The Chair opened discussion with a brief overview of the main goals of the Committee for the coming year, namely to promote the Hawai‘i Graduation Initiative and to develop a strategic approach to academic planning. The agenda for the meeting, however, involved only consideration of program actions, in line with the recent decision to take up these items twice yearly in the fall and the spring. The committee deliberated and is recommending for approval two advanced professional certificates (APC) offered by Kapi‘olani Community College, in Hospitality Operational Management and in Information Technology, and the UH Hilo PhD in Hawaiian and Indigenous Language and Culture Revitalization.

Kapi‘olani Community College proposes for provisional status a new program, the APC in Hospitality Operations Management to begin in Fall 2016, structured similarly to the existing APC in Information Technology which is now being proposed for established status. Both programs are intended to meet needs of students completing an AS degree at any community college. The APC credential consists of 18 credits of 300-level coursework. Since the courses make maximum use of distance learning technologies, students can complete the majority of the program without leaving their home island. Both of these programs are also articulated with the UH West O‘ahu Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. These pathways have an applied focus which prepares professionals in response to needs identified by their industries and are distinct from the baccalaureate degrees offered at UH Mānoa. Kapi‘olani faculty, classroom and instructional support resources are adequate to deliver these programs, although it should be noted that Vice President Morton will be bringing to the Board a proposal to extend to all community colleges the current UH Maui College tuition schedule for courses that are 300-level and above. The committee engaged in extended discussion concerning student demand and enrollment and employment projections, competency based programs, quality of education using distance learning, distinctiveness of applied science degrees, and sustainability of programs under the current tuition schedule.

The University of Hawai‘i at Hilo proposes established status for the PhD in Hawaiian and Indigenous Language and Culture Revitalization at its College of Hawaiian Language. This program is clearly related to our strategic objective as an indigenous serving institution, which has also attracted a great deal of interest nationally and internationally. It is the culmination of a movement which began in Hilo in the 1980’s to restore the Hawaiian language as a medium of instruction at all levels from pre-school on. UH Hilo has had a crucial role in training the educators and providing curriculum. This doctorate will be the first in a Hawaiian Studies field and the first in the world specific to the growing field of indigenous language and culture revitalization. Four students from the first cohort, admitted in fall 2006, have completed degrees and are employed in their specializations. The second cohort has four students now at advanced levels, and the third cohort, with eight students, was admitted for the current academic year. Students and faculty from the program are actively engaged in research and in sharing their findings through publication and frequent presentations at conferences. Understandably, the program is heavily dependent on expertise developed internally, but has provided balance through engagement with a wide network of colleagues.

In summary, the Committee carefully reviewed and considered the proposals presented and recommends Board approval for:
1. Provisional status for the Advanced Professional Certificate in Hospitality Operational Management at Kapi‘olani Community College
2. Established status for the Ph.D. in Hawaiian and Indigenous Language and Culture Revitalization at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo.
3. Established status for the Advanced Professional Certificate in Information Technology at Kapi‘olani Community College