

Faces and Places

A University of Hawai'i Portrait 2009

Sustainability
Matters



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Maps adapted from images developed by the Hawai‘i Synergy Project using NASA satellite data; UH site and facility locations are approximate

The University of Hawai‘i is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution

On the cover: Lyon Arboretum’s Hawaiian Rare Plant Program (please see story on back cover)

We're working now to ensure a sustainable future

Growing population pressure up against limited resources: this theme is familiar at the University of Hawai'i this year. Our fall, 2008 enrollment is nearly 3,000 students above fall 2007 levels, and at about 53,500 students is at the highest level in UH's 101-year history. Since 2000, we have grown our student body by some 9,000 students, a 20% increase.

At the same time, reflecting the weakening local economy and the prospect of lower tax revenues, financial resources provided to UH by the State of Hawai'i—some 45% of our budget—are projected to decline somewhat in the 2009–2011 timeframe.

The world as a whole is also facing the challenge of a surging population squeezing its resource base—but in this case the scarce resources are both physical and financial. Yes, the global economy is in a sharp recession; more fundamentally, the physical resources of “Island Earth” are being stretched to the limit by global warming and climate change.

This “inconvenient truth,” as former U.S. Vice President and Nobel laureate Al Gore has called it in the film by the same name, has triggered new measures to sustain Island Earth for generations to come.

Sustainable development, as used by the United Nations' World Commission on Environment and Development (also known as the Brundtland Commission), has been defined as development that “meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” Sustaining our environment, our economy, and our social and political systems has become the touchstone of political and community dialogue everywhere.

Entering its second century, and reflecting the Native Hawaiian values that are at the core of our strategic vision, your University of Hawai'i has embraced this movement with enthusiasm. Our scholars, our students, and our staff are focused on reducing our carbon footprint; using energy more efficiently; and developing new technologies, social frameworks, and economic mechanisms that will help bring us back into balance with the kai and the 'āina. In the process, they're helping us address the current fiscal challenges brought on by our surging enrollment.

This edition of *Faces and Places* highlights UH's commitment to sustainability as we introduce you to each one of the remarkable collection of 10 campuses that comprise the University of Hawai'i. As we say in my weekly president's report on our sustainability efforts, located on the front page of our website (www.hawaii.edu), “At UH, Sustainability Matters.”



**David McClain, President
University of Hawai'i System**

SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS

Our strategic vision for the University of Hawai'i is grounded in Native Hawaiian values, including a strong sense of community, mutual respect among members of our society, and an enhanced sense of the need to conserve and care for limited resources. *Malama 'āina*, to care for the land, is a value with even greater importance today as Hawai'i, the nation and the world face the challenges of the 21st century.

As we look ahead, our 10 campuses across our island state have made a commitment toward a more sustainable future for our university. Students, faculty, staff and administrators are collaborating on numerous projects and programs that demonstrate that, at the University of Hawai'i, sustainability matters.

BUILDING SUSTAINABILITY

Operation reviews and innovative new building designs aim for increased efficiency

Administrators at all 10 university campuses are evaluating facilities operations to ensure that energy-efficient practices are implemented where possible. Measures being taken include repairing and retrofitting air conditioning systems and exhaust fans, assessing electricity use, replacing cooling towers, reviewing lighting in campus buildings for retrofit and delamping opportunities, and investigating alternative energy opportunities such as photovoltaics.

A number of new University of Hawai'i facilities have earned or are on the path to earning Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certifications and ratings. The LEED System was developed by the U.S. Green Building Council in 1998 to encourage environmentally sustainable construction. A rating of Certified, Silver, Gold or Platinum is awarded based on the number of credit points earned in six categories including sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, and innovation and design.

The 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i at UH Hilo was the university's first new building to be built and designed for LEED certification, meeting the U.S. Green Building Council's requirements for ecological excellence. Composed of 75% recycled



'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i

materials, the building houses systems to control power and light consumption and provide overall environmental efficiency.

Frear Hall, the first new student residence hall to be built at UH Mānoa in 30 years, was designed to be eligible for LEED silver certification. Sustainable design elements of the two interconnected 12-story towers feature fluorescent lighting, low-flow plumbing fixtures, recycled carpeting, natural ventilation for hallways and lobby areas, a "cool" roof and glass that reflects the sun's heat, and a green housekeeping program that eliminates the use of toxic cleaning chemicals.

The John A. Burns School of Medicine in Kaka'ako is considered a pioneer of sustainable design, earning LEED certification with such technological innovations as a flywheel system that keeps power flowing to critical systems during brief electrical interruptions; the use of cold seawater in the cooling system and a Central Chiller Plant that replaces the use of standard cooling towers saving roughly 30 million gallons of potable water and reducing electrical consumption; and interior lighting featuring "light shelves" on windows, which reduces the need for artificial lighting by reflecting daylight into the room.

University of Hawai'i campuses are investing in hybrid and electric vehicles for their vehicle fleets. At UH Mānoa, Campus Security and Parking Operations utilize 12 electric carts to travel around the campus. Campus Security also uses two personal electric vehicles and bicycles to patrol the UH Mānoa campus, enhancing



Hybrid Vehicle Fleet

the security and safety of individuals and property on campus while also promoting fuel-efficient transportation and reducing emissions.

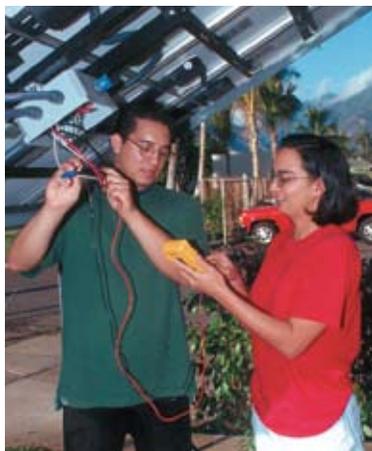
UH Hilo’s new Student Life Center features design elements aimed at earning a LEED Gold rating. Most elements work in harmony with the surrounding environment or promote changes in everyday practices to reduce energy use. During construction, builders recycled to divert most leftover building materials from the waste stream.

UH West O’ahu has instituted a framework of guidelines to integrate sustainability into the development and operation of its proposed new campus in Kapolei. The guidelines cover landscaping, water management, energy use, transportation and waste management. The future campus will orient streets and buildings to account for sun and wind as energy saving measures, while the design of the campus also lends itself to walking and bicycle riding rather than driving.

TEACHING SUSTAINABILITY

Academic and outreach programs expand skills and awareness

Maui Community College offers a variety of academic programs related to sustainability. The Sustainable Tropical Crop Production program offers a certificate covering elements of sustainable crop production including planting, harvesting, irrigation, pest control and product marketing, as well as social and economic impacts. The Sustainable



Sustainable Construction Technology

Construction Technology program focuses on the design, retrofit, and maintenance of sustainable construction, including energy efficient systems, passive cooling, renewable energy from wind, sun, and water, and electricity-saving equipment using such new technology as off-grid systems and computer-controlled consumption.

At UH Mānoa, the College of Education, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, School of Architecture, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, and the William S. Richardson School of Law, among others, have significant educational programs, both undergraduate and graduate, in such fields as environmental engineering, architecture, planning, landscape design, science, economics, agriculture and law. Many of these programs include opportunities for field work and other practical projects to get hands-on experience in these fields.

Windward Community College offers an academic subject certificate in bioresources and technology (plant biotechnology) that prepares students for careers in biotechnology and bioprocessing entrepreneurship and puts them on track towards pursuing bachelor’s and advanced degrees through UH Mānoa’s College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.



Bioresources and Biotechnology at Windward Community College

Students have access to the campus’ new bioprocessing medicinal garden complex as a learning laboratory, which includes a medicinal garden, an aquaponic system where fish help fertilize water-growing plants, and a bioprocessing trailer where students use medicinal and nutritious plants from the garden to make marketable products.

UH Mānoa’s Outreach College will soon be offering a series of workshops on “Going Green” in partnership with Olomana Gardens in Waimanalo. Open to the public for a nominal fee, workshops cover topics ranging from raised bed gardening, home composting and composting with worms to portable organic gardening and residential landscape design.

Kapi’olani Community College has created a new Learning Communities Institute dedicated to sustainable thinking and practice. Open to all associated with the UH Community Colleges, the institute will bring various speakers and invited guests to the campus to discuss how sustainability can be integrated into the

community college curriculum and how learning communities can catalyze the process.

The Masters of Science in Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental Sciences (TCBES) program at UH Hilo engages faculty and students in collaboration with federal, state and non-profit agencies to help protect the fragile environments and species that make Hawai'i a special tropical island paradise. Faculty, students and agency partners investigate topics ranging from the terrestrial impacts on our local nearshore waters, the genetics and adaptation of endemic Hawaiian species to the myriad of environments on these islands, and the impact of global and local environmental changes on plants and animals.

GRASSROOTS SUSTAINABILITY

Campus groups are spearheading sustainable practices across the state



Student-Led Initiative: UH Mānoa HUB (Help Us Bridge)

Sustainable Saunders is a student-led initiative to evolve UH Mānoa's Saunders Hall into a model of sustainability for the campus, Hawai'i and beyond. Its goal is to pilot sustainable solutions at Saunders Hall, measure the results and roll out successful projects to the rest of the Mānoa campus. The initiative is led by HUB (Help Us Bridge), an interdisciplinary student group that coordinates nearly a dozen projects of the initiative, which include energy efficiency adjustments, alternative energy (wind and solar installations), green cleaning, green roofing, water catchments, xeriscaping, recycling and worm composting.

As part of its 40th anniversary celebration, Leeward Community College is "going green" and has formed a Green Committee with four major components—Recycling, Resource Conservation, Teaching Green and Spreading Green. Throughout the year, the committee will host a variety of informational sessions to better inform the community and the campus on sustainability.

Kapi'olani Community College's Sustainability Committee, comprised of faculty, staff and students, has been working to help transform the campus by institutionalizing a recycling program, reducing the campus' electricity use and developing various

avenues to communicate ideas on sustainable thinking and living. The committee is also exploring ways to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum and the potential for an academic certificate in sustainability.

Kapi'olani Community College's Culinary Arts Department has tasked its food service operations, the 220 Grille at the Kapi'olani campus and the Kulia Grill at the John A. Burns School of Medicine in Kaka'ako, to become models for sustainable food service. Both locations utilize biodegradable plates, cups and utensils. They have also initiated a "buy local, if affordable" policy for fresh ingredients, a pilot composting project utilizing pre-consumer food waste, and an on-campus mini farm plot to compliment its herb garden, which provides the campus food service operations with fresh produce that reduces its energy footprint.



Sustainable Food Service

PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

UH joins forces with businesses and community organizations locally and nationally

Since 2006, Leeward Community College has been designated as one of the City & County of Honolulu's recycled green waste sites where mulch is available for campus & community pickup and use. Green waste is also being recycled in the college's Hawaiian Gardens and Shade House.

The Sustainable Living Institute of Maui (SLIM) is a partnership between Maui Community College, Maui Land & Pineapple, Inc., and EARTH University in Costa Rica. SLIM was established to serve as a catalyst to make the island of Maui a prototype for the development of sustainable island communities by educating and promoting practices and technology that preserve our natural resources. SLIM conducts educational forums and



Sustainable Living Institute of Maui

events, provides scholarships, and oversees the development of current and future sustainability related programming at Maui Community College.

The University of Hawai'i sponsored and facilitated Hawai'i's Education & Government eWaste Disposal Days 2008 event, a statewide recycling effort that provided an opportunity for free earth-friendly disposal of computers and other unwanted electronics by educational institutions, government agencies, businesses, non-profits and the general public. The Hawai'i Department of Education participated, and recycling and disposal services were provided courtesy of Apple. Seven drop-off sites at UH and DOE campuses across the state collected 51 containers of electronics totaling 1.5 million pounds.

Hawaiian studies students at Kaua'i Community College are helping to restore the Waipa ahupua'a on Kaua'i's north shore by improving the lo'i, cleaning out the fishpond, and planting Native Hawaiian trees. Students will learn more about sustainability by making poi and lau lau from food crops cultivated in the lo'i, exploring the values of service as expressed in Hawaiian culture. For hands-on learning experiences, students will take part in lessons focusing on art, kapa making and Polynesian voyaging.

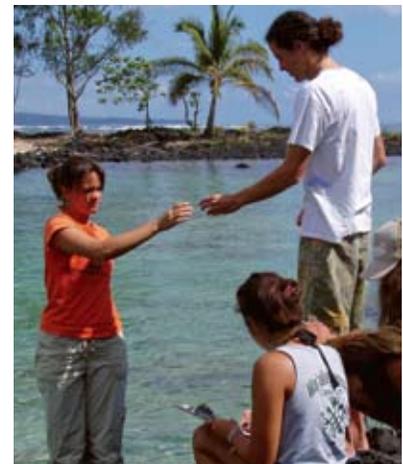


Leeward Community College and MA'O Farms Partnership

A unique partnership between Leeward Community College and MA'O Farms provides students on the Wai'anae Coast with internships via a Youth Leadership Training program. Selected interns sign on for a two-year commitment, taking classes at Leeward Community College and receiving study support and leadership and money management tutoring while working on the Wai'anae farm helping to harvest 25 different crops. The program empowers the students to be self-reliant and productive while also supporting higher education for Wai'anae Coast students, especially Native Hawaiians.

The Pacific Internship Programs for Exploring Science (PIPES) is a university-level program housed within the Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center at UH Hilo. PIPES is committed

to increasing the recruitment and retention of local students, especially those of Native Hawaiian ancestry, into fields of study, and ultimately, careers related to the natural resources of Hawai'i and the Pacific region. Through internships and other activities, PIPES emphasizes the connections between culture, community and environment as important aspects in building a sustainable future for our islands.



Pacific Internship Programs for Exploring Science at Hilo

UH Mānoa and Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) have a long history of collaboration on diverse projects. In recent years, collaborative efforts have focused on helping the Mānoa campus save energy and reduce its impact on global warming. The Mānoa campus has qualified for rebates for installing CFL bulbs in student housing. Other projects include research of solar access on rooftops using aerial imaging and analysis, grant support for development of an energy-based curriculum to increase sustainable design skills of architecture students, and providing space and utilities for the Hawai'i Fuel Cell Test Facility where the UH Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute is conducting research on fuel cells and associated fuels.

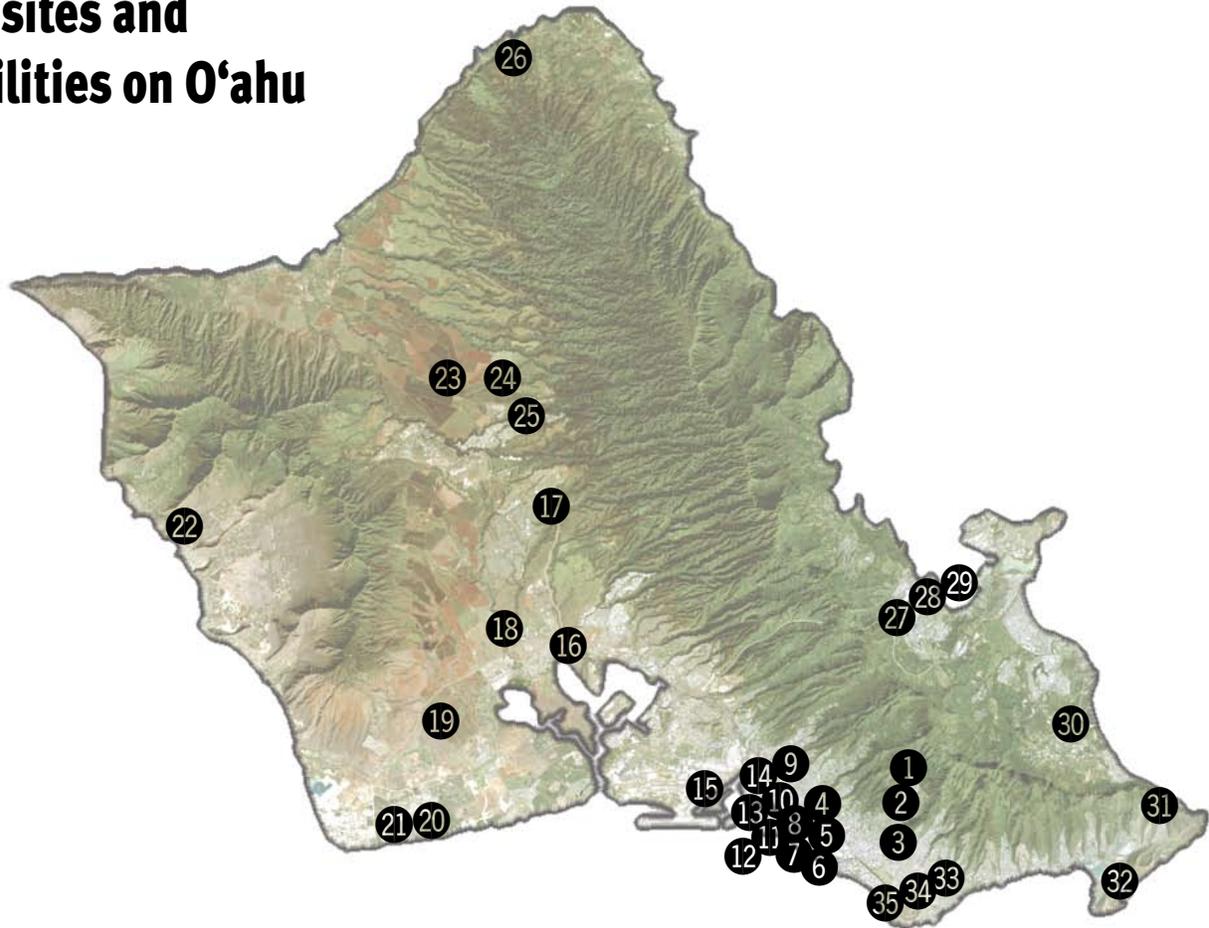
Maui Community College and Maui Electric Company (MECO) have signed an Energy Partnership Charter, committing to work collaboratively to promote increased production of renewable and alternative energies and energy conservation and efficiency. The college and MECO will also work together to further workforce development and education in these areas.

Windward Community College is an institutional member of the National Wildlife Federation's Campus Ecology program, which promotes climate leadership and sustainability among colleges and universities by providing resources and technical support, creating networking opportunities and organizing educational events.

Created in 2004 under the leadership of Kaua'i Community College, the Kaua'i Food Industry Forum serves as a community-based advocacy group focused on increasing Kaua'i's level of food self-sufficiency. It is sponsored by Kaua'i Community College, the Garden Island Resource Conservation and Development agency, UH Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, the County Office of Economic Development, Malama Kaua'i, a non-profit organization dedicated to sustainable solutions, and other community organizations.

More on sustainability—page 20

UH sites and facilities on O'ahu



Number of City and County of Honolulu residents who-

Hold a UH or RCUH job	9,077
UH employees	7,589
Research Corporation of UH employees	1,488
Attend a UH campus	32,020
East Honolulu	1,875
Honolulu	12,304
Leeward	13,104
Windward	4,737
Have a UH degree	115,262

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Lyon Arboretum (UH Mānoa) 2 Mānoa Innovation Center (UH Mānoa) 3 University of Hawai'i at Mānoa 4 Hawai'i Tumor Registry (UH Mānoa) 5 Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i (UH Mānoa) 6 Kewalo Basin Marine Mammal Lab (UH Mānoa) 7 Kewalo Marine Laboratory (UH Mānoa) 8 Hawai'i Birth Defects Program (UH Mānoa) 9 Construction Academy-Fire House (Honolulu CC) 10 Hawai'i Fuel Cell Test Facility (UH Mānoa) 11 John A. Burns School of Medicine (UH Mānoa) * 12 University of Hawai'i Marine Center (UH Mānoa) 13 Marine Education and Training Center (Honolulu CC) 14 Honolulu Community College and Employment Training Center (Windward CC) 15 Aeronautics Maintenance Technology (Honolulu CC) 16 Pearl City Extension Office and Urban Garden Center (UH Mānoa) 17 Waiawa Correctional Facility (Leeward CC) 18 Leeward Community College and University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19 University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu (future campus site under development) 20 Kalaeloa Airfield Hangar (Honolulu CC) 21 Employment Training Center (Windward CC) 22 Wai'anae Education Center (Leeward CC) 23 Poamoho Research Station (UH Mānoa) 24 Whitmore Pineapple Research Station (UH Mānoa) 25 Wahiawā Extension Office (UH Mānoa) 26 Waiale'e Research Station (UH Mānoa) 27 Windward Community College 28 Kāne'ohe Extension Office (UH Mānoa) 29 Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (UH Mānoa) 30 Waimānalo Research Station (UH Mānoa) 31 Hawai'i Undersea Research Lab-Sub Facility (UH Mānoa) 32 Hanauma Bay Education Program (UH Mānoa) 33 Kapi'olani Community College 34 Culinary Institute of the Pacific (future site) 35 Waikīkī Aquarium (UH Mānoa) |
|---|--|

* Many JABSOM departments and programs are based at area hospitals including Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children, Kuakini Medical Center and University Tower at The Queen's Medical Center

The Hawaiʻiniuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge at UH Mānoa is one of the largest schools of indigenous studies in the nation, and aims to pursue, perpetuate, research and revitalize all areas and forms of Hawaiian knowledge.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAIʻI AT MĀNOA

A premier research university of international standing

As a land-grant, sea-grant and space-grant institution, UH Mānoa receives federal resources for students and faculty. Mānoa's special distinction is found in its Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific orientation. Students are provided special opportunities for research, service learning and co-curricular activities in Asian, Pacific and Hawaiian studies. It is also home to a nationally competitive NCAA Division I athletics program that fields teams in 19 sports, predominantly in the Western Athletic Conference.

Founded: 1907 as a college of agriculture and mechanic arts

University status: 1920

Campus: Primary campus in Oʻahu's Mānoa Valley with research and extension facilities throughout the state

Enrollment: About 20,000 on-campus; thousands more through online, non-credit, continuing education and outreach programs

Carnegie classification: Research University/Very High Research Activity

Degrees: 87 bachelor's; 83 master's; 51 doctorates and professional degrees in law, medicine, architecture and degrees in teacher education and nursing

Demographics: 69% of students are undergraduates; 55% are women; mean age is 25

Diversity: 45.7% students report their ethnicity as Asian, 25.8% Caucasian, 13.7% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 9.2% mixed, 5.6% other

www.manoa.hawaii.edu



AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Research

Mānoa ranks among the major research universities in the U.S., and faculty successfully competed for \$210 million in extramural research and training grants in 2006–07. Off-campus research facilities include Lyon Arboretum, Waikīkī Aquarium, the Hawaiʻi Institute of Marine Biology at Coconut Island and world famous astronomical observatories atop Mauna Kea and Haleakalā.

Nationally Competitive Education

National top-25 programs at Mānoa include environmental law; area studies in Asia and Pacific cultures, languages and societies; eastern philosophy; international business and second language studies. The university's unique location also fosters advantages in tropical agriculture, tropical medicine, oceanography, astronomy, volcanology, evolutionary biology, urban planning and international trade. Mānoa also offers instruction in more Asia-Pacific languages than any other U.S. institution of higher learning.

Community Engagement

From architecture to zoology, the university's outreach impacts the community far beyond the boundaries of the campus on a daily basis. Students tutor and serve as mentors in island schools and provide healthcare and social services for homeless populations. They win critical acclaim for their performances in public musical concerts and stage plays and for numerous visual arts exhibitions. Scientists offer extension services and conduct research for Hawaiʻi's farmers statewide.



At Kapi'olani Community College, students in the culinary arts program regularly gather their own herbs, which are cultivated on campus. The college's program has a strong tradition of leadership in providing Hawai'i and the rest of the world with skilled culinarians.

KAPI'OLANI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Combining local roots and global reach

Kapi'olani Community College has received national recognition for its strong 21st century career programs, particularly in culinary arts and health sciences, which have roots in the very beginnings of the campus. Cross-curricular emphases in writing and critical thinking, information technology, service-learning and integrated international education and training provide students with a variety of choices to pursue their academic goals. Other strong programs include liberal arts, hospitality, new media arts and business education.

Founded: 1946 as Kapi'olani Technical School

Joined the UH System: 1965

Campus: On the slopes of O'ahu's famed Diamond Head

Enrollment: About 8,200

Carnegie classification: Associate's/ Public 2-year

Degrees: 47 programs offering associate degrees and certificates

Demographics: 58% of students are women; mean age is 24

Diversity: 55.4% students report their ethnicity as Asian, 13.4% Caucasian, 15.8% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 11.4% mixed, 4.0% other

www.kapiolani.hawaii.edu



AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

21st Century Career Programs and Student Learning

Kapi'olani Community College is nationally renowned for its culinary arts program and health careers programs in areas such as nursing, emergency medical services, respiratory care and radiologic technology. Culinary arts students regularly garner awards and medals at regional and national competitions, while students in the health sciences programs have consistently passed the national registry exam with the highest scores in the country.

International Education

Hawaiian, Pacific, Asian and International curriculum is integrated across the liberal arts and 21st century careers curricula. Best Practice learning assessments and program innovations are being implemented through prestigious national awards, partnerships and grants. The Honda International Center supports international education activities at all seven UH community colleges, providing opportunities for international students and UH students to participate in study abroad and developing programs with international colleges and universities seeking customized training.

Community Engagement

The college has won recognition as a national leader in service-learning and community engagement. Through mutually beneficial and sustainable partnerships with more than 50 nonprofit organizations and schools in central and east Honolulu, students provide meaningful service in the community to better understand course concepts and responsibilities of citizenship. Since 1995, nearly 7,000 Kapi'olani students have contributed more than 170,000 hours of course-connected service to the community. Structured learning pathways and a comprehensive assessment framework result in continuing improvement in implementing the service-learning emphasis.

Students at Leeward Community College interested in marine biology have the opportunity to incorporate that interest into their educational aspirations through the Marine Option Program. Students obtain practical marine skills that can be adapted to their personal learning or career objectives through “hands-on” internships, research or employment.



LEEWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

A regional community center for learning and living

Leeward Community College is both a multi-cultural environment for academic learning and a center of cultural life for Leeward O’ahu. The college offers diverse and comprehensive opportunities in academic and technical fields for students of all ages on its main campus, through its satellite location in Wai’anae and via distance-education technologies. Cutting-edge media programs and in-demand career and technical training are highly sought-after programs.

Founded as part of the UH System: 1968 in the former Pearl City Kai Elementary School

Moved: To new facilities in 1969

Campus: Overlooking Pearl Harbor near the geographic center of O’ahu

Enrollment: About 6,700 students

Carnegie classification: Associate’s/ Public 2-year

Degrees: 32 associate degrees and certificates offered

Demographics: 60% of students are women; mean age is 24

Diversity: 44.7% students report their ethnicity as Asian, 10.6% Caucasian, 22.4% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 14.9% mixed, 7.4% other

www.leeward.hawaii.edu



AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Career and Technical Education

Committed to addressing the state’s workforce development needs, Leeward Community College creates career pathways to produce skilled workers. Programs in automotive technology, television production, culinary arts, digital media, information and computer science and business technology prepare students for immediate and future employment and career advancement. With 49% of O’ahu public schools located in its service area, the college focuses on addressing the state’s critical teacher shortage through its teacher education programs and partnerships.

Liberal Arts and Transfer Education

Responding to the strong and comprehensive liberal arts programs, 65% of Leeward’s students are liberal arts majors. The college offers transfer articulations in accounting, engineering, education, computer science and pre-allied health programs and a unique joint program with UH West O’ahu in applied forensic anthropology. New articulation initiatives are being planned with four-year institutions to give Leeward and Central O’ahu students the widest choice of quality educational options.

Community Engagement

Reflecting Leeward O’ahu’s diverse communities, the college maintains several unique partnerships with area businesses and organizations. Partnerships range from training solutions for high tech industries such as North Star Scientific to creating new certificate programs in sustainable practices for at-risk youth in partnership with MA’O Farms on the Wai’anae Coast. An annual job fair for students and the community attracts more than 90 area businesses, while performing arts programs and other activities draw nearly 98,000 people to the campus theatre every year.



As Hawai'i's premier career and technical training center, Honolulu Community College provides students in various trades programs with state-of-the-art facilities, equipment and instruction. The Architectural, Engineering and CAD Technologies program is designed to prepare students for immediate employment as architectural or engineering drawing technicians. The college's strong ties with industry partners provide students with scholarships, internships and other academic and employment support.

HONOLULU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Technical training and liberal arts near downtown Honolulu

Honolulu Community College is a world-renowned and nationally ranked comprehensive community college that offers state-of-the-art instruction in a wide range of career and technical education programs. The college also provides a highly successful and impressive liberal arts curriculum that prepares students to transfer to UH baccalaureate campuses or other colleges to further their education.

Founded: 1920 as the Territorial Trade School in Palama

Joined the UH System: 1964; authorized to grant associate degrees in 1966

Campus: Main campus near downtown Honolulu with aviation facilities near Honolulu International and Kalaeloa Airports, automotive and heavy equipment shops on Kōkea Street and the Marine Education and Training Center at Sand Island

Enrollment: About 4,200 credit students

Carnegie classification: Carnegie Associate's/Public 2-year

Degrees: 53 programs offering associate degrees and certificates

Demographics: 54% are men; mean age is 25

Diversity: 49.9% students report their ethnicity as Asian, 9.5% Caucasian, 23.8% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 11.3% mixed, 5.5% other

www.honolulu.hawaii.edu



AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Technology and General Technical Training

Honolulu Community College serves the Pacific region as the primary technical training center for transportation and industrial trades and information technology. It is the headquarters for the Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training, a consortium of the UH Community Colleges that develops and provides training in advanced technology applications.

General Education

In addition to specialized career and technical programs such as commercial aviation, marine education, automotive arts, fashion technology and cosmetology, the college offers a strong liberal arts curriculum. Students have consistently been recognized nationally for their academic achievements, receiving prestigious scholarships to pursue their baccalaureate degrees.

Community Engagement

In line with the university's mission to contribute to the community's economic and social growth, Honolulu Community College leads the Construction Academy, a cooperative effort of the UH Community Colleges and the Hawai'i Department of Education that has increased the pipeline of workers entering the construction industry. An educational agreement with the Polynesian Voyaging Society located at the Marine Education and Training Center has brought increased focus on cultural and environmental preservation. The college continuously searches for innovative partnership opportunities with local and national businesses and industries to ensure that graduates are prepared to enter the workforce.

Master artists Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo learned their technical skills in atelier, a French term for “artist’s studio” or “workshop.” Windward Community College is home to Atelier Hawai’i, a transformational workshop in classical realism taught by nationally recognized artist and Windward professors Snowden Hodges and Norman Graffam. Atelier Hawai’i is the only one of its kind in Hawai’i and one of few atelier experiences in the United States.



WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

An inspirational and innovative place to learn

As the university’s youngest community college, Windward is primarily a liberal arts transfer institution offering associate in arts degrees and certificates in business, art, Hawaiian studies, psycho-social development, plant biotechnology and bio-resource management, plant landscaping and agricultural technology, urban tree care and information computer sciences. Students benefit from major new facilities, including a science complex with a state-of-the art imaginarium and telescope observatory, a humanities and arts complex and a campus center. The college will soon break ground for a new library learning commons that will combine the resource collection with the campus computer labs and The Learning Center in a LEED-certified green building with a Silver rating.

Founded: 1972 as UH’s sixth community college

Campus: At the base of the majestic Ko’olau in Kane’ohe

Enrollment: More than 1,950 with thousands more attending noncredit and continuing education courses

Carnegie classification: Associate’s/ Public 2-year

Degrees: 20 associate degree and certificate programs offered

Demographics: 63% are women; average age is 26

Diversity: 21.2% report their ethnicity as Asian, 21.9% Caucasian, 37.5% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 14.5% mixed, 4.9% other

www.windward.hawaii.edu



AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Liberal Arts and Employment Training

At Windward Community College, students can pursue courses of study in a nurturing environment with two possible pathways. One is a two-year Associate in Arts degree program that gives students the portable skills to further their education at a four-year university or enter the workforce with confidence. Options include popular credit courses in pre-nursing, journalism, fine arts, Hawaiian studies, plant biotechnology, and marine, earth and planetary sciences. The other pathway provides vocational readiness skills with internship opportunities in nursing, culinary arts, auto body repair, facilities maintenance and construction, and office skills through noncredit classes within the Employment Training Center.

Creative Programs

Windward is home to the Office of University Partners, offering bachelor’s degree programs with classes on the Windward campus through partnerships with baccalaureate institutions. At the Hawaii Music Institute, students can learn about the local music industry from seasoned entertainers. The summer PaCES program offers high school students a chance to earn college credit while studying environmental science.

Community Engagement

Windward’s Palikū Theatre, Hōkūlani Imaginarium, Lanihuli Observatory and Gallery ‘Iolani attract thousands of visitors and students each year to enjoy original and adapted musicals, listen to concerts in acoustically perfect surroundings, appreciate unique art exhibits and discover outer space adventures. Every year the college shares the best in Island entertainment, food, Hawaiian crafts and college programs at the Windward Ho’olaule’a.



UH West O'ahu forensic anthropology students apply investigative methods in analyzing a mock crime scene. A certificate program in forensic anthropology prepares students to enter the growing field that applies standard scientific techniques developed in physical anthropology to identify human remains and assist in the detection of a crime.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I—WEST O'AHU

A four-year baccalaureate campus serving Central, Leeward and West O'ahu

The youngest of UH's three bachelor's degree-granting campuses, UH West O'ahu serves the fastest growing regions on O'ahu with liberal arts and professional studies. Areas of study include elementary education, health care administration, Hawaiian-Pacific studies, justice administration, accounting, psychology, forensic anthropology and political science. The university offers the only four-year degree program at a public institution of higher education on O'ahu's west side and will soon commence construction on a state-of-the-art, sustainable campus in the City of Kapolei.

Founded: 1976 as West O'ahu College

University status: 1989

Campus: Currently located adjacent to Leeward Community College

Enrollment: Just over 1,100 students via on-campus and distance learning

Carnegie classification: Baccalaureate College/Arts & Sciences

Degrees: 6 bachelor's degree programs in 17 concentrations and 5 certificates

Demographics: 72.2% of students are women; mean age is 31

Diversity: 40.7% students report their ethnicity as Asian, 17.9% Caucasian, 23.9% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 12.6% mixed, 4.9% other

www.uhwo.hawaii.edu



AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Professional Training

West O'ahu is a place for students who want to pursue educational and professional goals through a curriculum that emphasizes the humanities, social sciences and selected professional programs. The college's complementary array of disciplines includes elementary education, forensic anthropology and health care administration, the only undergraduate degree of its kind in the state.

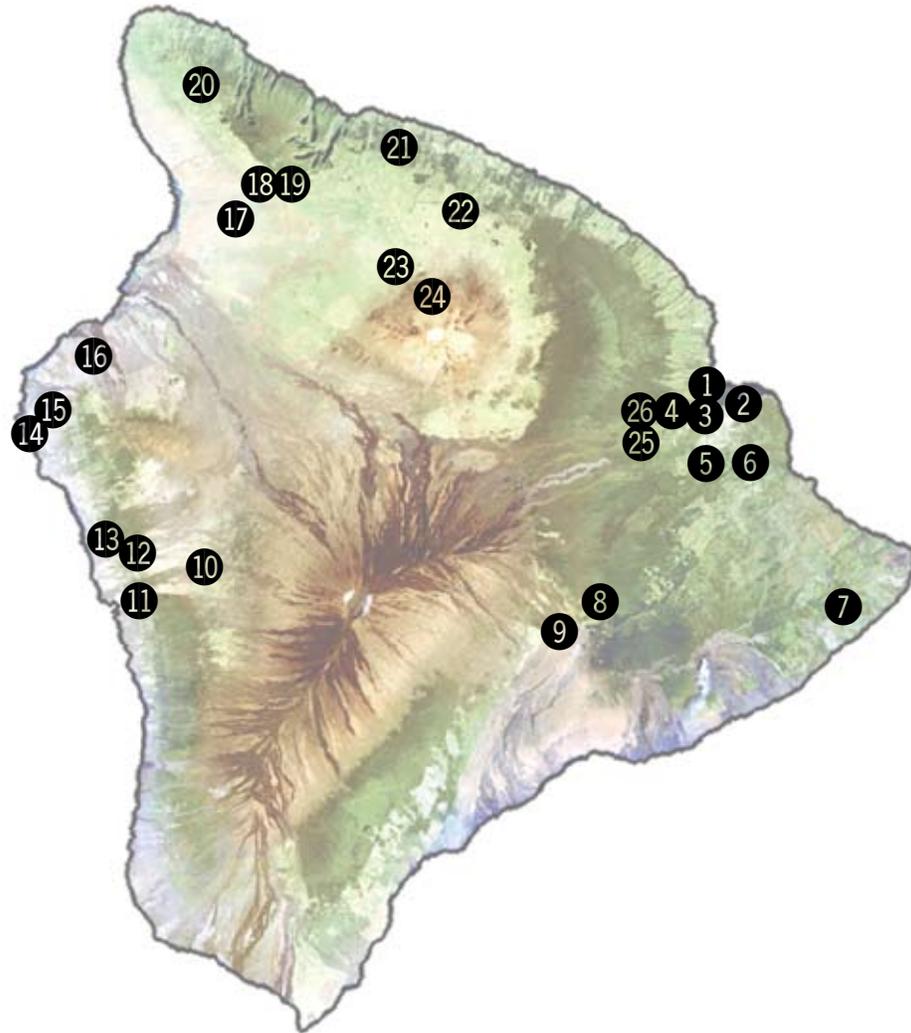
Responsiveness

In addition to course schedules that accommodate working adults, West O'ahu delivers baccalaureate programs to Neighbor Island residents on Kaua'i, Maui, Moloka'i, Lāna'i and the Big Island of Hawai'i. To accommodate the growing needs of the community, West O'ahu will be constructing a state-of-the-art campus in Kapolei with the first phase scheduled for completion in 2011.

Community Engagement

Students participate in a wide array of service learning projects. They have volunteered at the Seagull Adult Day Center in Kapolei interacting with seniors, assisted low to moderate income families with preparing tax returns and cleared out invasive plant species at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Refuge at Kalaeloa. The campus also collaborates with the Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center on a federal grant to provide substance abuse counseling. A number of faculty volunteer as part of the UH System Faculty Ambassadors program, mentoring low-income high school students on a path to higher education.

UH sites and facilities on the Big Island



Number of Hawai'i County residents who-

Hold a UH or RCUH job 1,519
 UH employees 848
 RCUH employees 671
 Attend a UH campus 5,641
 Have a UH degree 17,182

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Hawai'i Small Business Development Center Network (UH Hilo) 2 Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center (UH Hilo) 3 Hawai'i Community College 4 University of Hawai'i at Hilo 5 Waiakea Research Station (UH Mānoa) 6 UH Hilo Agricultural Farm Laboratory 7 Malama Kī Research Station (UH Mānoa) 8 Hydrogen Fueling Station (UH Mānoa) 9 Volcano Research Station (UH Mānoa) 10 Captain Cook Experiment Station (UH Mānoa) 11 UH Center in West Hawai'i (Hawai'i CC) 12 Kona Research Station (UH Mānoa) 13 Kona Extension Office (UH Mānoa) 14 Natural Energy Lab of Hawai'i (UH Mānoa) 15 Hawai'i Institute of Geophysics and Planetology Infrasound Laboratory (UH Mānoa) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16 UH Center in West Hawai'i (Hawai'i CC-future site) 17 Lālāmilo Research Station (UH Mānoa) 18 Kamuela Extension Office (UH Mānoa) 19 Mealani Research Station (UH Mānoa) 20 Hawai'i Hydrogen Power Park (UH Mānoa) 21 North Hawai'i Education Resource Center (UH Hilo) 22 Hāmākua Research Station (UH Mānoa) 23 Mauna Kea Observatories (UH Mānoa and UH Hilo) 24 Ellison S. Onizuka Center for International Astronomy (UH Hilo and UH Mānoa) 25 Komohana Research and Extension Center (UH Mānoa)
Beaumont Agriculture Research Center (UH Mānoa) 26 Institute for Astronomy (UH Mānoa)
'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i (UH Hilo) |
|---|--|



Many of UH Hilo's academic programs utilize the island of Hawai'i as an island laboratory. The Center for the Study of Active Volcanoes provides training and information on volcanic and natural hazards that occur in Hawai'i and worldwide, and its cooperative research program allows faculty and students in a variety of disciplines to work with and provide specialized support to the U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT HILO

Student-centered education on a vibrant, multicultural campus

Surrounded by active volcanoes, deep oceans, the world's best telescopes and a rich cultural environment, UH Hilo faculty conduct groundbreaking research while engaging students in their investigations. The campus maintains small classes and a low student/faculty ratio and earned top placement in *U.S. News and World Report* for its diverse student makeup. Students can pursue academic aspirations in a number of undergraduate and selected graduate programs, including some unique to Hilo. Popular programs include indigenous language studies; agriculture, forestry and natural resources and natural sciences.

Founded: 1941 as Hawai'i Vocational School and became a UH branch campus in 1951

University status: 1970

Campus: Near downtown Hilo

Enrollment: More than 3,700 students

Carnegie classification: Baccalaureate Colleges/Arts & Sciences

Degrees: 56 undergraduate liberal arts, professional programs and select graduate degrees

Demographics: 89% of students are undergraduates; 60% are women; mean age is 24

Diversity: 26.2% students report their ethnicity as Asian, 30.7% Caucasian, 26.0% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 11.1% mixed, 6.0% other

www.hilo.hawaii.edu



AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Professional Programs

Hilo is the only institution in the nation where students can earn a master's degree in indigenous Hawaiian language studies. Other exclusive programs include the state's only pharmacy degree program, a bachelor's degree in astronomy and a master's degree in China-U.S. Relations.

Extracurricular Activities

Social activities abound at Hilo, offering students more than 40 co-curricular clubs and organizations, athletic events, cultural fairs and presentations, weekend excursions to explore the island and many intramural and recreational sports. UH Hilo was named one of *Outside* magazine's "coolest (colleges) to work, study and live."

Community Engagement

The campus strives to sustain long-term employment opportunities for university researchers, graduates and other professionals. Managed by UH Hilo, the University Park of Science and Technology attracts international tenants representing technology, agriculture, biotechnology and astronomy, bringing research and economic potential to the island and state. Recent developments at the park include two major U.S. Department of Agriculture research facilities and the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i. The campus also recently opened its Student Life Center featuring an Olympic-size swimming pool.

A focus on the environment is one of the four cornerstones that form the educational experience at Hawai'i Community College. Students in the Tropical Forest Ecosystem and Agroforestry Management program learn to actively manage threatened native forests and regenerate Hawai'i's native ecosystems, while also gaining hands-on learning experiences with potential employers.



HAWAI'I COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Preparing students for Big Island careers

UH's second oldest campus, Hawai'i Community College caters to students interested in career and technical professions and transfer courses on campus in Hilo or Kealahou; at satellite sites in Waimea/Kohala, Honoka'a and Ka'u/Nā'ālehu or at home via the Internet. It also administers the UH Center in West Hawai'i, which provides students an opportunity to obtain baccalaureate and graduate degrees and certificates from other institutions within the UH System. To accommodate increasing demand and better serve students, officials are working on long range development plans to increase facilities at the Hilo Komohana campus and in Kona.

Founded: 1941 as Hawai'i Vocational School

Joined the UH System: 1969 as part of UH Hilo

Became a separate college: 1990 as the seventh UH community college

Campus: Main campus in Hilo adjacent to UH Hilo with a UH Center in Kona

Enrollment: About 2,800 students

Carnegie classification: Carnegie Associate's/Public 2-year

Degrees: 54 associate degree, certificate and non-credit programs

Demographics: 61% of students are women; mean age is 26

Diversity: 25.4% students report their ethnicity as Asian, 18.2% Caucasian, 38.6% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 10.9% mixed, 6.9% other

www.hawaii.hawaii.edu



AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Career and Technical Education

Hawai'i Community College offers hands-on career and technical education programs ranging from health services and hotel operations to business and trades. Technical programs include agriculture, architectural, engineering and CAD technologies, carpentry, automotive mechanics and electronics technology. Learning occurs in internship, cooperative and service learning activities.

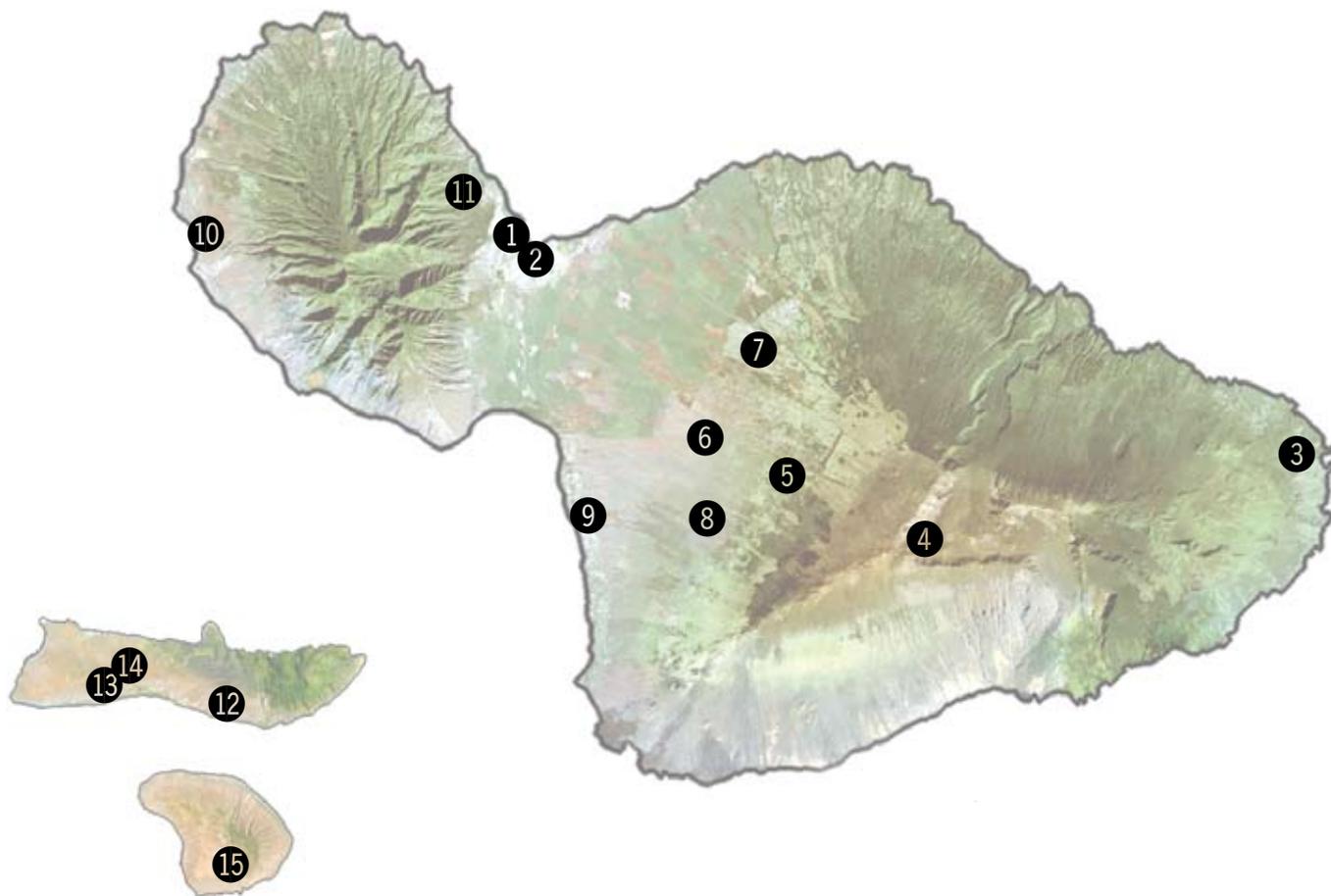
Hawaiian Culture and Values

Funded through Title III grants, Hawaiian Lifestyles is the first UH program to offer Hawaiian culture/studies courses via on-site, online and video conferencing delivery to predominantly Hawaiian rural districts of the island. The degree program focuses on particular Native Hawaiian occupations that supported a vibrant, sustainable, highly scientific, and spiritually balanced island population years prior to Western contact, including dance, fishing and kalo farming.

Community Engagement

To meet the demands of a booming industry, the college participates in the state Construction Academy, inaugurated at Kealahou High School in July 2006. A training curriculum is being developed with companies like Alu Like Enterprise, Northrop Grumman and Gemini Observatory to provide local employees for in-demand electronics careers, and the college's substance abuse counseling program prepares students to respond to the island's social needs.

UH sites and facilities in Maui County



Number of Maui County residents who-

Hold a UH or RCUH job	744
UH employees	390
Research Corporation of UH employees	354
Attend a UH campus	4,412
Maui residents	3,945
Moloka'i residents.....	387
Lāna'i residents.....	80
Have a UH degree	9,512

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Maui Community College and UH Center on Maui | 9 Maui Research and Technology Center (UH System) and Kīhei Education Center (Maui CC) |
| 2 Kahului Extension Office (UH Mānoa) | 10 West Maui Education Center (Maui CC) |
| 3 Hāna Education Center (Maui CC) | 11 Maui Oral Health Center |
| 4 Haleakalā Observatories (UH Mānoa) | 12 Moloka'i Education Center (Maui CC) |
| 5 Haleakalā Agricultural Experiment Station (UH Mānoa) | 13 Moloka'i Agriculture Farm (Maui CC) |
| 6 Kula Agricultural Park Site (UH Mānoa) | 14 Moloka'i Extension Office (UH Mānoa) |
| 7 Institute for Astronomy (UH Mānoa) | Moloka'i Applied Research Farm (UH Mānoa) |
| 8 Maui Agricultural Research Center (UH Mānoa) | 15 Lāna'i Education Center (Maui CC) |

Students enrolled in Maui Community College's dental assisting and dental hygiene programs gain hands-on experience through a variety of means, including the use of dental mannequins as learning tools. The Maui Oral Health Center and the Mobile Care Dental Van, collaborative projects of Maui Community College and various community and healthcare organizations, serve as classrooms and clinical sites for the college's dental students while also providing affordable and accessible oral and dental healthcare for economically disadvantaged community members in need of dental services.



MAUI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

An affordable, learning-centered institution for a diverse community

Mau Community College serves the educational needs of residents on Moloka'i, Lāna'i and Maui. It also administers the UH Center on Maui, which provides students an opportunity to obtain baccalaureate and graduate degrees and certificates from other institutions within the UH System. Maui pioneered the delivery of courses by distance technology, serving as a model for the entire university system. It is also the first UH community college to grant a baccalaureate degree with its high-demand bachelor of applied science in applied business and information technology.

Founded: 1931 as Maui Vocational School

Joined the UH System: 1965, offering its first transfer courses in 1967

Campus: Main campus in Kahului with outreach education centers in Hāna, Kīhei and Lahaina and on Moloka'i and Lāna'i

Enrollment: 3,200

Carnegie classification: Associate's/ Public 2-year

Degrees: 55 programs providing associate degrees and certificates and a bachelor of applied science in applied business and information technology

Demographics: 65% of students are women; mean age is 27

Diversity: 31.1% students report their ethnicity as Asian, 26.5% Caucasian, 28.8% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 9.6% mixed, 4.0% other

www.maui.hawaii.edu



AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Career and Technical Training

Maui Community College career curriculum options include vocational-technical, public service and business programs that prepare students for immediate employment or career advancement. The college also provides related instruction for apprentices in the construction trades and is home to a highly regarded culinary arts academy with strong hospitality industry ties and successful graduates working around the world.

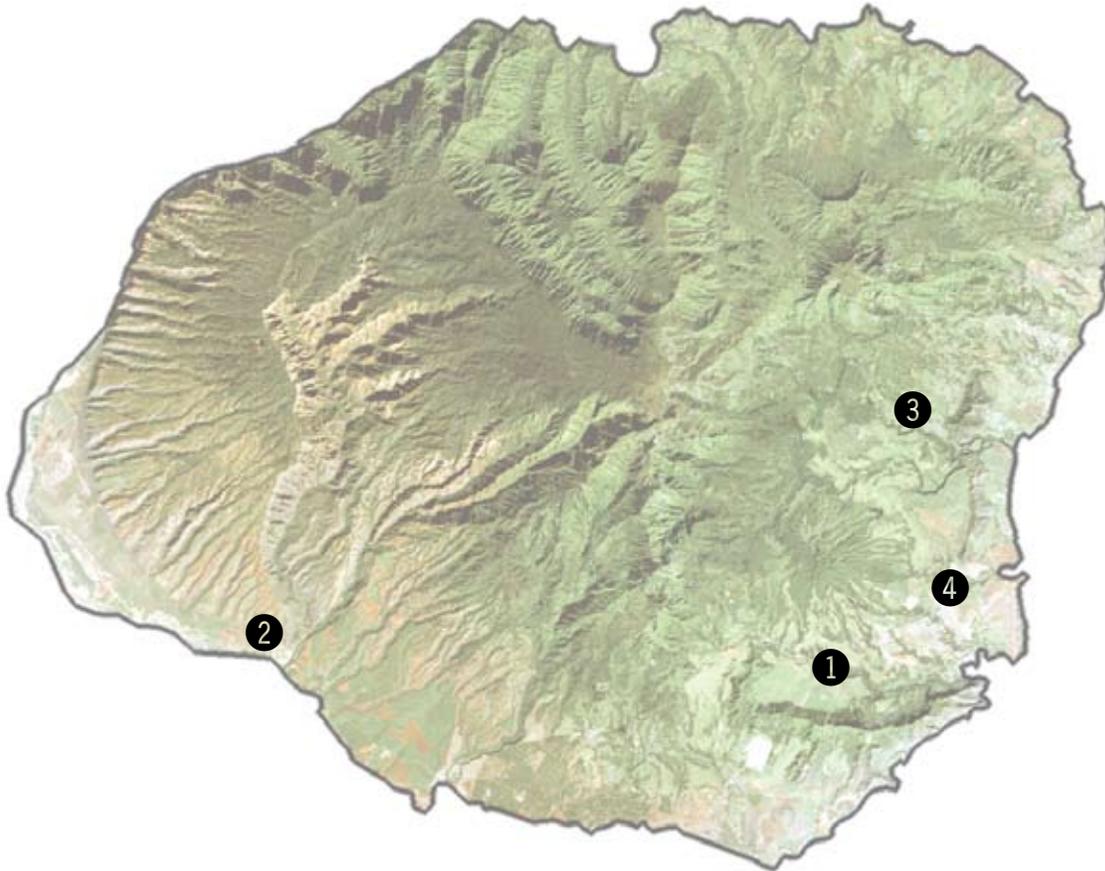
Sustainability

Maui Community College was honored with the prestigious 2008 Bellwether Award from the Community College Futures Assembly for its accomplishments in the areas of sustainability and workforce development. The campus is home to a strong Sustainable Construction Technology program and many other programs have incorporated environmental stewardship into their curriculum. The college also founded the Sustainable Living Institute of Maui (SLIM) in partnership with Maui Land & Pineapple Company and EARTH University in Costa Rica. SLIM has hosted numerous community and campus events featuring nationally renowned experts on sustainability, engaging the community in creating solutions for balancing workforce and environmental needs.

Community Engagement

The college facilitates four outreach centers that provide residents in the communities of Hāna, Lahaina, Moloka'i and Lāna'i with access to higher education as well as continuing education and workforce development training for businesses and organizations. Community service is emphasized in many academic programs as a way to increase students' civic awareness while also enriching their education.

UH sites and facilities on Kaua'i



Number of Kaua'i County residents who-

Hold a UH or RCUH job	239
UH employees	185
Research Corporation of UH employees	54
Attend a UH campus	2,013
Have a UH degree	5,243

- 1** Kaua'i Community College and UH Center on Kaua'i
- 2** Rural Development Program-Waimea Garage (Kaua'i CC)

- 3** Kaua'i Agriculture Research Center (UH Mānoa)
- 4** Kaua'i Extension Office (UH Mānoa)

The Hawaiian Studies program at Kaua'i Community College encompasses Hawaiian language, culture, environment and values. Students gain knowledge in Polynesian voyaging, Hawaiian medicinal herbs, Hawaiian astronomy and taro cultivation.



KAUA'I COMMUNITY COLLEGE

A gathering place and economic engine for island residents and visitors

Kaua'i Community College, the only college on the island serving Kaua'i residents, offers business, technology, hospitality, health, early childhood education and liberal arts courses. It also administers the UH Center on Kaua'i, which provides students an opportunity to obtain baccalaureate and graduate degrees and certificates from other institutions within the UH System. The college's Office of Continuing Education and Training serves the island's lifelong learners and business community with non-credit courses and customized training.

Founded: 1928 as the first technical school on a neighbor island

Joined the UH System: 1965

Campus: Near Lihue on 200 acres of former sugar land donated by Grove Farm's Wilcox family

Enrollment: More than 1,100

Carnegie classification: Associate's/ Public 2-year

Degrees: 11 programs offering 37 associate degrees and certificates

Demographics: 61% of students are women; mean age is 26

Diversity: 39.8% students report their ethnicity as Asian, 23.0% Caucasian, 22.9% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 10.9% mixed, 3.4% other

www.kauai.hawaii.edu



AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

General Education and Career Training

Kaua'i Community College provides a comprehensive array of educational offerings, including a transfer-level liberal arts education as well as a variety of vocational and professional training programs and access to four-year and graduate degrees and continuing education and business training programs. The college also serves as an educational complex hosting three other schools on the property, two of which are Hawaiian immersion institutions.

Cultural Programs

The college serves as a center of cultural activity for residents and visitors. Its acclaimed Performing Arts Center is the entertainment centerpiece for the Garden Isle. It also models good stewardship and sustainability through alternative energy use, a USDA community garden project and the Hawaiian Studies' lo'i as a learning laboratory.

Community Engagement

Students, faculty and staff regularly participate in community events, including high school career fairs, community health fairs and non-profit organization fundraisers. In addition, the college is generously supported by many local businesses and organizations, including Alexander & Baldwin, Grove Farm, and the Vidinha Charitable Trust, and collaborates with others on workforce and economic development projects, including the Pacific Missile Range Facility at Barking Sands.

THE SCIENCE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Faculty members and students identify and test groundbreaking initiatives

Using a process akin to photosynthesis, Mānoa Assistant Professor of Molecular Bioscience and Bioengineering Pengcheng Fu is producing ethanol fuel from cyanobacteria, the scummy pond organism once thought to be blue-green algae. In his patented photobioreactor process, genetically modified cyanobacteria use sunlight to convert carbon dioxide into ethanol. The process doesn't require the time or energy input needed to grow crops such as corn or sugarcane for conversion to fuel.

A living roof experiment at UH Mānoa is underway, developed by graduate student Leyla Cabugos in the Department of Botany. The project is designed to provide baseline information for the development of living roofs in Hawai'i. Living roofs, built structures that sustain a permanent layer of vegetation over a substantial portion of their surface, represent a cutting-edge green building technology used to enhance the aesthetic and recreational value of buildings and provide environmental services in urban areas. Cabugos hopes future studies will document green roofs' abilities to lower building temperatures and reduce runoff in storm water systems.



Living roof

The Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) was established to undertake and coordinate research and development of the island's renewable energy resources. HNEI has an exceptional record of achievement, including spearheading the discovery and use of geothermal power in Hawai'i, developing the technology to use biomass for energy, charcoal and high-value chemicals, and establishing the most comprehensive hydrogen program of any university in the nation. HNEI was recently awarded a \$5 million federal grant to establish one of two National Marine Renewable Energy Research Centers to conduct renewable energy research and development of technologies that harness the power of waves and ocean thermal energy conversion.

Biofuels, including ethanol from biomass and biodiesel from plant oils, are among the most promising alternative energy sources. Researchers with UH Mānoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources are exploring plants that could be a source for biodiesel production in Hawai'i and other Pacific islands.

Scientists are studying the *Jatropha curcas*, a leafy, fast-growing, drought-resistant tree that grows well on marginal lands. They hope to identify a high-yielding, nontoxic *Jatropha* species whose seeds could also be used as animal feed once the oil is extracted.



Jatropha curcas tree

Researchers with the UH Sea Grant Center for Smart Building and Community Design work with a variety of university programs and local organizations to create and support economically viable,

attractive communities that enhance their environment, economy and culture. "Smart Building" is the process of designing and constructing a structure while considering how it will interact with its inhabitants and its environment. "Community Design" takes a holistic approach to development, and is mindful that neighborhoods, towns, cities, and even larger systems can be made or broken by their design. Community design not only benefits the human users of a space, but helps preserve and enhance the natural environment as well.

The UH Mānoa campus is the demonstration site of a newly designed, energy-generating wind turbine. The PacWind SeaHawk vertical axis wind turbine (VAWT) was donated by the Energy Management Group to UH Mānoa for installation on the roof of Saunders Hall, home to the Sustainable Saunders Initiative. The small VAWT will provide an opportunity for students to study the potential of wind generated power in an urban environment and coupled with a solar PV array, this system will demonstrate the potential benefits of solar/wind renewable energy power systems.



Wind turbine

For more information on any of the sustainability stories featured in this brochure, contact (808) 956-8109 or email newsroom@hawaii.edu.

University of Hawai'i System

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Nestled deep in Mānoa Valley on the island of O‘ahu, the Harold L. Lyon Arboretum is a leader in the fields of conservation biology, ethnobotany and horticulture. As a branch of the University of Hawai‘i, it is the only university botanical garden located in a tropical rainforest in the United States and the only easily accessible tropical rainforest on O‘ahu.

On its 194 acres, Lyon Arboretum maintains an incredible collection of more than 5,000 tropical plant species, including one of the largest palm collections in the world. It also supports Hawai‘i’s horticultural and agriculture industries, and works to preserve and restore Hawai‘i’s tropical forests. It is an active research facility and academic resource offering a wide range of programs to local and international communities, including an innovative and groundbreaking tissue culture program for propagation of endangered plants.

The Hawaiian Rare Plant Program was established at Lyon Arboretum in 1991 to prevent further extinction of native Hawaiian plant species and Polynesian-introduced crop plants. Researchers at the facility’s Micropropagation Laboratory have established, and maintain, an in vitro germplasm collection of “critically endangered” Hawaiian plants, including those most at risk of becoming extinct and some that are already extinct in the wild.

The laboratory’s culture room houses petri dishes and test tubes of 14,000 plants ranging from 150 to 200 different plant species, with 80 percent of the inventory considered highly endangered. The plants are grown from tissue samples taken from seeds, cuttings, and other parts of plants found in the wild by teams of field botanists from state and federal agencies and environmental organizations that work cooperatively with Lyon Arboretum in these joint conservation efforts.

The Hawaiian Rare Plant Program serves as a critical resource for restoring and reintroducing Native Hawaiian plants to the islands and for preserving these plants in a safe environment for the future.



University of Hawai‘i System