
APPENDIX B

PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

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EXTERNAL ISSUES

- P The Hawai`i population will continue to grow approximately 1% per year throughout the planning period.
- P The number of Hawai`i public school graduates will continue to increase approximately 2-3% per year during the scope of the planning period.
- P Changes in the Hawai`i economy and workforce that result in a reduction in low-skilled jobs and increase in technical and professional employment will continue over the duration of this planning period.
- P Although a growing number of jobs in Hawai`i require education at the baccalaureate level and beyond, the majority of jobs will require some education and training beyond high school, but not at the baccalaureate level.
- P The Community Colleges will continue to enroll a substantial number of students who will require some form of remedial/developmental education and related support services.
- P With the appropriate mix of programs and services, an increasing number of new high school graduates will choose to continue their education at the Community Colleges. This should result in enrollment increases of 3-4% per year over the next 4 to 6 years.
- P The Community Colleges will continue to benefit from strong and informed community interest, involvement, and support for the development of the Community Colleges.
- P The visitor industry and related retail sales and services, will continue to be the mainstays of the Hawai`i economy.
- P Community and employer expectations regarding our graduates will continue to increase. These expectations include:
- Program graduates who are literate and can communicate;
 - Program graduates who are prepared for further education;
 - Program graduates who know standard industry practices;
 - Program graduates with “Real World” experience;
 - Program graduates with “Soft Skills” as detailed in the United States Department of Labor SCANS competencies;
 - Administrators, faculty and curricula that are able to change to meet new industry requirements; and
 - Student certifications that meet established industry standards and are transportable.

- P The total State General Fund support available to the Community Colleges will remain substantial. A weak economy and growing competition for State funds will constrain State support in the near term, but the State's commitment to public higher education, coupled with institutional accountability, will improve the Community Colleges's General Fund base in the long run.
- P The Community Colleges must expand non-General Fund sources of financial support if we are to have sufficient resources to meet our strategic goals.
- P With the advent of satellite and interactive television, personal computers, and the Internet, much of what was once restricted to the classroom on campus can now be delivered anywhere in the world at the convenience of the learner. The growing use of these technologies and the sharp drop in their cost will increase the public's demand for greater access to postsecondary education and increase competition from other education and training providers.
- P Rapidly changing technologies, particularly those related to telecommunications and the Internet, will provide access to a rapidly growing array of information resources and educational programs in Hawai'i from around the world.
- P Changes in the federal and state welfare statutes and requirements will cause an increasing number of individuals to seek programs and services designed to improve their employability.
- P As significant changes continue to take place in the workplace, an increasing number of individuals will seek opportunities for further education. This will include not only individuals employed in the visitor industry and related services, but also professionals such as teachers, health care providers, social service providers, etc.
- P Providing residents with the opportunity to enroll in programs that lead to employment in the State will continue to be a high priority for the Community Colleges
- P A growing health and wellness industry in Hawai'i along with an aging population will result in increased demand for instruction in related health programs.
- P Increased competition in the education marketplace will require the community colleges to commit additional time and resources to marketing and promotion if we are to continue to attract students to the campuses.
- P Limited resources and the rapid advance of new technologies will require that we develop strategic partnerships with business and other education providers.

INTERNAL ISSUES

- P Student expectations for education and support services will continue to increase. Their expectations include:
- Build upon their previous education and training;
 - Ability to smoothly transfer between campuses offering the same programs without having to repeat courses;
 - Employability in a job related to their education and training;
 - Ability to meet established industry certification requirements upon graduation;
 - Ability to work and meet other family obligations while continuing their education;
 - Ability to enroll, register, and complete other institutional transactions as efficiently as possible;
 - Enrollment in classes taught by faculty who are supportive, qualified, and well-prepared;
 - Classes conducted in suitable facilities, with the equipment necessary to prepare students with essential skills and knowledge; and
 - Timely access to appropriate support services, including:
 - Financial Aid and Scholarships
 - Library Services
 - Tutorial Support
 - Computer Services
 - Advising and Counseling
 - Child care
 - Job Placement Services
- P Increased professional development opportunities for faculty and staff in the Community Colleges is a critical element in providing quality programs and services.
- P Regular coordination among the Community Colleges and all campuses of the University of Hawai'i in the delivery of programs will provide greater opportunities for the residents of Hawai'i.
- P Quality customer service is an increasingly important aspect in the enrollment and retainment of today's students. Professional development for support staff is an important part of the success of the community colleges' enrollment management efforts.
- P Promoting partnerships with business, industry, government, and other educational entities will make maximum use of limited resources.
- P A regular, systematic review of community postsecondary education needs and appropriate program modifications will assure efficient use of limited resources.
- P The current location of the University Center in Kealahou, and the lack of adequate facilities and infrastructure will continue to hamper the delivery of quality programs and the growth of student enrollment in West Hawai'i.

- P** Facilities and equipment limitations, particularly at our Oahu campuses, will limit our ability to respond to increased demands for telecommunications and high technology education and training.