Council of Chief Academic Officers
Meeting Summary

September 25, 2008
Bachman 113
10:00-2:00 p.m.

Present: Erika Lacro/Gary Bodell (Honolulu CC), Richard Fulton (Windward CC), Mike Pescok (Leeward CC), Phillip Castille (UHH), Doug Dykstra (Hawaii CC), Dennis Kawaharada for Louise Pagotto (Kapiolani CC), Charles Ramsey (Kauai CC), Peter Quigley (UHM), Linda Randall (UHWO) Linda Johnsrud and Joanne Itano (UH System)

Guests: Mark Hoffman (Maui CC) and Kathy Jaycox (UH System)

Representatives to Committees

UCA: Peter Quigley and Louise Pagotto
Financing Your Education: Erika Lacro

Math Summit #1

The first of three proposed meetings will be held during the current academic year to respond to the math crisis and UH’s response. The first meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2008 at WCC and math faculty from each campus have been invited (including remedial and college level from each CC). The plan is to have faculty develop action plans based on obstacles/opportunities identified with a second meeting in January 2009. A question raised is the need for a common math placement test for students who are not part of the public school system and have not taken the Algebra II End of Course test. Also discussed was Phil 110 which currently meets FS general education requirement but may not meet senior WASC requirements. UHM is addressing this issue and most CC campuses offer Phil 110. It was suggested that a ppt be prepared to outline the math issues to be made available to the CAOs.

Chapter 5

Proposed revisions reviewed.

Resources for Teaching about the Federal Budget Challenge

Kathy Jaycox shared information from the Public Agenda’s Students Face Up to the NATION’S Finances initiative. They provide a free package of learning materials designed to raise students’ awareness of our national fiscal challenges and engage students across the national in a discussion of the solutions. A faculty resource website is located at http://www.facingup.org/faculty. Contact Andrew Yarrow (ayarrow@publicagenda.org) for more information.

Budget
Linda Johnsrud provided an overview of the current budget situation. A 4% reduction in the current discretionary base budget is in effect. Every state department is to submit a plan for a 10%, 15%, and 20% budget restriction for the next biennium. Although the Governor has restricted travel from all funds, UH has restricted travel from G funds only. There are additional restrictions on hiring (except instructional faculty) and contracts over $10,000. Exceptions may be approved by the Chancellors and are to be reported weekly to the President. The CIP budget for 09-11 has been approved by the BOR. The operational budget, if any, will be presented at the October BOR meeting. About $30 million is being considered for the operating budget including about $10 million of R & M which is not bondable. This is the top priority for the operating budget. Other items are $10 million in PCRs, $6-8 million in energy costs and $2 million for “shorted” positions. UH also has about $10 million in new funding each year from the increase in tuition. Since David McClain has become president, UH has received an additional $82 million in new funding.

CAOs suggested the following principles be considered in determining the operating budget: not all campuses need R & M, not all campuses need new program $, so the request could be an disaggregated request and for small campuses, consider smaller reduction as tuition dollars are less.

Executive Searches

The BOR has identified members for the UH President selection committee: Regents Haynes, Lagareta and Migita. The intent is to provide an overlap between the new president and July 31, 2009 when President McClain is planning to step down. Three searches for Chancellors are planned, Hon CC and Win CC have identified faculty coordinators. The plan is for the new president to select the UHH chancellor.

ATP/Draft Program Proposal BAS in Applied Engineering, Maui CC

Mark Hoffman provided an overview of the program. This degree proposes to work with ECET programs at Maui, Hawai‘i and Kaua‘i CCs with collaboration with UHM IFA and Engineering departments. Graduates of the current AS programs are employed by observatories on Hawai‘i and Maui and on Kaua‘i by the Pacific Missile Range. He reports that employers indicate that technicians with a bachelor’s degree would qualify for higher positions with higher salaries. Significant funding is needed to build a lab to support this program in the proposed new science building and a proposal has been submitted to NSF (expect to hear in December 2008). Other sources of potential funding are possible.

The Curriculum Committee has approved the program and the Faculty Senate voted not to support the degree because of the implications and impact of the second bachelor’s degree.

It was asked if the degree could be offered from another campus via the University Center (UHWO or a mainland campus that has an applied engineering degree accredited by Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). Mark Hoffman suggested that the labs are a major component of the program and offering it via distance would be a challenge.
Currently Maui, Kaua‘i and Hawai‘i CCs connect via videoconferencing directly into the labs at each campus for selected lab courses.

Engineering programs are expensive so collaboration is needed. CAOs commented that history has shown that technical programs often start with external funding and five years later, these programs need to be supported by G funds (e.g. Digital Media).

If the BAS in applied engineering is not approved, then a third year professional certificate is a likely option.

Of concern is the applied calculus and differential equations needed at the bachelor’s level. Currently AS students complete an applied math course. It is Mark’s observation that more high schools students have completed calculus in high school and current students are definitely more prepared.

According to Suzette Robinson, the plan is to bring the program proposal to the BOR in November 2008. Since decision about funding is not until December 2008 and there is no faculty senate approval at this time, why not wait until the spring 2009? The concern is the Maui economy will be suffering and this degree and Maui CC will be an economic engine for the county. There is a window of opportunity and Maui CC does not want to miss it. This will be a degree that is high tech that will produce high paying jobs and meet the workforce needs of the county of Maui.

There are significant implications for a second bachelor’s degree for Maui CC regarding accreditation and funding. Suzette stated that the goal is for Maui CC to become a four year college and provided a handout, *Proposed 4-Year Plan, revised September 24, 2008* which calls for a transition period of 1-3 years with a name change and dual accreditation by ACCJC and WASC and 3-5 years of being accredited by WASC (see attached).

Summary comments from the CAOs:
- Timing seems too rushed with pending funding and lack of Faculty Senate support.
- Quality of the program is high. Mark Hoffman is to be commended for his work and the collaborations with Hawai‘i and Kaua‘i CCs, UHM’s IFA and Engineering departments and seeking of extramural funding.
- This is an expensive program; have start up funds now but in 5 years, will need to be supported by G funds (e.g. Digital Media). Could there be a more organized approach across campuses?
- Important to build the workforce on Maui with higher paying jobs.
- Important for the program to have faculty support.
- Need to consider the merits/disadvantages to offering your own baccalaureate degree versus one via the University Center on Maui.

Next meeting
October 22, 2008.
*A notice was sent regarding additional meetings scheduled until May 2009.*