April 9, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Eric K. Martinson  
Chairperson, Board of Regents

VIA: M.R.C. Greenwood  
President

VIA: John Morton  
Vice President for Community Colleges

FROM: Noreen Yamane  
Chancellor, Hawai`i Community College

Michael T. Rota  
Chancellor, Honolulu Community College

Leon Richards  
Chancellor, Kapi`olani Community College

Helen Cox  
Chancellor, Kaua`i Community College

Clyde Sakamoto  
Chancellor, UH-Maui College

Manuel Cabral  
Chancellor, Leeward Community College

Douglas Dykstra  
Chancellor, Windward Community College

SUBJECT: Establishment of an Associate in Arts Degree in Hawaiian Studies
SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED:

The six community colleges and Maui College have collaboratively developed an Associate in Arts degree in Hawaiian Studies. The colleges together respectfully request Board of Regents approval to establish an Associate in Arts in Hawaiian Studies at each of the seven colleges.

ADDITIONAL COST:

No additional funding is required for the program at any of the campuses. The courses included in the campus proposals are already established and regularly offered.

RECOMMENDED EFFECTIVE DATE:

Fall 2012

PURPOSE:

The Associate in Arts degree will prepare students to transfer to one of the University of Hawai‘i baccalaureate institutions to continue their studies in various aspects of Hawaiian language and culture. This proposed degree program is based on existing Academic Subject Certificate programs in Hawaiian Studies at the colleges and has grown out of the desire to strengthen the University’s goal to become the preeminent indigenous-serving institution in the world as recently expressed in Hawai‘i Papa O Ke Ao document. It will also encourage our Native Hawaiian and other students to complete an AA program and continue on for a baccalaureate degree.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Board of Regents policy governing Academic Affairs, Section 5-1a, and Executive Policy E5.201, Approval of New Academic Programs and Review of Provisional Academic Programs, the six community colleges and UH-Maui College request the Board’s approval to establish a provisional Associate in Arts degree in Hawaiian Studies starting fall semester, 2012.

In accordance with existing Executive Policy E5.209 and articulation agreements among the Colleges and Universities, students who have completed their Associate in Arts degree at one of the community colleges are deemed to have met the general education requirements at all institutions. Hence, completing the associate’s degree is an attractive option for students.
All of the colleges have well established Hawaiian Studies courses. The purpose of this degree is to serve as an option for students seeking to earn an Associate degree and/or transfer to a Hawaiian Studies baccalaureate degree path at UH Mānoa or UH Hilo.

With the approval of the Associate in Arts in Hawaiian Studies, students will have access to a curriculum that is intentionally designed to meet the General Education provisions of E5.209. More importantly, they will have access to a curriculum intentionally designed to focus on a coherent set of courses on the language, culture, and history of the Hawaiian people and designed to prepare them for success in and timely completion of baccalaureate programs in their intended major.

The proposed Associate in Arts in Hawaiian Studies, while allowing for variations in curricular offerings at each campus, nevertheless reflects common program learning outcomes for both major courses and the General Education courses. Common outcomes for the Hawaiian Studies major courses are:

- Describe aboriginal Hawaiian linguistics, cultural, historical and political concepts
- Apply aboriginal Hawaiian concepts, knowledge and methods to the areas of science, humanities, arts and social sciences – in academics and in other professional endeavors.
- Engage, articulate and analyze topics relevant to the aboriginal Hawaiian community using college-level research and writing methods.

The shared outcomes for the General Education component of the degree are derived from the existing General Education outcomes at the seven colleges. Each of the colleges has an established and approved Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts degree with individual program learning outcomes expressed in statements unique to each College, reflecting the knowledge and skills acquired through the completion of General Education courses. Because the proposed Associate in Arts in Hawaiian Studies also includes a significant component of General Education, these outcomes are also expected of graduates of the AA in Hawaiian Studies. While the seven colleges have described their General Education outcomes in statements unique to each institution, the commonalities of the outcomes shared by the General Education courses in the Associate in Arts in Hawaiian Studies have been captured using the principles and categories developed by the Degree Qualification Profile:

- Broad, Integrative Knowledge
- Intellectual Skills
- Applied Learning
- Civic Learning

The proposed degree supports two major goals of the University of Hawai‘i strategic plan. Firstly, offering an Associate in Arts in Hawaiian Studies uniquely and significantly promotes
the University’s goal of being a leading indigenous-serving institution. Secondly, the proposed
degree creates an explicit and intentional pathway to promote graduation and transfer to four-
year institutions, thereby increasing the educational capital of the state, another goal of the
University’s strategic plan. The proposed Associate in Arts in Hawaiian Studies degree is a
product of the close collaboration of faculty across the seven campuses for the benefit of
students, the University and the state and makes it possible for the seven colleges to offer a
single program of study that addresses two of the University’s strategic goals with a shared focus
and without incurring additional costs.

Board of Regents Policy 5-1(a) provides that all new academic programs, once approved, shall
have provisional status until a review is conducted. As an associate degree program, the
Associate in Arts in Hawaiian Studies would be scheduled to be reviewed during the Fall 2014-
2015 academic year.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve a provisional Associate in Arts Degree in
Hawaiian Studies to be effective Fall 2012.

Attachments
New Program Proposal, dated 2012
For: Hawai‘i Community College, Honolulu Community College, Kapi‘olani Community
College, Kaua‘i Community College, Leeward Community College, Windward Community
College and Maui College

c: Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board