSDMI) Mid-year report
Discussion Draft
4. Annual EA 2003 Report
Pending
5. Commercialism complaint

2004 Schedule of HENC meetings

February 12
March 11
April 8
May 13
June 10
July 8
August 12
September 9
October 14
November 11 (Holiday)
December 9

HENC Meeting Notes February 12, 2004

Attending: Robert Witt, Gwen Nakahara, David Lassner, Geriann Hong, Vicki Kajioaka, Cecilia Domingo, Arnold Kishi and Marlon Wedemeyer.

Educational Access (EA) Plan for 2004

A copy of the Educational Access Plan for 2004 was distributed during the February meeting and the salient features of each entities' plan for the coming year was reviewed. It was noted that the 2004 plan is largely a continuation from previous planning years as each of the entities continue to refine, as opposed to rewrite, their individual roles in Hawaii's educational access environment.

2004 EA FUNDING

Normally by the time of the February meeting the actual amount of Educational Access funding available to education for the coming year would be known. On February 3, HENC was notified that the 2004 funds are currently under review by DCCA and that the funding would not be distributed until the results of the review are known. To date, no release date for the EA funds has been set.

A discussion was held relating to an independent accountant's report of the revenue statements for Oceanic/TW cable on Oahu. This franchise fee review was conducted to verify the amounts that Oceanic/TW collected and paid to Olelo (and in turn to the educational access entities) during the 1995 through 2002 time period. The summary of the document shows that Olelo was over paid \$139,297 during the entire reporting period. This potentially shows that EA may be responsible for 25% of this overpayment (\$34,824). The summary only shows the total net payment for the reporting period and does not break down each year. HENC will verify the amounts of over (or underpayment) for each of the years since the HENC agreement only became effective on January 1, 1999. Since it is impossible for the entities to refund the money EA will request that any funding that is owed by EA be subtracted from future allocations. This should not impact the amount of core funding covered in the current 2004 EA plan.

HAWAII SCHOOLS DIGITAL MEDIA INITIATIVE (HSDMI) MID-YEAR REPORT

A draft mid-year report for the HSDMI project was reviewed by the advisors. This report was based upon the mid-year reports that were filed by the grantees by January 15, 2004. The report summarizes the 17 schools which filed their findings and use of funds. The report shows that 42% of the awarded funds were used for computers and peripherals; 32% for cameras and supplies; 12% for training and peer review; 8.5% for software and the remaining 5% for supplies.

The report also shows that to date 26 programs have been submitted as completed programs for a total of 136 minutes. Still outstanding are 35 programs which are scheduled to be completed by the end of the school year. These programs will eventually constitute 7+ hours of student programming (varying in length from 30 seconds to 30 minutes) for the Hawaii Student Digital Network (HSDN). The last section of the report was a compilation of a dozen teacher comments regarding the impact the

grants have had on the school and the students. Everyone around the table noted that the program has been greatly received. It was also noted that any reported ties to the integration of standards-based curriculum in the schools should be clarified for the final report.

ANNUAL EA 2003 REPORT

The 2003 Annual Report on Educational Access is progressing (the above HSDMI report will be included as part of the annual report). A clarification on the necessary financial reporting for the Annual Report was requested. The problem lies in the fact that the educational entities largely follow a school calendar year and the EA reports track a calendar year. For the sake of reporting it was decided that each of the three entities shall provide the EA education manager with year end financial summaries according to their own calendar year.

COMMERCIALISM COMPLAINT

One complaint relating to commercialism on Channel 55 has been received. The UH programming in question originated on the Big Island as part of Ag 194x. The show in question was aired as part of a live Fall 2003 credit class and will not show again. A response was generated by the Education Manager in conjunction with the UH which stated:

"It should be understood that the UH believes it continues to act appropriately to balance distance learning classroom activities with Olelo's content guidelines--given the liberties of academic freedom commonly afforded to a higher-ed venue. At the UH these liberties pertain to both the on-campus classrooms and distance learning offerings."

A request has subsequently made by Wendy Arbeit relating to email exchanges between Marlon Wedemeyer and Olelo's Kealii Lopez relating to this complaint. The emails in question have been forwarded. (note: HENC has since received a request from the same person relating to education access' policy relating to commercialism).

THE 2004 SCHEDULE OF HENC MEETINGS

Tentatively scheduled HENC meetings for the balance of the year are below. Please put them on your calendar.

March 11

April 8

May 13

June 10

July 8

August 12

September 9

October 14

November 11 (Holiday)

December 9

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

HENC Agenda

April 8, 2004

1. Educational Access Funds

Six year Funding Summary

2004 Funding

Distributions

Balance Discussions

`Olelo

EA Annual Report 2003

Meeting: Recap on Audit Refund

2. Infrastructure Issues

ALS/ENet - Cable Problems

Channel 56 on Big Island

3. HENC Internal Funding

To Date Funding Summary of the Consortium

4. Other Business

Communications/PR

All Plans and Reports to DCCA Director

HENC Meeting Notes April 8, 2004

In attendance: Arnold Kishi, Cecilia Domingo, Geriann Hong, Gwen Nakahara, Garret Yoshimi, David Lassner, Robert Witt and Marlon Wedemeyer.

EDUCATIONAL ACCESS (EA) FUNDS

For 2004 Educational Access funding from Olelo will be \$988,014. This is the largest amount of funds that EA has ever received during the six years of funding under the Olelo agreement. To date \$832,500 of the 2004 funding has been earmarked for distribution and checks have accordingly been issued. That leaves a balance of \$155,514 which is yet to be recommended by HENC for distribution.

In a recent meeting with Olelo Marlon inquired about the possibility of potentially having to refund \$35,000 to Oceanic as an overpayment (as discussed in the DCCA audit released during December 2003). At the meeting Olelo was informed that it was impossible for the EA entities to refund money after being distributed--and that if they were going to ask for funds that they need to make the request at the start of the funding cycle. The chief operations officer for Olelo assured EA that we would not be expected to return any of the 2004 funds.

A six year Educational Access funding summary was presented for documentation and review. Of the funds 40% of the total has gone to the DOE and 45% to the UH (if you remember starting in 2000 the UH got \$45K more annually to maintain the remote site equipment--which largely accounts for the difference).

The advisors received a final copy of the 2003 Annual Report which was delivered to Olelo in March. A draft of this report was previously discussed during the last HENC meeting. During 2003 EA provided more than 15,000 hours of video programming for the two EA channels. This was an increase of more than 42% from the previous year. The forty seven page report includes the mid-term Hawaii Schools Digital Media Initiative (HSDMI) report as an appendix. The 2003 Annual Report and the 2004 EA Plan are now available at the HENC website, along with the plans for the past four years and seven EA midyear and final reports.

INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES

It was reported that the ALS system (also known in different circles as the ENet or PEG-Net) has experienced some major problems during the previous 2 weeks. The cable signal being delivered locally and to the UH for transport to neighbor islands was very dark and with poor audio. Since the Olelo signal was slightly better than the Teleschool feed (during the times of the problem) the UH picked

up Olelo's signal for HITS transmission. This led to the neighbor island PEG access centers receiving a signal with the Olelo bug.

At the time Oceanic's response to the problem was that the system was aging and may need to be upgraded (Note: Oceanic finally did gain access to the Lili building and fixed it after changing some ALS modules and re-splicing the fiber). The importance of the system was made obvious during the recent problems. At the meeting discussions on the existing distribution sites of the ENet and who maintains the system were held. Depending on the resolution of the problem it was discussed that some of the remaining EA funding for 2004 may be needed to maintain this system.

{Manager's note: David Lassner located an old Oahu cable franchise order which states that Oceanic was originally required to provide PEG origination at no cost from the following sites: UH Manoa; LCC; "a public access studio designated by the director"; DOE Admin Bldg (Lili Bldg); 3 Gov sites in the Civic Center; and, HITS.

The order also states that connectivity at no cost except labor and materials shall be authorized to the following sites: Moanalua HS, Kalaheo HS, Campbell HS & McKinley HS -- 6 months after notice by the director. Plus any other PEG origination sites named by the director.}

The HDOE/Teleschool Channel on the Big Island remains on the cable channel line up at 53 and is the only non-conforming Educational Access cable channel in the State. The obstruction seems to be at the Na Leo access center as equipment was ordered more than six months ago. Geriann agreed to contact the Big Island and the UH would be available for questions relating to equipment.

{Manager's note: Since the meeting Na Leo decided to make the long awaited switch of the DOE to Channel 56 on the evening of Tuesday April 13. They will run a pointer on the previously occupied DOE channel (53) informing viewers of the move to Channel 56.}

HENC FUNDING

A summary of the HENC funding for the past 10 years was presented. The summary shows that total support for the project has been funded 61% by money external to the Consortium entities. On the average the DOE and the UH have annually expended \$8400 and \$9800 respectively to support the Consortium during the past decade.

OTHER BUSINESS

A question arose relating to a HENC response to many of the fallacies and insinuations being put forth by the "P" advocates of PEG at the legislature. Since

HENC's hands are essentially tied by the Olelo agreement relating to advocacy of EA funding--many of the untrue statements have gone unanswered. It was decided that the best approach would be for HENC to not involve itself in the petty arguments and continue to focus on bettering the channels.

HENC will not be holding a regular meeting during its May 13 scheduled timeframe. In its place HENC will be holding an informal gathering. The time and place for this gathering will be determined and announced in the coming weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

**HENC Agenda
August 12, 2004**

1. Cable Access Committee Meeting update
AG Opinion on funding for PEG underserved
EA role with Cable Access Committee

2. 2004 Educational Access Mid-year Report
Report Review
Internal Recommendations

3. EA Funding Discussions
Remaining EA funds for 2004 is \$120,690

4. Other New Business/Discussions

HENC Meeting Notes 8/12/04

Attending: Robert Witt, David Ige, Jamie Sumile (HAIS), Geriann Hong, David Lassner, Gwen Nakahara, Garret Yoshimi and Marlon Wedemeyer.

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

A recap of the August 10 meeting of the newly appointed Cable Advisory Committee (CAC) was made. About 25 people were in attendance at the CAC meeting held at the Olelo facilities. Three committee members were in attendance, along with the DCCA director and the PEG Directors from Oahu, Maui and Kauai. The newly appointed Big Island representative, Gay Porter did not attend the meeting.

Both Kealii Lopez of Olelo and Nate Smith of Oceanic made presentations, which included financial and market information. The presentations were followed by a tour of the Olelo facilities.

The CAC meeting provided an overview of the July 8, 2004 Attorney General ruling regarding "spending funds for the PEG pilot program". The AG ruled that the \$800,000 earmarked for PEG's underserved areas could not be expended without legislative approval. Legislation during the 2004 session failed to get sufficient support.

Four people made public comments at the CAC meeting, most were focused on Public access issues at Olelo. The next meeting of CAC will be in October on Maui with a tour of Akaku. All CAC information from this and all meetings can be found at:

<http://www.state.hi.us/dcca/catv/>

2004 EDUCATIONAL ACCESS MID-YEAR REPORT

The Advisors were presented with an overview of the 2004 Educational Access (EA) Mid-year Report. All three entities reported to be making excellent progress toward their planned goals and objectives defined in the 2004 plan. During the first 6 months of 2004 EA provided access to 7,884 hours of statewide programming for the two education channels, 43% of these hours were locally produced.

Internal recommendations from the report included the suggestion to build a pool of underused local programming for both of the EA channel's use. EA may also want to offer this resource to Olelo for use on Channel 56 during the non-teschool hours programmed by Olelo. The advisors felt that this resource would be a much better use of the programming hours than the Deutsche Welle show that fills much of the evening hours some 16 times in a one week period.

A discussion on the timely scheduling of HAIS programming was held. It was reported that some of HAIS programs have been completed for more than one year and have yet to be scheduled. Geriann promised to follow-up on the issue and to get the HAIS programming on the air as soon as possible. (editor note: the error in HAIS scheduling has been rectified at Teleschool and will be corrected starting on September 1, 2004.)

EA FUNDING DISCUSSIONS

Educational Access has \$120,690 remaining in their allotment for 2004. Proposals for supplemental programming were discussed at the meeting. HENC approved funding the Hawaii Schools Digital Media Initiative project for the 2004-05 school year--at the same level as year one of the initiative. The \$50,000 award will be administered by HAIS. The funds will make grants available for promising digital media programming projects at the K-12 level in both public and private schools. The maximum grant award will be \$2,000 for one hour of student/school based programming submitted during the 2004-05 school year. A committee will be working to provide for grant information, application, review and awards.

The group also approved funding for two other proposals from the UH and HDOE with the remaining 2004 funds. This is subject to final revisions which will include firm program pricing, detailed outcomes and defined timeframe.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS

It was noted that during the CAC meeting Oceanic made mention of the UH Interactive Channel within the Oceanic Cable's On-Demand offering. It was suggested that HENC consider investigating the feasibility of a pilot for an on-demand class for Oceanic's emerging cable on-demand service.

David Lassner has been elected chairman of the Internet2 Applications Strategy Council and will serve on its Board of Trustees.

Robert Witt introduced Jamie Sumile who is charged with the development of the HAIS educational access video programming. Jamie is a graduate of the School of Film and Television at Boston University. She will also be assisting HAIS with the 2004-05 HSDMI project.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.