This year, the 1999-2000 Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Service brought more than 100 colleagues from across the UHCC system together to honor and celebrate these outstanding non-instructional staff members of our institutions:

**Employment Training Center**

Carolyn Antonio is a clerk typist at the Employment Training Center. She is known by her colleagues for being committed, reliable, and honest. Believing in the need to keep current with all ETC programs, she is an outstanding marketing person for her institution and easily “sells” ETC’s programs to agency counselors and potential students. Antonio is also known for her expertise in graphic arts, which she uses to create flyers, charts, and other materials. Everyone seeks her help and she readily shares her talents.

**Hawai‘i Community College**

Deborah Shigehara, an educational specialist in the Office of Continuing Education and Training at Hawai‘i CC, was selected as the 1999-2000 UH Community Colleges overall recipient of the Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Service. Nominations praised her for her numerous demonstrations of exemplary work performance, service, leadership, and the fostering of excellence. On the international level, Shigehara has enhanced the College’s financial revenues by establishing international programs such as the Japanese Agriculture Training Program, programs for the Okinawa Women’s Jr. College, the Japanese Institute for Outdoor Education, and others.

**Honolulu Community College**

Michael Willett is an educational specialist in the Boat Maintenance Repair Program, the Marine Education and Training Center, the Aeronautics Maintenance Technology Program, and the Machine Shop facility at Honolulu CC. As both a student and member of the staff, he has...
Service to students takes many forms

Each year, along with our Excellence in Teaching Award recipients, we honor one member of our non-instructional staff from each UHCC campus, the Employment Training Center and the Chancellor’s Office. The Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Service honors each campus’ nominee and one overall recipient. These awards recognize individuals throughout the system who generously give of their time, talents and energy to support the mission of the community colleges.

Faculty are often in a better position to appreciate the "rewards" of their work. Through regular interaction with students, they can witness their successes in ways that administrative and support staff may not. The Chancellor’s Awards for Outstanding Service help all of us realize that the contributions of every staff member are essential to student learning; and those who are selected by their peers for their contributions have gone above and beyond what was asked of them.

Congratulations and, most of all, thank you to each and every one of you for helping to serve our students and our institution.

Service to our students and our institution takes many forms. During the General Election, we will have a rare opportunity to serve all of our students through one simple act of citizenship. As citizens of Hawai‘i, we will be asked to exercise our right to vote. I ask that you take advantage of that right and responsibility.

On the General Election ballot this year, there will be a proposed amendment to the State Constitution that would establish constitutional autonomy for the University. The proposed amendment makes it clear that the University of Hawai‘i should have the authority and power of self-governance in matters involving the internal workings of the institution and to manage ourselves in fulfilling our educational mission. Your vote can mean a world of difference to the entire University of Hawai‘i system and to our students now and far into the future.

I ask that you take the time to learn and understand what constitutional autonomy means and then make your decision. Read the Q & A article on page 4 of this newsletter. Also refer to UH President Kenneth Mortimer’s speech to the Rotary Club of Honolulu (9/5/00) available at the UH Web site (www.hawaii.edu/uhissues/autorotary.html) and published in part in the September 11, 2000 issue of Pacific Business News.

If you have any questions, call Eugene Imai, University of Hawai‘i senior vice president for administration, at 956-8903 or e-mail eimai@hawaii.edu.

There are many things we can do to learn more about this issue and make a wise decision. But most importantly, let us exercise our political freedom. Let's vote.

Lucky we live in Hawai‘i, U.S.A.!!

Joyce S. Tsunoda
Senior Vice President, UH and Chancellor for Community Colleges

"...the contributions of every staff member are essential to student learning..."
acquired valuable professional skills and applies them to his current responsibilities. While a student at Honolulu CC, he earned a Merit Scholarship. He is a certified Federal Aviation Administration Airframe and Power Plant Technician and has Automotive Service Excellence certification in gasoline and diesel engines.

Kapi'olani Community College  
Gene Phillips is the Offset Printer Operator in Information Media and Technology Services at Kapi'olani CC. Phillips was recognized for modeling exemplary internal customer service in assuring institutional effectiveness. Phillips loves to "work with machines" and continually finds ways to make campus operations more efficient. He is a great help to instructors, extending operation hours to better serve them. He has used his knowledge of digital photography to design impressive nametags, at a lower cost, for students and faculty in the Respiratory Care program. He is responsive to needs and "never turns anyone away."

Leeward Community College  
Elaine Nakayama recently retired after serving over 30 years as the secretary of the Language Arts Division at Leeward CC. "Nakayama exemplifies what is best at Leeward," states a nomination paper. She was pivotal in the development of the Leeward CC computer classroom. Her knowledge of procurement guidelines equipped the classroom at no cost to the Division. Nakayama was also active in the highly successful LCC Clerical Council since its inception in 1975. She served as an officer, chair and member of many committees.

Maui Community College  
Melissa Jill Fitzpatrick is a graphic artist at Maui CC. Her contributions have significantly helped Maui CC to better serve its students, the campus community, and communities beyond the College. Among her many contributions, Fitzpatrick was recognized for her part in the improvements to the college catalog, the course schedule, and other campus publications. She coordinated the campus signage, which provides student and visitor access to campus facilities. She implemented a major public image redesign campaign to present a unified "look" for the College. Colleagues appreciate the unity and beauty Fitzgerald brings to Maui CC.

Windward Community College  
Scott Masuno is a Computer Specialist at Windward CC. He, along with Kelly So from Honolulu CC, accepted the task to oversee the transition from a non-compliant Y2K Aldrich computer system to a fully functioning system for the UHCCs. Masuno’s knowledge of the Student Information System has also helped admissions, records, business, counseling, the library system, and financial aide offices across our system. Masuno helps colleagues in all of their computing needs. All UHCC offices and departments have benefited from Masuno’s "beyond-the-call" work ethic.

Office of the Chancellor for Community Colleges  
Maynard Young is the director of the Facilities Planning Office in the Office of the Chancellor for Community Colleges. Campus and office colleagues praise Young for being a professional who knows his work and who works well with others. The Community Colleges' Facilities Planning Office provides its services with a small staff of three professionals and one clerical staff member. Young leads this team to effectively administer the facilities planning and construction needs of all campuses.

Nine receive Chancellor's service awards  
continued from page 1

WCC Provost Angela Meixell praises Scott Masuno for his "beyond-the-call" work ethic.

ETC Director Kathleen Jaycox tells of Carolyn Antonio's contributions as ETC's Service Award winner.

Maui Community College  
Nakayama

Ray Koshi is a UH Auxiliary and Facilities Services Officer at Kaua'i CC. Koshi has faithfully supported all of Kaua'i CC's students, divisions, and programs, and is known for his sense of fairness and his positive attitude. Whenever there is a special pro-
On November 7, voters in Hawai'i will have an opportunity to make history. At stake is a proposed amendment to the State Constitution that, if passed, will grant the University of Hawai'i constitutional autonomy.

Q: What will the ballot say?
A: The question put before voters will be, "Shall the University of Hawai'i have the authority and power of self governance in matters involving only the internal structure, management and operation of the University?"

Q: What does the amendment do?
A: The proposed amendment revises Article X, Section 6 of the existing State Constitution. It removes the words "as provided by law" from the constitutional language outlining the authority of the Board of Regents. Currently, the Board governs, but any action it takes must be specifically authorized by law. The amendment will allow the Board of Regents exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management and organization of the University.

Q: Will the University become "a fourth branch of government" or be exempt from state laws?
A: No. The University will not become an independent agency; it will remain a part of the executive branch. The University still must comply with laws of statewide concern. The autonomy amendment does not establish independence—it provides flexibility.

Q: What are "laws are of statewide concern?"
A: The proposed amendment adds language making it clear that "the legislature has exclusive jurisdiction to identify laws of statewide concern." Nothing in the amendment restricts the legislature's right to appropriate the state budget and fund new initiatives; nor is the governor prevented from restricting budget allocations as he or she deems necessary. State employment laws and laws relating to Hawaiian ceded lands are other examples of issues of statewide concern.

Q: Then, what does constitutional autonomy mean?
A: Constitutional autonomy allows the Board of Regents the freedom to govern on internal matters. It will allow the Board to set the president's salary, for example, or reorganize the administrative structure without having to go to the legislature for authorization or approval. Other matters now addressed in state statute that could become a matter of BOR policy if the amendment is approved involve graduate assistants, the College of Education, the state geophysicist and the medical residency program.

Q: Didn't the University already receive autonomy?
A: The University has been working toward autonomy. In 1986, the legislature granted the University fiscal flexibility. Lump sum budgeting allowed the University to decide how the money would be divided between its campuses and units. In 1991, the University was allowed for the first time to keep the tuition funds it collected. In 1998, the legislature broadened the University's authority, allowing the University greater control over its assets—land, money and people. The University was allowed to hire its own attorneys. It could buy, sell and/or mortgage land and collect, invest and spend its money to achieve objectives. It could hire, classify, evaluate and reward, or terminate employees. The University now has statutory freedom to manage its affairs, subject to reasonable laws.

Q: How is constitutional autonomy different from such statutory flexibility?
A: Statutory status can be transitory. The legislature can alter or revoke statutory actions during any session. Changing the constitution, however, requires two-thirds approval by both houses of the legislature and a majority "yes" vote from the state's voters; thus, it offers more permanence.

Q: Do other universities have such status?
A: Yes. Many noted mainland universities have such freedom. Among them are the University of California, Michigan State University and Georgia Institute of Technology. The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities and University of Colorado at Boulder are also among those that enjoy a measure of autonomy.

Q: What is required for the amendment to pass?
A: A majority of all ballots cast must register a "yes" vote to ratify the proposed amendment. For that reason, leaving a ballot blank is equivalent to voting "no."

Q: What if I have questions?
A: Call Eugene Imai, senior vice president for administration, at 956-8903 or e-mail eimai@hawaii.edu.
WCC breaks ground for campus center

On September 2, Windward CC held a ground breaking at the site of the future Windward CC Campus Center, scheduled for completion in 2002. During the next few years, Windward CC will see a series of new facilities: a planetarium and Center for Multimedia Education is scheduled to open in spring 2001; a Visual and Performing Arts Center is set to open in fall 2001; and the Campus Center is now scheduled to be open for college and community use in 2002. Interim Provost Angela Meixell stated, “The anticipation is palpable. Everyone is excited about these new resources which are soon to become a reality for our campus.”

CONTINENTAL AIR AWARDS HCC STUDENTS

The top five Hawaiian Aeronautics Technology students at Honolulu Community College were recognized at a brief ceremony and awarded scholarships by Continental Airlines during an event held at Continental’s repair and maintenance hangar at the Honolulu International Airport in September. The scholarships are part of a partnership developed two years ago between Continental and Honolulu CC.

Continental Airlines’ George Mason, Senior Vice President for Technical Operations (l), was present to award students Ira Kobayashi, Collin Yonehara, Jeff Reed, Frank Mosher and Josh Hudman. Honolulu CC Interim Provost Ramsey Pedersen (r) was also on hand to congratulate the recipients.

ETC students learn and serve

by David Murakami

Employment Training Center’s Introduction to Industrial Engineering and Technology class recently participated in a service learning project. Forty-four students and instructors Donald Frost, Anne Koide, Joe O’Brien and George Webster spent a day at Nu‘upia Fishponds in Kāne‘ohe helping to protect various native Hawaiian birds from extinction.

The Nu‘upia Ponds are more than 1000 years old and include over 30 fishponds. This protected wetland provides habitat for a variety of native and migratory shorebirds. The National Marine Fisheries and the Fish and Wildlife Service have the responsibility of the ponds and rely on volunteers to assist.

At the site, everyone heard a lecture about how weeds were taking over the ground cover. The weeds kill native Hawaiian plants such as Milo, Naupaka, Pōhinahina, which in turn endangers the survival of native Hawaiian birds such as the Hawaiian stilt and the red-footed booby who feed on the plants.

The ETC team removed weeds and replaced the native plants so efficiently that they were asked to continue. Students filled over 30 garbage bags with weeds and debris and left feeling like they made a small contribution to the habitat of the native birds and their survival.
Friends of Windward CC
By Libby Young, Windward CC

This fall Windward CC and its advisory board are launching the Friends of Windward CC as a grassroots group of supporters who want to see the college grow. Donna Howard, chair of Windward CC’s community advisory board, said the Friends campaign has two goals: to raise public awareness of the college and to encourage private support. Volunteers hope to raise $100,000 for the College Advancement Fund and other programs this year.

“We’re excited about all the new developments at Windward,” Howard said. “We want to do what we can to support the college and let the community know what a treasure they have in their own backyard.”

“The time for this campaign seemed right with all the excitement about our new buildings and the opportunities they offer,” added Interim Provost Angela Meixell. “We are thrilled with the show of support from the community.”

The impressive corps of community volunteers includes Windward business leaders, women for education, culture and arts lovers, senior citizens, community organizers, members of the Hawaiian community and more.

Three of Windward Oahu’s leading citizens—Hawaiian music legend Irmgard Aluli, entertainer Loyal Garner and drama mentor Ron Bright—are the honorary co-chairs for the campaign.

They join forces with students, faculty, staff and alumni to help spread the word about Windward CC as the community’s college.

Anyone can become a member of the Friends of Windward for a tax-deductible gift of $25 or more.

“Through the Friends campaign, our volunteers are saying they believe in us as a community resource,” said Meixell. For more details on the Friends of Windward CC, call 235-7395.

New world chef wows LCC audience

Hailed as the originator of South Florida’s vibrant New World Cuisine, Norman Van Aken was in town in September, leading a workshop at Leeward Community College for culinary students from all over the state. The James Beard award-winning chef shared elements of his bold, rustic style cuisine with the two complex, tantalizing dishes he prepared.

Van Aken donated the $1,500 honorarium given him by the Hale‘Aina ‘Ohana Foundation back to Leeward CC to be used to send a culinary student to work with Van Aken at his Florida restaurant. Thanks go to the Hale‘Aina ‘Ohana Foundation and to Fern Tomisato, Leeward CC Food Service Coordinator and Chuck Furuya of Fine Wine Imports for coordinating this scrumptiously educational event.

Weekly picks UHCCs

Congratulations to Kapi‘olani Community College which was selected to receive the editor’s choice award for Hawai‘i’s “Best Education” by Honolulu Weekly in its August 16, 2000 edition.

The editor states, “Enroll in a course at KCC (or your local community college). Encounter passionate instructors who help students ignite that flame, like English teacher Jill Makagon or Professor of Philosophy Robin Fujikawa, who demonstrates that philosophy ought to be ‘naturalness, vivacity, joy for living.’” The writer calls Kap CC’s student body a “human rainbow” and says that “a social photosynthesis takes place” for students on the campus.

Also achieving the award for Best Architecture was the Island of Molokai, with Maui Community College’s Molokai Education Center named as one of the primary architectural reasons for the selection.
From October 22-27, 2000, the University of Hawai’i Community Colleges will host accreditation visit teams from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

Accreditation is a status granted to an educational institution that has been found to meet or exceed stated criteria of educational quality. Unlike most foreign countries where educational institutions are supervised and controlled by the government, American educational institutions seek accreditation voluntarily from non-governmental, regional accrediting associations.

Accreditation has two fundamental purposes: to assure the quality of the institution and to assist in its improvement. The process of accreditation requires a self-study conducted by the institution’s own faculty and staff, followed by an on-site visit from an evaluation team. Based on the outcome of the self-study and the visit, the evaluation team makes a recommendation to the WASC governing commission regarding the institution’s accreditation status.

Each of Hawai’i’s seven community colleges is individually accredited. (The Employment Training Center, accredited by the Secondary Commission of WASC, went through this process in 1998.) During the past two years, each community college prepared a self-study. On October 24, seven separate teams—each consisting of seven to eight faculty and staff from other WASC accredited institutions—will visit our campuses.

Although the Chancellor’s Office is not accredited (because it offers no degrees or certificates), it has also gone through the self-study process. A committee of 16 members (eight from the UHCC campuses and ETC, and eight from the Chancellor’s Office) prepared the self-study. The chairs of the seven campus visit teams will form an eighth team and will visit the Chancellor’s Office on October 22 and 23.

On October 27, they will have an exit interview with Chancellor Tsunoda to summarize their findings. The visit teams will then prepare reports for the Commission. In January 2001, the Commission will meet and make its decisions about the accreditation status of each college.

Two new agreements have been signed with universities in the Yunnan province of China. On August 18, Yunnan Provincial Tourism School established a long-term partnership promoting exchanges in technical education in the tourism and hospitality industry. Yunnan Provincial Tourism School President Ruoyu Jiang is shown in the photo above (r) at the signing ceremony with Kapi‘olani CC Provost John Morton and UHCC Chancellor Joyce Tsunoda. One of the goals of the agreement is to establish a joint training center in Yunnan for the training of hotel and tourism industry employees.

Just a week later Professor Wang Da Kun, Chairman of the Institute Affairs Committee at the Yunnan Institute of Nationalities, along with three colleagues from China, visited the UHCC campuses. During their visit, they discussed future library cooperative projects and signed an agreement regarding library cooperation. As part of their agreement, the Yunnan Institute of Nationalities is interested in working with Kapi‘olani CC and the United Chinese Society of Hawai’i in shooting a documentary film on ethnic nationalities.

At right, Professor Wang Da Kun is shown exchanging gifts with Chancellor Tsunoda.
Victoria (Vicky) Lia became an orphan at age 11. When her single-parent mother, Gwendolyn Perez, died of cancer, she and her sister Joan, 7, moved in with their grandmother, Mabel Perez. “We then moved from Mililani to Kaneohe because my grandma’s health was failing,” recalls Lia. A straight-A student at Mililani High, Vicky reluctantly transferred to Castle High School and still managed to graduate with honors. “But back then, Hawaiian girls without parents and money were supposed to work, so that’s what my grandma expected,” says Lia. “I was determined to go to college. We argued, and I ran away.”

She soon mended fences with her grandmother, but her freshman year was interrupted when she learned that her grandmother was dying. Lia returned to Hawai’i, and before long, she and Joan were orphans once again.

Vicky later met Franklin Lia from Waipahu, who was stationed with the U.S. Navy in San Diego. To be closer to Franklin, she moved to California, but soon found out she was pregnant. In 1986, Vicky gave birth to a boy, whom she and Franklin named Kekoa. Born prematurely, he lived for only a day. A year later, a daughter, Kaliana, was born. Vicky and Franklin were married in 1987, and a year later, had a son, Liokea.

The Lias agreed that the children came first and arranged a schedule where Franklin would work days and Vicky at night. When Kaliana was in preschool, Vicky took one class each semester at Leeward CC. Once both children were in preschool, she began attending LCC full-time while also working as a medical records clerk at Kaiser Permanente.

“I can’t say enough kind words about the professors who were very accommodating to the needs of students like me who were juggling work and school schedules with family obligations,” reminisces Vicky. “Even today, when I visit LCC, I have fond memories and a sense of belonging.”

Lia graduated with honors from Leeward CC in 1994 and immediately enrolled at the UH-West O’ahu. “Like LCC, West O’ahu was sensitive to the special needs of students like me,” says Vicky. In 1997, Lia received her bachelor’s degree in public administration with honors.

Before completing her undergraduate degree, Lia was already looking toward a possible career in the Air Force as a hospital administrator. The Kamehameha Schools Scholarship Program gave her financial assistance to pursue a master’s program. “The scholarship was a gift that allowed me to achieve my educational goals, but the counselors of the program were the true gems,” says Vicky. In 1999, she received two master’s degrees in public and business administration, achieving a 3.9 grade point average in both programs at Chaminade University.

Shortly after graduation, Vicky applied for the Air Force, was accepted, and planned to attend training last December. As fate would have it, she faced another setback in her life—a routine medical exam turned out positive so her application was put on hold. Meanwhile, the Lias had sold their home and Vicky had quit her job.

At long last, Vicky’s story ends happily. Her last medical exam was negative so she was cleared for the Air Force. In a ceremony held at Hickam Air Force Base in June, Vicky was commissioned a second lieutenant.

Currently, Second Lieutenant Lia is in Texas for training. Upon completion, Franklin and Liokea will join her at her first duty assignment at Edwards Air Force Base. Kaliana, in the 8th grade at Kamehameha Schools, will remain in Hawai’i with Aunty Joan. “Once we’re settled in California, it’ll be Franklin’s turn to pursue his dreams,” says the new lieutenant. Lia, however, still has her eyes set on the (general’s) stars.
Single mom achieves dream of law

If anyone can give solid advice on how to achieve goals, it is Jana Jones, a single mother of four teenagers and a 1999 graduate of the Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai‘i. Jones has steadily achieved one goal after another. Next on her list is the Hawai‘i State Bar Exam and adding room in her heart and home for another child.

Jones’ graduation from law school is the fulfillment of a dream she held since entering Windward CC in 1991. It was that year, Jones remembers, that she was trying to survive the breakup of her marriage and provide for three children with the welfare money the state provided. Jones knew she needed a better education for a better job to support her children. On her younger brother’s recommendation, she went to Windward CC, and remembers herself as a “scared little bunny rabbit.”

“I didn’t do well in high school and with my insecurities, I needed the smaller campus,” she said. She first selected Windward CC because it was convenient, but soon realized the campus had a lot to offer. With WCC’s caring teachers and her own desire to succeed, Jones found the confidence she needed to attain her goals. She credits Windward CC for preparing her emotionally and academically.

“Getting started was the hard part, but every little success on the way—every A or B on a paper—gave me incentive to do it again,” Jones said.

After three 4.0 semesters at Windward CC, Jones said she felt ready for the “big pond” (UH Mānoa). She graduated from UHM in 1995 with a bachelor’s degree in liberal studies and a 3.8 grade point average.

Her experience as a single mother in school also helped her realize some things about parenting. “You can’t be superwoman, so don’t even try,” Jones advises other single moms. “Be flexible, learn how to prioritize and adapt to whatever.” Jones scheduled daytime classes so that she would be in school only when her children were. In the evening, they would all do homework together. She also made time to volunteer as a Guardian Ad Litem.

Once she entered law school (one of 75 accepted from a pool of about 700), the balance between children, school and household became even more difficult. “I had to give up my volunteer work and most outside activities. My grades suffered somewhat but, as a colleague pointed out, ‘being a single mother working toward a law degree would require some sacrifices.’ If I didn’t have children, I could have completely absorbed myself in my studies and probably achieved higher grades. But, my priority is and always has been my family,” Jones stated.

Jones’ interest in family law is stimulated by her own love for children and family. She explains, “I was adopted and when I was rather young I gave up a child for adoption. I now have two adopted children, and two birth children—all of them in their teens. Plus, I have been re-united with both my birthmother and the child I relinquished for adoption. My birth daughter recently decided to return to school and is attending Windward CC, planning to get a degree in secondary education.”

Jones is now gearing up for her next success as she prepares for the Bar exam in February. She has used her time since graduation to focus on her family and gain some valuable experience in the area of law that interests her. She works part-time with the Child & Family Service’s Post-Permanency Services Program, as well as EPIC’s ‘Ohana Counseling, and volunteers with Volunteer Legal Services of Hawai‘i. She knows the encouragement she received at Windward CC was important, but so was her perspective. “The way you look at a situation has everything to do with how it will turn out,” Jones said. “If you really want to, you will find a way to reach your goals.”

October 2000
MCC student triumphs over adversity
By Maui CC Honolulu staff writer

Two years ago, Bob Baker had no phone, no address, and no car. He was living in a tent, bicycling to Maui CC each morning and studying by candlelight each night.

In May, Baker graduated with two degrees, one in Baking and one in Culinary Arts. He now attends Johnson and Wales in Denver, Colorado, one of the top culinary arts schools in the nation, where he plans to earn his bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

Baker credits the faculty and staff at Maui CC for his transition. “Dickson Alvarado is an excellent teacher and he cares about his students,” he says. “His encouragement was instrumental in my success.”

“Dean of Instruction Flo wiger, who was my drug and alcohol counselor at Castle Hospital on O’ahu, has seen me come from living on the street to becoming one of her most productive students. She’s supported and encouraged me all the way.

“Bob Converse has let me into the Learning Center in the early mornings so I could do my homework on computers. We both enjoy cooking and we trade recipes. “When I first came to Maui CC, I didn’t even know how to turn on a computer. People all over the campus helped me, especially Rick Miller.”

“The things Pamela Hayes taught me in art classes carried over into my plate presentations. Chef Lloyd Yokoyama loved it when I drew creative designs on cookies and dessert garnishes for the Class Act.”

“Chef Chris Speere taught me not to give up. Chefs Bob Santos, Don Sprinkle, and Darryl dela Cruz all taught me by example. They are men of integrity and I’m lucky to have had them as teachers and mentors.

Baker, who completed over 21 credits each semester at Maui CC, headed to Johnson and Wales with two scholarships—$1,000 from the American Academy of Chefs and $5,000 from Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society. His advice to others is, “Make school your priority. That piece of paper you earn will give you a whole new life.”

LCC becomes Weed & Seed partner

United States Attorney Steven Alm visited Leeward Community College on September 27 to explain the Weed & Seed Project that will be implemented this year in selected neighborhoods of Waipahu. The project targets neighborhoods devastated by trade in illicit drugs and other negative impacts. The “weed” portion of the project attacks the distribution network for drugs and other illegal activities by supporting a special police task force. The “seed” portion of the project rebuilds a community ethos in a neighborhood that has suffered from years of neglect by property owners.

Leeward CC is the fiscal agent for Weed & Seed, but the college is doing more. The project creates service opportunities in a neighboring community that sorely needs to occupy its youth with after school activities that build hope for a better future.

“The YMCA’s Cities in the School Project directed by Faye Uyeda is one of the participating agencies in the “seed” portion of the project. Leeward CC’s Service Learning Collegium, directed by Mimi Nakano, has leveraged grant funds from the Campus Compact to collaborate with Faye Uyeda on this project.”
Students awed by Thailand chefs’ skills

On September 6, students and interested onlookers at Kapi‘olani CC watched in awe as Chefs Obchuey Wongtong (Dept. of Home Economics, Faculty of Agriculture at Kasetsart University in Bangkok, Thailand) and Walaiporn Suttha (Rajamagala Institute of Technology, Chotiivam Campus) displayed their rare talents and advanced culinary skills. The pair again awed and amazed the culinary students and guests a few days later at Kaua‘i Community College as well. The two chefs, brought to Hawai‘i through grants from the Grace Guslander Foundation via Alfredo Cabacunun of Kapi‘olani CC, created fabulous works of culinary art.

For her demonstration, Wongtong prepared Green Curry Paste, Thai Green Curry Chicken, and Phad Tahi Kung Sod. Suttha (far left in photo above) created works of art with her fruit and vegetable carvings. The fine detail of the fruit and vegetable sculptures, such as the roses carved of beets and cabbage (l), captured the attention and imagination of all attendees.

Robert Franco, Professor of Anthropology at Kapi‘olani Community College, has been invited to speak at the Third Annual Community Service Learning Conference in California in November. Also, his paper, The Community College Conscious: Service-Learning and Training Tomorrow’s Teachers was published in September.

Jeff Allen is the first graduate of Honolulu CC’s Commercial Aviation program to complete the Certified Flight Instructor course and receive FAA certification as a flight instructor. The CFI Course is taken in the fifth semester of Honolulu CC’s Commercial Aviation Program. Allen has also been hired as a flight instructor for the Fall 2000 Semester.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Gallery Hours, Tues. - Sat., 1-5 p.m., For more information, call 235-7346

CarQuest Annual Car Show
October 6-8, Neal Blaisdell Center. Proceeds benefit the Auto Body Repair and Painting and Automotive Technology programs at ETC and Honolulu CC.

Hawai‘i Chef Series 2000: Hidden Talents of Hawaii

Helene Wilder, Prints and Angels
October 23-November 16. Call the Koa Gallery at Kapi‘olani CC, 734-9375, for more information.

Osaka Women’s Choir presented by Kapaa Jodo Mission
October 12, Kaua‘i CC Performing Arts Center. For more information, call 245-8270.

Kaua‘i Concert Association presents Katya Skanavi
October 26, Kaua‘i CC Performing Arts Center. For more information, call 245-8270.

The Rocky Horror Show
October 27, 28, 31 and November. 3-4,8 p.m. Leeward CC Theatre. The rock’n’roll spoof of a horror story with a twist. Tickets can be charged by phone (no service fee) by calling 455-0385.
Hawai‘i CC gets National Science Foundation grant

by Nancy Schein, Hawai‘i CC

Hawai‘i Community College has received a grant of $285,477 from the National Science Foundation to develop a pilot curriculum leading to an Associate in Science degree and a certificate in Tropical Forest Ecosystem and Agroforestry Management (Forest TEAM). Hawai‘i CC’s Dr. Fred Stone is the author of the grant proposal and the Principal Investigator for the grant.

Development of the certificate and degree grew out of the need for technicians trained to work with commercial forest operations, native forest resources, and in diversified agriculture. It is estimated that a minimum of 20–30 new jobs per year are available in the state in these areas. Hawai‘i CC is working in partnership with the Hawai‘i Community Forestry Initiative, the State Workforce Development Council, and the Department of Education’s Natural Resource Career Pathway to develop the Forest TEAM program.

Students will learn how to grow native plants and establish agroforestry operations, assess Hawai‘i’s forest resources and develop plans for their survival and management. Classes will include training in the use of electronic data-loggers, geographic positioning systems, and computer-based geographic information systems. Training will include an internship program to give students on-the-job training with potential employers such as the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the State of Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Nature Conservancy of Hawai‘i, Kamehameha Schools Bishop Estate, and members of the Hawai‘i Forest Industry Association.

A major goal of the grant is training in management and regeneration of Hawai‘i’s native ecosystems. The island is an evolutionary laboratory with a large number of endemic plants and animals. Native forests are declining due to impacts such as introduction of alien species, increasing human population, and development pressures. Loss of forest and ecosystem degradation has led to the extinction of numerous plants, animals, and birds. Hawai‘i has more rare, threatened, and endangered species than the entire continental United States combined.

One of four cornerstones of Hawai‘i CC is its Environmental Cornerstone. An Environmental Hui was organized by Hawai‘i CC faculty to carry out this cornerstone. The Forest TEAM program is one of the projects of the Environmental Hui. ©