Community Colleges reach a milestone

While one student is reaching out to the sky and learning to fly, another is delving into the fundamental building blocks of life, sequencing DNA and cloning cells. As one student maps the unexplored ocean floor using sophisticated equipment and satellite imagery, another creates virtual worlds through computer animation and digital media.

These are today’s University of Hawai‘i Community College students, and the story of their high-tech educational experiences began one hundred years ago in Illinois. That is when the school board in the little township of Joliet voted to offer post-secondary courses through an area high school. Those courses were so successful, that in 1916, a separate institution was formed called Joliet Junior College. It was the first “community college.” This year during April, as we recognize Community College Month and this special centennial, there are approximately 1,132 community colleges across the United States that join us in the celebration.

Here in Hawai‘i, the eight campuses of the UH Community Colleges share many of the same attribute as our mainland counterparts. The open-door policy, the focus on workforce development and the commitment to community service are characteristics the UHCCs have in common with community colleges nationwide. Yet, Hawai‘i’s island environment, its unique cultural heritage, and its strategic location in the Pacific give the UHCCs an opportunity to be a little different and offer programs that are uniquely designed to meet the needs of our island state. ✫
During April, we join community colleges across the U.S. in a national celebration of Community College Month. This year is special in that it marks the centennial of the first community college in America. Imagine… it was 100 years ago that our first community college took root.

Today, there are 1,132 community colleges educating 10.4 million students—about half of all U.S. undergraduates. What began as a two-year college that primarily served as a feeder institution to baccalaureate campuses and as a vocational training center, has evolved into a unique, quintessentially American institution that reflects the diversity and egalitarian spirit of our society.

Likewise, here in the Islands, the UH Community Colleges have solidly established our place in public higher education. In fact, we have grown into the largest segment of the University of Hawai‘i system, serving close to 24,000 credit students and another 26,000 students participating in non-credit education and training programs. Increasingly, our eight campuses are being tapped by industry, government, and community partners to provide the flexible, hands-on, skills-related education that helps drive Hawai‘i’s economic engines.

We have many exciting things happening—and I am not just talking about our special Community College Month activities. I am, of course, impressed with the many events our campuses have scheduled for the month (see pgs. 6-7). But more than that, I am amazed by you, my colleagues. On top of all the new initiatives, the challenges and the changes that we are in the midst of, you have managed to organize career fairs, community events and other special functions. For all the students and community members who benefit from your stamina and dedication, I thank you.

Last month, I had the opportunity to accompany the incoming University of Hawai‘i President Evan S. Dobelle as he visited our campuses. In my conversations with him, he expressed his appreciation for the value of the community colleges, calling us both the safety net and the springboard for the people. I think many of the faculty, staff and students who met and talked with him believe that the Board of Regents made a wise choice in selecting him as our new president.

As I write this, another exciting opportunity is in the works as well. Because of our ongoing international efforts, the Thailand government has contacted us to help them reform their system of higher education. Thailand’s Minister of Education accompanied officials from the country’s universities and technical schools for a Thai-US Forum. The purpose was to facilitate dialogue to help U.S. delegates have a better understanding of the existing Thai educational structure, the goals of their educational reform and the impetus for change.

Our Wo Learning Champions have announced their first faculty enrichment opportunity, set for the fall semester; the Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training is celebrating the grand opening of its system-wide headquarters at Honolulu CC; the Culinary Institute of the Pacific is creating new system-wide marketing materials and expanding its recruitment efforts.

If change is good, we must be doing great!

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

“For all the students and community members who benefit from your stamina and dedication, I thank you.”

Joyce S. Tsunoda
Excellence in Ed a day to remember

It wasn’t the Hawaiian blessing in the form of a sudden sprinkling of rain at the start of the conference, nor was it the Oli by Kawika Napoleon of Kapiʻolani CC. It wasn’t the hula performed by Heipua Kaopua of ETC, nor was it Dr. Mark Milliron’s keynote address. It wasn’t the colloquia or the great facilitators, nor the beautiful lunch and reception. It was the wonderful combination of all these things that made the 18th Annual Excellence in Education Conference a very special and important day for all UHCC faculty and staff.

Many thanks go to the steering and program committee: Gerri Kabei and Sandra Okazaki, Employment Training Center; John Carroll, Hawaiʻi CC; Jan Petersen, Leilani Hinds and Bert Shimabukuro, Honolulu CC; Barbara Ross-Pfeiffer, Michael Tagawa, Aaron Koseki and Bert Kimura, Kapiʻolani CC; Al Spencer and Helen Sina, Kauaʻi CC; flo wiger, Maui CC; Jean Okumura and Carol Pang, Windward CC; John Muth, Patrick Naughton, Cammie Matsumoto and Michael Rota of the UHCC Chancellor’s Office.

Mahalo also to the members of the registration and packet committee, the facilities and equipment committee, the food and refreshments committee, the publicity and printing committee, the evaluations committee, the ground transportation committee and the acknowledgements committee.

Mahalo also to Kapiʻolani CC and Provost John Morton and all conference facilitators and attendees.

Everyone played a vital role in the conference’s success.

Wo Learning Champions

All expenses-paid seminar on learning and teaching

Picture this: lush green lawns, giant trees, a flower-lined stream, groups of educators exchanging ideas at the foot of the Koʻolau Mountains. You could be in this picture. The Wo Learning Champions is sponsoring a two-day seminar entitled Facilitating Learning—Valuing Teaching. Two participants from each UHCC campus will join the eight Learning Champions for two days of reflection, conversation, exploration, and sharing beginning September 14, 5:30 pm through September 16, 1:00 pm, at St. Stephen Diocesan Center, Pali Hwy, O‘ahu). Topics will include the changing role of teachers, counselors and support staff; the nature of learning; strategies that promote learning; and teachers as scholars. Participants will be awarded a stipend of $175. All food, lodging, and airfare (if necessary) are covered.

Contact Leigh Dooley (ldooley@hawaii.edu) or your campus’ Wo Champion for information and/or application guidelines. WHO CAN APPLY: Teachers, (all levels, including lecturers), counselors, and APT. Deadline: April 9.
KAP CC PARALEGAL TEAM NAMED CHARTER MEMBERS

Estelle Ogawa and Robert LeClair have been named as Charter Members of the Hawai‘i Paralegal Association Advisory Council.

In this capacity, Ogawa and LeClair of Kapi‘olani CC’s Legal Education Department will serve on the four-member Advisory Council responsible for providing advice and direction to the Hawai‘i Paralegal Association. The Advisory Council is also responsible for selecting the Paralegal of the Year recipient and the Career Achievement Award recipient. The Hawai‘i Paralegal Association is the professional organization of Hawai‘i’s practicing paralegals.

LCC UPWARD BOUND COORDINATOR RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Congratulations are in order to Leeward Community College’s Mike Moser, Educational Specialist in charge of Upward Bound Math/Science, who won the President’s Award of the Western Association of Educational Opportunity Personnel (WESTOP) in February for outstanding dedication to the ideals of educational equity and service. Moser is director of Leeward CC’s Upward Bound Math/Science program, one of many programs nationwide funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The program is designed to strengthen the math and science skills of participating students who have an interest in math or science. The goal of the program is to help students recognize and develop their potential to excel in math and science and encourage them to pursue post-secondary degrees in these fields.

According to his colleagues, “Mike goes way beyond the call of duty to provide a rigorous and enriching experience for the high school students in his mostly-summer program, including students not only from O‘ahu but from neighbor islands, the Pacific Islands and the Mainland.”

WINNERS NAMED IN LEAGUE FOR INNOVATION’S STUDENT LITERARY COMPETITION

The winners at the state level for the League for Innovation’s Student Literary Competition are:

Poetry: 1st-Lauren Florek, Maui CC; 2nd-Tracey Chesler, Kauai CC; 3rd-Joseph M. Pettet, Windward CC.

Personal Essay: 1st-David Lynch, Honolulu CC; 2nd-Kalyan Medla-Beardsley, Hawai‘i CC; 3rd-Paul Joyce, Leeward CC.

One Act Play: 1st-Myriah S. Connolly, Leeward CC.

Short Story: 1st-Christine M. Yara, Honolulu CC; 2nd-Ann Heath Stark, Maui CC; 3rd-Iris A. Cahill, Kapi‘olani CC.

The entries of all 1st place winners will be sent on to the national competition.

NEW ON-LINE GRANT RESOURCE DEVELOPED AT UHCCS

Educational Specialist Forrest Lum, working with the UHCC Chancellor’s Office, has developed a grant Web site for use by the UHCC faculty and staff. It is a great and growing resource for people looking into grant opportunities that are available. Log on to http://www.hawaii.edu/ccc/grants/ to check it out.

HON CC ARTIST PART OF “EAST MEETS WEST” EXHIBIT

Honolulu CC’s Ray Valencia was one of 22 local artists invited by the Honolulu Academy of Art to interpret the permanent exhibit at the Academy entitled “East meets West.” Valencia has five mixed-media pieces in the “East is West in Hawaii” exhibit and says they are “pieces that reflect my Filipino ethnicity and plantation life.”

The exhibit takes up the whole 2nd floor gallery at the Academy and runs through April 15, 2001.

KAUAI’I CC GRAD NAMED CONCIERGE OF THE YEAR

Will Shimabukuro, a graduate of Kaua‘i Community College, was named the state’s Concierge of the Year 2000 by the Hawai‘i Hotel Association.
Thirty-three exchange students from Nakamura Gakuen University and Junior College in Fukuoka, Japan improved their listening and speaking skills in English, studied Hawaiian history and enjoyed hands-on experiences in Hawaiian culture and service learning during a two-week program at Leeward CC.

One highlight of their visit was an excursion to a lo‘i (taro farm), where students learned about the cultivation and importance of taro in Hawaiian life. They stumped through the mud to help clear and prepare a lo‘i for the next crop of taro. The following day, the Japanese students were assisted by students from the Hawaiian language and culture classes in preparing lomi lomi salmon and laulau (traditional Hawaiian dishes), and pounding poi. They also learned to hula and string leis. Their learning culminated in a pā‘ina (Hawaiian party), where they treated guests to the food they had prepared, and entertained them with a hula and Japanese games.

A service learning component was included in the program at the request of the Nakamura Gakuen faculty. Students learned about efforts to preserve endangered native plants and spent a morning (along with students from ecology and environmental science classes) clearing a wildlife refuge of alien vegetation, and planting native plant species.

Students from Leeward CC’s Japanese language, English composition, astronomy, and Hawaiian music classes and student government leaders met, conversed with, instructed and enjoyed the company of the visiting students.

The next step in the exchange will be a similar visit by Leeward CC students to Fukuoka in the summer of 2002.

Wayne Lewis, Computing Electronics and Networking Technologies teacher and Cisco instructor at Honolulu CC, visited Beijing last month to teach the first Cisco CCNP (Cisco Certified Network Professional) Academy course in China. Professors from various universities in China, Singapore and New Zealand as well as network administrators of China’s Education and Research Network (CERnet) participated in the training. CERnet is an education network that connects thousands of schools in China.

The CCNP certification indicates advanced or journeyman knowledge of networks. After the training, the professors will be certified to go back to their schools all over China to teach “Cisco Semester Five” to other instructors and students.

Nine schools, including Tianjin University, Fudan University, Zhongshan University, University of Electronic Science & Technology of China and Temasek Polytechnics (Singapore), participated. While there, Lewis was also interviewed by a journalist for “China NetworkWorld” who spent several hours interviewing him and students from the class.
Here are just some of the great events in April...

**BOOKS, ETC.**
The Maui CC Library book sale begins March 31 to raise funds for new books and videos for student use. CDs, audiotapes, records, videos, curios, games, jewelry and other boutique items will also be available. Sale runs April 2 to 21, Mon.-Thur., 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Fri. & Sat., 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**CUISINE OF ITALY**
March 21-April 12, Leeward CC, The Pearl Restaurant. An Italian menu of lunch specialties served 11:30-1:30 p.m. For reservations, call 455-0475.

**ECO-JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL**
April 17-21, Maui CC. For more information, call the Hawai‘i Institute for Human Rights and Political Science Club at 984-3291.

**A NIGHT IN INDIA**
Take your taste buds to the East. April 5 and 6, Kapi‘olani CC, Ka‘Ikena Dining Room. Call Carl Hefner at 734-9715 for more information.

**KAUAI CC SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION**
April 5, Kaua‘i Community College. For more information, call 245-8220.

**MAUI CC CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM DESSERT FANTASY**
April 6, 6-8 p.m. Maui CC. Benefits culinary arts program.

**GARTH FAGAN DANCE**
April 6 & 7, 8:00 p.m., LCC Theatre. Tickets are $25 for adults and $20 for seniors, students and military. Following the performance, the company will return to the stage for a brief question and answer session with the audience. To order tickets on-line, go to: http://alaike.lcc.hawaii.edu/theatre/.

**STATIONS**
April 6-May 4 (opening reception 4-7 p.m., April 6), Gallery ‘Iolani, Windward CC. An exhibition of endangered native, Polynesian and exotic plants of Hawai‘i that connects art and science through the collaborative work of Ingelia White, Windward CC, and Jean Gallagher, California State University, Chico. For information, call 235-7346.

**LCC AT WAI‘ANAE OPEN HOUSE**
Wed., April 11, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Leeward CC at Wai‘anae. Talk with faculty, counselors and advisors. Attend admissions and financial aid workshops. Learn about Kapi‘olani CC’s Nursing program and the University’s College of Education programs offered through LCC at Wai‘anae. For information, call 696-6378.

**LEEWARD CC INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL**
April 10-12, LCC Campus. For more information, call 455-0011.

**HAWAI‘I CC MAHALO RECEPTION**
For community partners and advisory council members of Hawai‘i CC. Wed., April 11, 5:30 p.m. in the Manono Campus Cafeteria.

**LCC, THE PLACE TO BE: OPEN HOUSE**
April 12, 2001, 5:30 p.m.-8:00 pm, Leeward CC Student Lounge and Cafeteria.

**CHEF’S WINE DINNER AT THE PEARL**
April 18, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Leeward CC’s fine dining restaurant, The Pearl. A four course prix fixe dinner featuring Chef Mavro Executive Chef/Owner George Mavrothalassitis and Pacific Beach Hotel Executive Chef Eric. Wines selected by Master Sommelier Chuck Furuya are paired with each course. $55 per person. Call 455-0298 for reservations.

**READY TO LEARN DRIVE ON CAMPUSES**
During Community College month, the UHCC campus community has the chance to participate in the Ready to Learn (R2L) initiative, a program of the Community Clearinghouse. R2L provides basic school supplies to needy Hawai‘i school children (K-12).

While at their campus bookstore, faculty, staff and students can make a cash donation. The bookstore, in turn, can buy the items at wholesale. Donations of new supplies are also welcome, and a collection area will be set up at each bookstore. Items needed include:

- 3-Ring binders, 2-inch
- Marble composition tablets
- Colored markers
- Crayons, 24-count
- Folder paper
- Glue, 4 oz
- Pencils
- Pens
- Portfolio with pockets
- Rulers, 12-inch
- Scissors (blunt, 5-inch only)
- Spiral notebooks
- Folder paper
- Glue, 4 oz
- Pencils
- Pens
- Portfolio with pockets
- Rulers, 12-inch
- Scissors (blunt, 5-inch only)
- Spiral notebooks
- Folder paper
- Glue, 4 oz
- Pencils
- Pens
- Portfolio with pockets
- Rulers, 12-inch
- Scissors (blunt, 5-inch only)
- Spiral notebooks

Here are just some of the great events in April...
College Month with us!

HO‘OKIPA 2001
Friday, April 20, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Royal Hawaiian Hotel. Fundraiser for Kapi‘olani CC’s culinary arts and hospitality program. Sponsorship of tables of 10 available for $10,000, $5,000 or $2,000. Call Kelvin Ro at 734-9482 for more information or Sami Takai at 734-9570 for table reservations.

MAUI CC ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION
April 20, Maui CC. UH Alumni Association Maui Chapter Distinguished Alumni Awards. For information, call 845-3445.

EARTH DAY IS EVERY DAY
Hawai‘i CC’s Earth Day celebration, Friday April 20, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Upper Campus of the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo and Hawai‘i Community College

LCC GUITAR ENSEMBLE
April 22 at 4:00 p.m., LCC Theatre. Tickets $3.

BIRTHDAY BASH FOR THE BARD: TIME & TIME AGAIN
April 23, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Windward CC, Hale Kuhina. The WCC Millennium series celebrates the 437th birthday of William Shakespeare with works interpreted by Terence Knapp. Free admission, ample parking. Call 235-7400 for information.

HONOLULU CC FASHION TECHNOLOGY FASHION SHOW
Sat., April 28, Noon-1 p.m., Ala Moana Shopping Center. Students walk the runway in the creative, youthful creations of Honolulu CC’s Fashion Design students. Free. Open to public.

MOTHER’S DAY CERAMICS SALE
April 27 and 28, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Windward CC. Don’t miss this popular annual sale of student and staff pieces. Call 235-7400 for more information.

KAUA‘I CC TEEN READING PROGRAM
Kaua‘i Community College Performing Arts Center, Friday, April 20. For more information, call the theater manager at 245-8270.

HEALTH SCIENCES OPEN HOUSE
April 24 and 26, Kapi‘olani CC. For high school students in health career pathways and others interested in careers in health services. For more information, call Aaron Koseki at 734-9224.

“TRIBUTE TO SECRETARIES” BUFFET
April 25-April 27, Leeward CC’s The Pearl restaurant. 11:30-1:30 p.m., $16.00 per person. Call 455-0475 for reservations.

ROBERT NAKEA, PIANIST
Friday, April 27, Kaua‘i CC Performing Arts Center, 7:00 pm. Presented by Kaua‘i Concert Association. Call 245-SING for more information.

LCC DANCE FESTIVAL 2001
April 27 & 28 at 8:00 p.m., LCC Theatre. Tickets: $12/$10. The finest choreographic talents in the islands come together for two nights of joyous celebration of dance. Call 455-0385 for tickets.

WCC FAIR
April 28, Windward Mall. Entertainment, exhibits and activities for the whole family, presented by Windward CC.

ONE MAN SHOW: DAMIEN
April 28, 7:30 p.m. and April 29, 5:00 p.m., Maui CC’s Vinnie Linares presents Damien at the McCoy Theatre, Maui Arts and Cultural Center.

CHANGING LIVES...CREATING FUTURES
April 28, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Maui CC and the UH Center Maui gather at Queen Ka‘ahumanu Center for a college fair.

“2001 Ulupalakua Thing,”
11 a.m.-4 p.m., Tedeschi Vineyards on the Ulupalakua Ranch. Maui’s Agriculture Trade Show and Sampling. Proceeds benefit the MCC Agriculture and Culinary Arts programs.

PANAYAM SA LEEWARD
April 29, 2001, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Leeward CC. The Philippine Studies Program conference-workshop designed to encourage students of Filipino ancestry in the Leeward and Central O‘ahu districts to pursue higher education opportunities. For information, call Raymund Liongson at 455-0224.

THE HALE ‘AINA GOLF TOURNAMENT
April 30, 2001, Hawai‘i Prince Golf Course, Ewa. Golf with chefs and help raise money for educational programs sponsored by the Hale ‘Aina Foundation. A day to golf and eat and eat and golf. For information, contact 524-7400, ext. 272.

TASTE OF THE STARS
May 5, 6-9 p.m., Leeward CC’s The Pearl. A stellar event featuring a martini bar, 4 wine vendors, specialty coffees and 18 of Hawai‘i’s best chefs. Silent auction, dining under the stars, jazz entertainment and emcees Emme Tomimbang and Chuck Furuya. $65.00 per person. Call the Pearl at 455-0475 for reservations.

TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY AT BORDERS BOOKS & MUSIC
Borders Books & Music at both the Ward and Waikele locations is offering faculty a 20% discount on all personal book purchases on April 21. Just bring your Borders Teachers Discount card or other form of ID that identifies you as UH faculty (to get a card), and receive a discount on purchases. Also, see the LCC Improv Group, the LCC Guitar Ensemble and other UHCC talent perform at both Borders locations.

April 2001
The Hale ‘Aina ‘Ohana brought one of the nation’s most respected authorities on food to the Leeward Community College campus on March 5. Lynne Rosetto Kasper, whose perceptive observations about food are heard over the airwaves on HPR’s KIPO and KIFO on Saturday mornings, visited the Islands and dazzled the taste buds and imaginations of Leeward CC culinary students and others in attendance. Kasper’s presentation, *A Connoisseur’s Guide to the True Balsamic Vinegar: A tasting of artisan and commercial brands* gave students the opportunity to taste authentic aged balsamic vinegar and compare it to commercial varieties.

The Hale ‘Aina ‘Ohana, a group of conscientious Hawai‘i restaurateurs, under the direction of John Alves of Honolulu Magazine, supports the UH Community Colleges’ culinary programs through educational programs such as these and through other events and programs. The ‘Ohana was established in early 1998 and holds several fund-raising events annually to fund these valuable learning experiences for the culinary program students at the UH Community Colleges.

### NATIONAL CULINARY PERSONALITY DAZZLES LCC STUDENTS

Honolulu Magazine Publisher John Alves with Lynne Rosetto Kaspar and her LCC audience in background.

### CALLING ALL CREATIVE TEACHING TALENTS

The National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) is looking for you. NISOD’s Innovation Abstracts is searching for articles about cutting-edge innovation and good practice in the community colleges.

NISOD’s activities and programs are based on the premise that teaching excellence is a result of concerned and focused leadership, increased awareness and use of adult learning principles further strengthened by exemplary teaching practices and technologies, and a profound commitment to teaching excellence and student success.

**Innovation Abstracts** reaches more than 600 NISOD-member colleges each week, sharing the ideas and experiences of professionals from across the globe. Submit your article to Suanne Roueche, Editor, either by e-mail (suanne@nisod.org) or by fax (512-471-9426). For more information, visit the Web site at: www.nisod.org.
Dobelle visits campuses after appointment as UH President

On March 12, the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents approved the appointment of a new president to succeed President Kenneth Mortimer, who will step down from office in July. Evan S. Dobelle, currently President of Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, arrived in Hawai‘i to announce his acceptance of the position and got a whirlwind tour of all the UH campuses.

On the backside of a brief appearance on one of the local morning news shows on March 13, Dobelle stopped in at Kapi‘olani CC’s ‘Ohi‘a cafeteria to talk with faculty, staff and students. He explained that he took the job because of the challenges that come with it.

Dobelle has led Trinity College since 1994. He was previously chancellor and president of the nine-campus, 85,000-student City College of San Francisco, and president of Middlesex Community College in Lowell, Massachusetts. Dobelle stated that in Hawai‘i and some other states, higher education is increasingly being treated like a “special interest group.” Dobelle assured those in attendance that higher education is not an interest group, but the foundation for the economic and social health of the state. He also said that all teachers—at all of the 10 campuses that comprise the UH system—are of the utmost importance and deserve to receive tangible rewards for their work.

After his initial address, Dobelle sat down at one of the tables in the cafeteria to ask and answer questions. As the session ended, he invited everyone and anyone to call or e-mail him with any concerns, as we want to make sure he is accessible. One Kap CC attendee asked if he had yet purchased any “rubber slippers.” He responded, “Not yet,” and explained that the suit and tie were clothes that he was comfortable in, and he wanted to be comfortable as he began this interview process. He added, however, that as he grew comfortable in his new home, he hoped within a few years he would have a closet full of aloha shirts.

Kaua‘i CC’s PCATT labs expand services

The PCATT training consortium’s effort is constantly expanding and, at Kaua‘i CC, that expansion has taken place in the designation of two on-campus computer labs for PCATT course use. Also, for the first time, extension classes are being offered at the Pacific Missile Range Facility in cooperation with ITT, and at Princeville through the efforts of Princeville Corporation’s Mike Loo, who is the president of the Kaua‘i Chapter of the Hawai‘i Technology Trade Association.

IT’S TAX TIME... ARE YOUR STUDENTS AWARE OF THE HOPE TAX CREDIT?

Honolulu Community College student Mary Anne Meyers, under the direction of Sociology Professor David Cleveland conducted a study on the campus in February 2001, to determine how many students were familiar with the HOPE tax credit available to them. Survey results found that 73% of the students were not knowledgeable of the credits. So what would a $1000 tax credit per student mean? For eligible students, the tuition for one year at our UHCCs could be only $26. According to Meyers, Hawai‘i would experience increased enrollments that could generate more educated students with a higher earning potential. This would in turn increase the tax base and raise consumer spending in the state.
Assistant Professor James Hoyt of Hawai‘i Community College completed a significant book about Korean literary tradition during the nineteenth century during a sabbatical from Hawai‘i Community College. It has been published by Jimoondan International Publishing Company and is available at the Mo‘okini Library, (the UH-Hilo library) as well as other bookstores around the islands.

The book, entitled "Soaring Phoenixes and Prancing Dragons: A Historical Survey of Korean Classical Literature," covers material written by Koreans in Classical Chinese (which accounts for the major part of Korean literary activity during this period), as well as compositions in the Korean language. According to Hoyt, it was entitled Soaring Phoenixes and Prancing Dragons after a Sino-Korean expression used in praise of literary titans. By reviewing nearly two thousand years of Korean literary history, this book identifies nine major characteristics of traditional Korean culture and society.

James Hoyt first visited Korea with the U.S. Sixth Infantry Division in 1945. He has been studying Korean culture ever since. He received his doctoral degree in Korean history from the University of California, Berkeley, and served as Cultural Attaché at the American Embassy and Chairman of the Board of the Korean American Educational Commission (Fulbright Program).

Whenever you read a help-wanted advertisement, it normally states the minimum qualifications for the job. For the most part, these requirements are the "technical knowledge" needed to perform the duties of the position. However, this alone is not enough. Rather, mastering "soft skills" is just as critical, and the key to turning a competent applicant into an outstanding employee.

In the past month, I have been fortunate to meet and speak with employers who are willing to share what they feel is important in selecting applicants to fill their vacancies. The Excellence in Education Conference on March 9, 2001 also offered an opportunity to gain insight on what employers want from community college and ETC students.

The following is a summary of the skills that employers (i.e., Bank of Hawai‘i, HMSA, Manpower, DFS Galleria, Hawaiian Electric Company, AT&T, Olsten Staffing Services, Zippy’s, Shriner’s Hospital, and Pihana Pacific) identified as important in their selection processes:

- Communication skills (e.g., the ability to speak and write professionally, regardless if you are applying for an auto body or an office clerk position)
- Basic applied math skills (e.g., ability to count change or perform simple calculations)
- Problem-solving skills (e.g., ability to present reasonable and creative solutions instead of simply complaining about a situation)
- Teamwork mentality (e.g., ability to realize that your role is critical to the success of the team or company)
- Positive attitude (One employer stated it perfectly when she said that her company “Hires for attitude; trains for skill.”)
- Self-confidence (e.g., ability to have a “sense of self”)
- Taking initiative (e.g., ability to remain motivated on the job, eager to learn additional skills, and refusing to be idle are traits highly desired by employers)

Fortunately, many of these suggested soft skill sets are already reflected in our curricula, thereby reinforcing the efforts and commitment ETC (and the rest of the UHCC system) has to the students, business partners, and communities we serve.
New program at Maui CC trains specialists in energy issues

The dedication of a solar test lab at Maui Community College signals the launch of a new program to train workers for energy conservation jobs and to help Maui residents save energy.

College and community representatives gathered at the new Maui CC Instruction and Sustainable Technology (MIST) Solar Testing Facility located in a 40-foot Matson container on the lower end of the Maui CC campus in late February to dedicate the new facility. Speaking at the dedication, Bill Bonnet, president of Maui Electric Company, praised Maui CC for its leadership role in this energy-saving research.

Don Ainsworth, Maui CC's coordinator for the MIST program, said the new solar test lab marks the beginning of a cohort program that will offer students certification in energy management, photovoltaic design and installation, and solar water heating system design and installation.

The MIST program performs research, offers instruction and constructs demonstration projects in energy management, green building and alternative power. The new lab is currently testing the efficiency of three different types of solar water heating systems. “By testing these systems under controlled conditions in the lab, we will be able to determine which system results in the most significant saving in power,” said Ainsworth.

The new cohort program for students will include approximately 120 hours of training, preparing them for jobs as energy specialists and related work within the industry.

UHCC.e-learn offers summer schedule

This summer, the UH Community Colleges are offering a summer session through the new UHCC.e-learn program.

UHCC.e-learn is a series of distance-delivered courses that fulfill the requirements for the Associate in Arts degree (AA).

The UH Community Colleges collaborated to bring this system-wide AA degree program on-line last year. Now, to expand their services and make education even more accessible, the program is offering summer courses as well.

Students may now apply for admission at all seven campuses. Registration dates may vary by campus. To begin the application process, students may visit the UH Community College in their area, or visit the UHCC.e-learn Web site: www.hawaii.edu/uhcc.e-learn and download an application form.

CALL FOR PAPERS 2001 Conference on Information Technology

The League for Innovation in the Community College is holding its 2001 Conference on Information Technology in Minneapolis, November 14-17, 2001. The deadline for submission of conference presentations is April 13, 2001. The proposal form is online at www.league.org.

Hawai'i CC celebrates 13th annual Earth Day Fair

It’s a big event on the Big Island and Hawai’i CC has helped it grow. The Earth Day Fair at Hawai’i CC brings community members and campus friends together in a celebration that only the Big Island knows how to plan. This year, the event is again growing into a fun, educational and inspirational day for celebrating and sharing the wonders of Mother Earth.
Eleven delegates from education and industry in Thailand, including the Minister of Education, met with local and national educational experts at the East-West Center March 21-23 to share information about the value of the uniquely American institution, the community college.

Thailand has embarked on a country-wide educational reform, and one of the primary initiatives is to incorporate a system of community colleges into their educational structure. Allen Cissell, program specialist with the U.S. Department of Education welcomed the Thailand delegates on behalf of the United States.

John Halder, President of Community Colleges for International Development (CCID), presented information about his organization which helps establish relationships with international partners. Halder also noted that Chancellor Joyce Tsunoda is the Chairperson of the organization at this time. In his presentation, Thailand’s Minister of Education, Mr. Kasem Watanachai, painted a picture of a country that is eager to learn new technologies and establish an educational system that will benefit the nearly half-million students who annually graduate from their high schools as well as provide opportunities for life-long learning.

Through the discourse, US delegates were able to get a better understanding of the existing Thai educational structure, the goals of the country’s educational reform and the impetus for change.

UHCC Chancellor Tsunoda and USDOE’s Allen Cissell made presentations and initiated discussions during their October 2000 visits to Thailand. The visit by the Thailand Minister of Education, public and private university presidents, and others signifies the possibility of new educational partnerships with community colleges in the United States.