



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII
SYSTEM

**University of Hawaii System Foundations Board
Resolution Expressing Strongest Disapproval (Passed October 6, 2009)**

WHEREAS, the original multi-campus foundations agreement signed by faculty and administration of UH-Manoa, Honolulu CC and Kapiolani CC in May 2004 and subsequently joined by every campus in the UH system—with the exception of UH-Hilo and Hawaii CC—stipulates that “Once a campus’s common foundations program is fully approved, its foundations courses can be readily transferred to other UH campuses that have an approved common foundations program” and that this agreement was intended to assist the UH System in moving “quickly towards our shared vision of articulation across the system”; AND

WHEREAS, the update of E5-209 dated August 25, 2006 “reaffirms that completing the AA from a UHCC fulfills admission and lower division general education core requirements at all UH baccalaureate degree-granting institutions”; AND

WHEREAS, UH-Manoa’s College of Arts and Sciences—a “college” encompassing such vastly diverse departments, programs, and majors such as speech, theatre and dance, mathematics, physics and astronomy—has been effectively violating the spirit, if not the letter, of the multi-campus agreement and the 2006 update of E5-209 by “accepting” certain math courses from the CCs such as Math 103, Math 105, and Math 135 as supposedly “satisfying” Foundations Symbolic Reasoning (FSR) requirements, but then Manoa’s College of Arts and Sciences subsequently forces ALL CC transfers who took either Math 103, Math 115, and Math 135 at a CC to take another Manoa FSR course; thus, a UHCC student who’s passed Math 103, Math 115(which is awarded A&S “depth” credit), or Math 135 at a CC and decides to major in an Arts and Sciences major such as English, speech or theater and dance MUST take another Manoa FSR class as part of a “college graduation requirement”; AND

WHEREAS, given the diversity of departments and programs contained in UH-Manoa’s College of Arts and Sciences, this particular “college graduation requirement” is of questionable academic merit, to say the least; AND

WHEREAS, at the spring 2008 Multi-Campus Foundations meeting, UH-Manoa’s Foundations Chair at the time, Stephen Canham, admitted publicly that members of Manoa’s math department told him that Honolulu CC’s Math 135 was “the same old course” regardless of how Honolulu CC’s FSR application demonstrates that Math 135 meets the Manoa-generated FSR hallmarks, i.e., the System Hallmarks, thus making it unequivocal that the practice of forcing CC students to take additional math requirements as “college graduation requirements” stems from reasons other than a sincere discussion of the System Symbolic Reasoning hallmarks; AND

WHEREAS, the Honolulu Community College Foundations Board recently declined to approve a Foundations Symbolic Reasoning Proposal for a Hon CC Math 112, HCC's Foundations Board finding that the proposal didn't sufficiently meet the System Symbolic Reasoning Hallmarks, and while rejecting a Math 112 from our own campus, Honolulu Community College continues accepting WITHOUT QUESTION the FSR credit of students transferring from other campuses where Math 112 currently receives an FSR designation such as UH-Manoa; AND

WHEREAS, Hon CC and other CC campuses that currently don't award Math 112 with an FSR designation do not force Manoa students with FSR credit from Manoa's Math 112 into enrolling in additional math classes in order to satisfy "college graduation requirements," thus illustrating that the CCs have decided not to respond in kind to Manoa's College of Arts and Sciences by creating specious "college graduation requirements" and thus refusing to allow cross-campus faculty disagreements that effectively punish UH students and to endanger system-wide agreements necessary in resolving long-standing articulation problems in the UH system; AND

WHEREAS, all UH campuses belonging to the multi-campus foundations agreement, and indeed EVEN many colleges at UH-Manoa, other than Arts and Sciences, accept the FSR designations of CC students WITHOUT forcing these students into taking an additional lower-division FSR course as a "graduation requirement," although recognizing that, depending on a student's MAJOR, additional lower-level math courses may be reasonably required for a student's major if genuinely necessary, these UH-Manoa colleges—again, not Arts and Sciences—as well as all campuses belonging to the multi-campus foundations agreement are thus adhering to the letter AND spirit of the May 2004 multi-campus agreement and the 2006 update of E5 209; AND

WHEREAS, the UHCC Foundations Chairs have pleaded for years with assorted representatives of UH-Manoa, the UH System, and the University Council of Articulation (UCA) to have Manoa's College of Arts and Sciences adhere properly to the multi-campus Foundations Agreement and decide additional math requirements at the major level rather than the "college," only to have our pleas ignored year after year;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the UH System Foundations Board Chairs that:

1. The UH System Foundations Board Chairs expresses our unqualified and strongest disapproval of the UH-Manoa College of Arts and Sciences for a persistent violation of the multi-campus agreement agreed to and practiced in good faith by the other members of the agreement and other colleges at UH-Manoa, and;
2. The UH-System Board of Foundations Chairs expresses our unqualified and strongest disapproval of the University Council of Articulation (UCA) for refusing its stated mission of properly overseeing and coordinating the UH System articulation process and thus being actively complicit in this continued violation of the multi-campus agreement by UH-Manoa's College of Arts and Sciences.



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Linda K. Johnsrud
Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy

December 11, 2009

Dr. Jerry Saviano, Chair
Foundations Board
c/o Honolulu Community College
874 Dillingham Boulevard
Honolulu, HI 96817

Dear Jerry:

Thank you for your email of October 7, 2009 from the multi-campus Foundations Board regarding a resolution *expressing our strongest disapproval of Mānoa's College of Arts and Sciences for its longstanding treatment of requiring "college graduation requirements" for three Symbolic Reasoning courses offered at UH Community Colleges: Match 103, 115 and Math 135 and our strongest disapproval of the University Council on Articulation (UCA) for allowing—despite continued pleas by Community College representatives—this practice to continue year after year for, in effect, being "complicit" in the behavior of Mānoa's College of Arts and Sciences.* We also received a statement from Dr. Jim Tiles regarding UHM's response to the resolution.

The University Council on Articulation met on October 16, 2009 and had a productive and amicable discussion to identify and understand the issues surrounding the resolution passed by the multi-campus Foundations Board. There was agreement that there is no technical violation of E5.209 as section III B 2.b. states

The AA fulfills lower division general education core (basic/area or foundations/diversification); however, students who transfer from one University of Hawai'i campus to another must satisfy the general education, program, degree and graduation requirements of the campus from which they wish to graduate.

However, there was also agreement that the "spirit" of E5.209, to make transfer as simple and predictable as possible, is challenged relative to the graduation requirement of specific math/math related courses for BA degrees earned in the College of Arts and Sciences. UHM representatives acknowledged that a number of curricular issues are under discussion on their campus and that continued dialog is helpful and necessary to resolve these issues.

Following our meeting, you on November 17, 2009, Joanne Itano and I also met with Dr. Reed Dasenbrock, UHM Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

2444 Dole Street, Bachman Hall 204
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822
Telephone: (808) 956-7075
Fax: (808) 956-9119

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Currently, there are several positive transfer and articulation initiatives that are in the planning stage (i.e. reverse transfer, automatic admission, transfer of GE core). The mathematics faculty have been meeting (Math Summit III was held on October 7, 2009) regarding the alignment of lower division math courses. Math 103, and 135 have been specifically discussed in relation to high school algebra II end of course standards. Math Summit IV is planned for Spring 2010.

As a result of these meeting and initiatives, I am convening the UCA on January 29, 2010, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Bachman 113. Dr. Reed Dasenbrock will be attending this meeting to discuss transfer and articulation issues and the Foundations Board resolution. You and the members of the multi-campus Foundations Board are welcome to attend. Please extend this invitation to the committee members.

Sincerely,



Linda K. Johnsrud
Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy

c: Vice Chancellor Reed Dasenbrock
Director Joanne Itano