Students are our priority at the University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges. Because they come to us from diverse backgrounds and at varying points in their careers and lives, helping them succeed can be a challenge. Quality teaching and strong support from faculty and staff are vital to every student’s success.

On September 10, 2001, the University of Hawai‘i will bring together colleagues from across the system to honor and recognize some of these outstanding educators. We proudly recognize these notable UHCC faculty and staff here as well.

Board of Regents Excellence in Teaching Awards

Carolyn Kyyhkynen, instructor of Speech, Hawai‘i CC

Hawai‘i CC’s BOR award winner for 2001, Carolyn Kyyhkynen, was praised by a colleague for her ability to “inspire students to apply the lessons they learn in her classroom to the ‘real world,’ thus becoming life-long learners.” That effectiveness was also attested to by many of her students. One student stated, “When I’m listening to her lectures, I feel as if I can do anything I want, as if I can conquer the world.”

Kyyhkynen takes her lessons beyond the classroom, offering educational workshops such as the one she held recently at the World Indigenous Peoples Conference that focused on the processes involved in human and transcendental communication “resourcefulness.”

Robert Vericker
assistant professor, Administration of Justice, Honolulu CC

Leaving behind a career that had him tracking down some of the United States’ most wanted criminals, Bob Vericker has become one of the most valuable teachers and advocates for the University’s Administration of Justice program. Vericker’s extensive experience in the field adds insight in the classroom and helps provide students with a steady stream of guest lecturers and field outings that enrich their learning experiences.

Vericker is responsible for turning around the program, re-evaluating and restructuring curriculum to meet the needs of today’s law enforcement profession. Vericker also started a club for students and has helped it grow into a community resource as part of the area’s Citizen Watch. Vericker is a faculty advisor to the student senate, and has directed many community service initiatives.

Harry Davis, associate professor of Natural Science, Kapi‘olani CC

Harry Davis began teaching chemistry at Leeward Community College in 1986 and moved to Kapi‘olani in the fall of 1990. His...
Welcome Back

Welcome back! I hope everyone is rested and reinvigorated to start again. This is not just a new academic year but the first academic year of the new century. It is the start of a new era for us. Under the leadership of Evan S. Dobelle, our new action- and result-oriented president, the UHCCs will be challenged, tested and encouraged to thrive. Already, we have been given opportunities to implement changes that coincide with our longstanding philosophies of access and responsiveness. In a rather bold move, we are changing our names. Your provost may have already shared the plans with you. This change is a “visible” sign that we are moving forward in providing better, more seamless services for students and uniting as equal parts of one system. See page 11 for more details.

This has been a busy summer.

- The Board of Regents formally approved our recommendations for the appointments of the new permanent provosts for UH Leeward and UH Honolulu. The Vice Chancellor for Student and Community Affairs, whose focus will be outreach and building networks internally and externally—particularly with business and industry—has also been named.
- In July, we hosted two major international events, side by side, giving participants a unique and valuable opportunity for international dialogue. The Summer Institute of the Community Colleges for International Development was dovetailed into the Fifth Biennial Seminar for Presidents of Junior and Community Colleges, broadening the impact of both events as a result.
- In mid-August, we will also host a major conference focusing on childcare and early childhood development. Working with the Aprica Childcare Institute, a private organization based in Osaka, Japan, we will hold a series of summer symposia on raising warm-hearted children. The goal of this partner-

ship between the University of Hawai‘i and Aprica is to establish UH as the “mecca” for scholarly research, education, and practitioner-oriented training in quality childcare, and to ultimately establish a facility to house a World Center for Children’s Happiness.
- The summer was also a time for renewal and planning. Recognizing that our strength lies in the vitality of our faculty and staff, the Administrative, Professional and Technical (APT) staff held a successful professional development seminar on Maui. The Wo Learning Champions have also been busy finalizing plans for their first retreat scheduled for September.

This newsletter recognizes the dedicated faculty and staff who have been named as UH Board of Regents Excellence in Teaching award winners and others. Congratulations and thank you to all. The value of your commitment to our students and communities is far greater than any award could show.

Also, please take the time to read about the community partners our campuses have selected for their outstanding contributions to our students and colleges. Being “community” colleges, we rely heavily on strong community partnerships. These awardees represent some of our most valued friends, and their impact on student learning and success is deserving of our attention and appreciation.

Hopefully, by now, you have already read my Stairway Conversation, “Vision to Action,” starting with the exploration of the ways and means that the UHCCs can offer appropriate baccalaureate degrees. More changes and challenges face us as we move forward in providing access and opportunity to quality education.

I am confident that we are up to the task and I look forward to working with all of you to achieve our goals.

Joyce S. Tsunoda

Senior Vice President, UH and Chancellor for Community Colleges

…we have been given opportunities to implement changes that coincide with our longstanding philosophies of access and responsiveness.”

Joyce S. Tsunoda
Taking Notice

**UH KAPI‘OLANI STUDENT WINS NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Jorge Corbalan had no sooner returned from a successful trip to the Phi Theta Kappa awards in Denver than he found out he also won an EMI/Selena scholarship, awarded to only ten students nationwide that are of Hispanic ancestry.

**WOMEN-IN-TRANSITION MEET FOR BIG ISLAND SUCCESS**

The Kona Branch of the American Association of University Women and UH Hawai‘i Island and the University of Hawai‘i Center, West Hawai‘i, worked together to present the second annual Women in Transition Conference in June.

Eighty-five women (including those in photo below) attended the day long event held at the UH Center, West Hawai‘i location and the Aloha Theatre in nearby Kailua. Sponsoring partners for the conference were Kona Kohala Chamber of Commerce, Workforce Development Division in Kona, and the Office of the State Director for Career and Technical Education.

**COCA COLA SCHOLARSHIPS GO TO UH KAPI‘OLANI STUDENTS**

Each year, community colleges may nominate two students for the Coca-Cola Scholarship. Nominees must have contributed at least 100 hours of community service in the past year. Both of UH Kapi‘olani’s nominees were awarded scholarships. Sherie Char and Christina Simpkins received $1,000 each.

**TWO UH HONOLULU PROFS ASK TOUGH QUESTION IN NEW BOOK**

“What if” Japan had occupied Hawai‘i after the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor? UH Honolulu professors Rick Ziegler and Pat Patterson explore just that question in a new book, *Red Sun*. The fictional history book is a series of scenarios of a Japanese occupation of Hawai‘i during World War II. The two history professors got the idea as they discussed such possibilities during their history classes to create student interest. Patterson and Ziegler think that *Red Sun* is a surprisingly plausible series of events that will raise many questions for the reader.

**LECLAIR NAMED OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR BY HACTE**

Robert J. LeClair (above right with students) has been selected as the 2001 State of Hawai‘i Outstanding Educator in Post-secondary Career and Technical Education. The award is given by the Hawai‘i Association for Career and Technical Education. LeClair is a licensed attorney in Hawai‘i who, in 1974, founded the UH Kapi‘olani Paralegal Program and has been its department chair since its inception.

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

Marilyn Walsh, Editor, 956-3862
e-mail: mwalsh@ccc.hawaii.edu

CORRESPONDENTS

Nancy Schein  Karen Hastings
UH Hawai‘i  UH Honolulu

Joseph Campos
UH Kapi‘olani

Barbara Bulatao-Franklin
UH Kaua‘i

Cindy Martin and Beth Kupper-Herr
UH Leeward

Patricia Adams  Libby Young
UH Maui  UH Windward

Dave Murakami
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Marilyn Walsh, 956-3862
e-mail: mwalsh@ccc.hawaii.edu

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

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* UH and Chancellor for Community Colleges
teaching philosophy is simple: Give the best course you can. His theory on successful learning is also simple and easy for students to grasp.
“Learning is like surfing,” Davis attests. “If you don’t put in the effort to catch the wave, you will not surf. If you don’t totally commit yourself to catching the wave, then you will either miss it and get caught inside, or go over the falls. It takes commitment to learn.” His students seem to catch the wave. One commented that “Dr. Davis truly enjoys teaching and that enjoyment rubs off onto the students.”

Dana Bekeart, professor of Philosophy, Kaua’i CC
Dana Bekeart’s ability to take a subject area and make it meaningful was voiced by many students, some of whom at first wondered, “Why are these classes required?” “Mr. B,” as he is known, shows students the value of the classroom lessons and helps them apply what they learn to their own lives.

Bekeart actively volunteers in the community. From musical and theatrical participation to environmental concerns—he is a role model for students. They see that through participation in the world around them, they too can make a difference. According to Bekeart, “Education is a process of helping people to find their own path and the fulfillment of who they are.”

E. Dean Garrett, professor, coordinator, Leeward CC at Wai’anae
Dean Garrett has touched the lives of many, first as a professor at Leeward Community College and then as the coordinator for Leeward at Wai’anae. Garrett takes into consideration that many students at the Wai’anae campus are non-traditional students who work full time and have responsibilities at home. He makes many accommodations for them, tutoring, providing assistance for their needs, and giving the personalized attention that lets them succeed. One colleague summed it up: “I have heard from students and witnessed personally the warmth and encouragement with which Dean Garrett treats all students. His goals are to increase student interest, self-esteem and motivation. He is rare, special, so valuable.”

Wei-Ling Landers, instructor of Mathematics, Windward CC
Her dedication and high standards impressed the students and faculty who nominated Wei-Ling Landers for the Board of Regents Excellence in Teaching Award at UH Windward. Students noted that Landers is always available to assist them and moves her classes quickly forward, taking care not to leave anyone behind. Landers spearheaded the annual faculty-staff Christmas celebration, chaired the faculty relations committee and served on the faculty senate and curriculum committees. She has served on the information retrieval tech committee, the international education committee, the writing advisory board and is a math lab coordinator.

In her “spare time” she volunteers for the Red Cross and participates in the Grades for Math competition.

Mikahala Helm, assistant professor, counseling and guidance, Maui CC
Mikahala Helm has served students and Maui Community College with exemplary professionalism and service for more than 20 years as a counselor, teacher and mentor. She is the advisor of the Hawaiian Club and spearheads the Maui CC High School Outreach team. Helm’s dedication and performance on behalf of helping students to realize their hopes and promise is evident in comments from students and nominators. “Mikahala gives true meaning to the word ‘compassionate.’ Her caring and consideration for others are embodied in her counseling styles—in her wholehearted attention to the needs of her clients, and to her initiatives in bringing more helpful and efficient services to students.”

Congratulations and thank you to all of
the UHCC’s Outstanding Educators

Outstanding Employee of the Year Award
David Murakami, counselor, Employment Training Center

The Outstanding Employee award is the Employment Training Center’s (ETC) equivalent to the BOR Medal for Teaching Excellence. This year’s recipient, David Murakami, has made outstanding contributions in helping at-risk students achieve success in educational and skill building programs for more than a decade at ETC. One colleague commented, “When students begin working with him, they are ushered into a new world, where achieving major goals becomes a reality. Murakami plays a significant role in the students’ process of coming to being.” He is known by colleagues as a “quiet and effective educator whose heart is genuine and intentions are pure.”

Frances Davis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

This award, a memorial to the late Frances Davis who taught at UH Mānoa and UH Leeward for 19 years, honors undergraduate teachers for their dedication to teaching excellence. Honorees are:

Paul R. Field, assistant professor of History, Windward CC

Perhaps the most telling description of Paul Field lies in these words from one of his students. “His unrivaled approach to discussion-based lectures has helped me to comprehend more completely my own role in history, realizing that I, too, can have an effect on the world.”

Field has been chapter advisor for UH Windward’s Phi Theta Kappa, the community college honor society since 1994 and won the 2000-2001 Outstanding Advisor Award for the Pacific region. Field also developed environmental and Hawaiian history courses for UH Windward. He serves as state coordinator for Hawai‘i History Day and is a judge for National History Day. Field is faculty senate chair, sings in the UH Windward chorus, and is active in his church and community.

Vincent Ryan Linares, associate professor of Language Arts and English, Maui CC

An innovative professor, Vinnie Linares always searches for new and creative ways to present his material. He is a leader in using online resources, a member of the University’s Distance Education Committee, and serves as a mentor to colleagues in developing distance learning courses. One student describes Linares as “an outstanding teacher who has created an atmosphere for learning where students feel safe to freely explore inner thoughts and express them with one another.” Linares is also an accomplished theater actor.

Jerry Saviano, instructor of Language Arts, Honolulu CC

Saviano’s novel approach to teaching encourages students to develop and express their own interpretations of written work. One former student, currently attending UH Mānoa, credits Saviano for her decision to pursue a career in teaching saying that his dedication and ability helped her gain a love and respect for English.

Saviano has coordinated nationwide literary contests for students, serves on the Board of the Hawai‘i Literary Arts Council, coordinates service learning projects and is developing a faculty mentoring program at Farrington High School. He also volunteers as a writing tutor and coordinated UH Honolulu’s participation in an international peace poem contest.

Hung Wo and Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundation Award for Faculty Service to the Community

This award is given for significant non-compensated services that contribute to strengthening the ties between the University of Hawai‘i and the community.

His one-person performance in Damien has been featured three times to date and he has donated the profits to help the Maui community.

continued on page 6
Noelie Rodriguez, assistant professor, Hawai‘i CC

Noelie Rodriguez spends endless hours serving community needs through her expertise in sociology. Rodriguez organized Hawai‘i CC’s first Earth Day Fair, which has grown into one of the biggest events on campus. She helped establish the first domestic violence program on the Big Island and served on the board of the Family Crisis Shelter. In 1990, she became the first Women’s Center coordinator. She is a founder of Global HOPE, a community cable access program created in 1995. Rodriguez continues to produce the show, covering topics such as Hawaiian sovereignty, politics, economic and environmental issues. Rodriguez works with the Hilo Outdoor Circle, the League for Women Voters and the Friends of Makalawena.

Paul Jacoby, instructor, CENT, Honolulu CC

Paul Jacoby, a teacher in the Computing Electronics and Networking Technology (CENT) program at UH Honolulu, has a profound impact on local charitable organizations. Jacoby turned the hands-on repair work of UH Honolulu’s CENT students into a new partnership with Lōkahi Giving Project by donating repaired items to people in need. Over the years, this project has repaired and distributed donations to more than 600 social service and nonprofit organizations. Last year alone, Jacoby’s students donated 70 microwave ovens, 43 computers, 287 televisions, 4 VCRs, and 48 other small appliances. Jacoby has been a judge for the Hawai‘i Science and Engineering Fair. He and his students built the buzzer system for the Hawai‘i Science Bowl and, on Saturdays, Jacoby can be found volunteering at Ho‘omaluhia Botanical Gardens—doing everything from fixing computers to clearing weeds.

Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Service

Established in 1984 by an anonymous donor, this award acknowledges the community colleges’ civil service and Administrative Professional Technical staff for outstanding contributions to the University. Jayne Maruya, Administrative Officer, Kapi‘olani CC

Jayne Maruya is principally responsible for the management of all college extramural funds, which has grown significantly to nearly $3 million in fiscal year 2001. Maruya is recognized as the most dependable and relied upon employee of the UH Kapi‘olani Business Office. Her years of experience and extensive knowledge of college finances, coupled with her ability to work positively with colleagues across the UH system make her an invaluable asset to the University community. With her quiet and low-key manner, she is known to be the “rock” of her office for over 35 years.

Masaki and Momoe Kunimoto Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions to Vocational Education

Established by Elizabeth and Tadashi Kunimoto in honor of their parents’ roles in the development of Hawai‘i’s food industry, this award recognizes UHCC faculty and students for outstanding contributions to career and technical education.

Mark Yalbuw, A.S. Carpentry, Hawai‘i CC

Mark Yalbuw has developed multiple skills and learned computer applications which will be of value in today’s workplace. Yalbuw was nominated by Hawai‘i CC faculty for his dependability, hard work, and trustworthiness; for his awareness of safety in his field and outstanding application of academic training in his work assignments; and for the positive example he sets for other students. Yalbuw works part time in the College’s repair and maintenance department, inspiring others by his maturity and confident use of his skills.
UHCCS ANNOUNCE THREE NEW ADMINISTRATORS

The Board of Regents, in July, announced the selection of three new administrators within the University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges. The Board approved the following:

RAMSEY PEDERSEN has been named Provost of Honolulu CC. He joined Honolulu Community College as a faculty member in 1973, became an assistant dean in 1987, and dean of instruction in 1990.

MARK SILLIMAN has been named Provost of Leeward CC. Silliman’s career in higher education spans 26 years—12 years as an instructor of English as a Second Language and 14 years in administrative positions.

DANIEL ISHII is the UHCC’s new Vice Chancellor for Student and Community Affairs. His University of Hawai‘i career began in 1987 as a Special Assistant to the President for Technology Transfer and Economic Development (OTTED) that lead to him becoming the OTTED Director.

RUNNING START TO HIT NEW PACE

High school juniors and seniors are taking classes that simultaneously count toward their high school diploma AND give them college credits at Honolulu Community College.

Running Start, a partnership between the state Department of Education and the University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges, will eventually allow high school juniors and seniors all over the state to enroll in designated classes at the UH campuses.

Currently, the program is in the final semester of its pilot stage. Enrolled at Honolulu CC this fall there are 22 students from Honolulu district high schools who have received permission from their high school teachers or counselors to take courses in history, math, English, science and other areas that count toward college. So far, 18 students successfully completed the spring semester courses, another 18 successfully completed accelerated summer courses.

In January 2002, the program is slated to expand across ‘Oahu and to the Neighbor Islands.

Hawai‘i’s Running Start programs is part of a national Running Start campaign that encourages more students to stay in school and prepare for college. Federally funded Gear Up scholarships are also available for eligible high school students to cover tuition, books and bus fare. For more information, call 845-9129.

Hong Kong students learn hands-on in Hawai‘i

Leeward Community College hosted a group of 20 students from Sacred Heart Canossian College in Hong Kong during the summer. The 10-day program included English as a Second Language classes and a variety of activities in to experience Hawaiian history and culture. One of the highlights of the program was the afternoon spent with 40 upward Bound students on the Leeward campus. The Upward Bound students, from across Hawai‘i and the Pacific Islands, gave the Sacred Hearts students a hands-on demonstration of their robotics project.
Our Community Partners:

Every year, each community college in the University of Hawai‘i system and the Employment Training Center take on the difficult task of selecting one business or organization for their “Community Partner of the Year.” Selected for their impact on students, for their efforts in workforce and educational development, and as friends of their communities, the awardees are some of Hawai‘i’s most successful and action-oriented organizations. We thank all of them for their contributions to our colleges and students.

KTA SUPERSTORES
KTA Superstores was chosen by Hawai‘i Community College as its “Community Partner” for 2001. Provost Sandra Sakaguchi pointed to the company’s positive impact on students and its contributions to improving the college’s programs as reasons for the selection. KTA has supported numerous student government events, including the Welcome Back Ho‘olaule’a, and has collaborated on projects that promote real-life experiences for students. Additionally, the Superstore was commended for generously supporting Hawai‘i CC administrators, faculty, staff, and students for many years and for making significant contributions to the College’s development.

Obun Hawai‘i
Obun Hawai‘i was selected by Honolulu Community College because of its commitment to the college and its communication arts program. Obun Hawai‘i recently established the Yutaka Wada Memorial Fund in honor of Obun’s founder and his commitment to excellence. Obun has donated funds to the college to assist students with the purchase of supplies, to subsidize their entry fees for awards competitions and to create a scholarship fund. The printing company, under the direction of President Don Ojiri, has also hired many of Honolulu CC’s students. According to Provost Ramsey Pedersen, “Support from a distinguished local company such as Obun gives our students a sense of self-worth and a vision toward success.”

Starwood Hotels and Resorts Hawai‘i
Kapi‘olani Community College has selected Starwood Hotels & Resorts Hawai‘i as its 2001 “Community Partner.” According to Provost John Morton, “The partnership between Starwood Hotels and Resorts Hawai‘i and Kapi‘olani CC’s Interpret Hawaii program has been most successful because of the ‘ohana spirit that permeates the Starwood organization.” Starwood Hotels and Resorts Hawai‘i fully understands and supports the community colleges. In the development of the training modules and in the training sessions themselves, Starwood Hotels...
and Resorts Hawai‘i involved many levels of hotel staff in the review and direct input into the curriculum to insure desired results. Everyone involved in the partnership has worked to develop deep, lasting relationships that will be lasting and true.

Alexander & Baldwin

Provost Peggy Cha commented that, “Kaua‘i CC has said thank you to so many Garden Island subsidiaries of Alexander & Baldwin over the years that it is hard to keep track. They have generously contributed to scholarship funds, program development and project development for students, faculty and staff.” Their contributions have been awarded as unrestricted support, which gives Kaua‘i Community College the flexibility in the use of funds to focus on current student needs. The Alexander & Baldwin Foundation is funded by the business activities of Alexander & Baldwin, Inc. and its subsidiaries, including A&B Properties, Matson Navigation, Kaua‘i Commercial Company, Kaua‘i Coffee, and Kukuiula Development Company.

Alan Wong

Alan Wong is Leeward Community College’s “Community Partner” of the year. Provost Mark Silliman recognized the Executive Chef-Owner of Alan Wong Restaurants, Inc. during the campus commencement ceremony earlier in the year. Silliman noted Chef Wong’s consistent and generous support of Leeward CC’s food service program. Among his contributions, Chef Wong has conducted workshops for culinary students, spearheaded an internship program, acted as a guest chef for Leeward CC fund-raisers, and serves on the food service program’s advisory board, among others, The Alan Wong Taste of Hawai‘i Scholarship for spring 2001.

Maui Electric Company

Acting Maui Community College Provost flowiger commented, “We chose Maui Electric Company as our “Community Partner” because of its continued support over the past five years. MECO has provided leadership on Maui CC’s Sustainable Technology Program advisory committee; it has given rebates for lighting audits and retrofits and support for campus projects which have reduced electrical consumption. MECO’s commitment to the Valley Isle and its future leaders—our students—is evident in its ongoing community involvement.” In addition, MECO has funded the design of energy saving systems on the Maui CC campus.

KBG is honored for the scholarship support it has provided to UH Windward students for the past six years, as well as volunteer support for its Friends of Windward CC’s campaign. KBG past president Herb Lee has served on Windward’s advisory board and helped lead efforts to raise awareness of the college in the community. KBG is the primary community business organization for the Kāne‘ohe area. It promotes civic responsibility and community involvement, as well as provides information to local businesses.

NEW INT’L AGREEMENT SIGNED

Okinawa Prefectural College of Nursing in Japan signed a system-wide agreement with the University of Hawai‘i in July. It was President Dobelle’s first official signing ceremony to create an international alliance. As a result, 26 students from Okinawa Prefectural College will study at Kaua‘i CC and UH Mānoa this fall in the nursing and dental hygiene programs. Taking part in the ceremony were (first row) President Dobelle, Reiko Ueda, (back row) Dr. Robert Anders, Dr. Joyce Tsunoda, Dr. Yoshimitsu Higa and Mr. David Iha.
In recognizing the importance of raising warmhearted children and furthering the cross-cultural understanding of childcare science, the University of Hawai‘i and Aprica Childcare Institute hosted the first Symposium on Early Childhood and Health Development through a Childcare Summer Institute at the East-West Center, in August.

“This symposium provided an unprecedented opportunity for international exchange on the principles of raising children in a safe, nurturing and compassionate environment,” proclaimed UHCC Chancellor Joyce Tsunoda. “We are grateful to Aprica, which sponsored the event, and its chairman, Kenzo Kassai, for his commitment in promoting warmheartedness in early childhood.”

The conference was focused on pediatrics with Hawai‘i participants bringing their expertise in developing an integrated system of care in early childhood based on Carnegie’s Starting Points. The Japanese delegation included experts from Japan’s medical community and its researchers and specialists with Aprica. For all parties concerned, ensuring a healthy start, providing protection from violent and non-violent injuries, responsible parenthood, quality childcare choices, and mobilizing communities in support of early childhood were central to the discussions.

Students were guests at Ilisagvik College (Barrow), University of Alaska’s Tanana Valley Vocational Education Program and the Rural Student Services Program, and University of Alaska, Anchorage, Native Student Services, and Alaska Pacific University’s Multicultural Center. Students learned about unique educational and job opportunities for Alaskan Natives.

NHVEP unites students to broaden horizons and hopes
Our new University of Hawai‘i President Evan S. Dobelle has a vision of building a stronger university by fostering collaborative relationships among campuses, faculty, staff and students. He feels it is essential that all campuses unite under one, single identity—the University of Hawai‘i—to achieve this goal.

To strengthen this perception in our communities, Dobelle has asked that the community colleges change their names to be more in-sync with the other campuses of the University.

Being that the UH Community Colleges are flexible, responsive, risk-takers, Chancellor Tsunoda, the provosts and executive staff agreed to embark on this change as quickly as possible to begin working toward the president’s vision. The systemwide marketing committee was appointed with the task of creating a plan for implementing the name change and has swiftly moved into action to begin this process.

Most faculty and staff members have already been informed by their provosts of these changes. All faculty and staff should have also read Chancellor Tsunoda’s Stairway Message #16 relaying the significance of these changes for students, faculty and staff.

In her message, she points out that the most important thing to remember is that the core mission and values of the University of Hawai‘i’s community colleges has not changed. This will be an important time for all faculty and staff to reinforce that point in all of their publicity and marketing materials. All eight campuses that comprise the community college system are dedicated to providing affordable, accessible quality education to any adult who strives to advance in his or her education, career or personal life. This will not change.

The changes that we can look forward to, along with this name change, include increased systemwide support, services and resources for students; improved communications and articulation; and new opportunities for partnerships within the University, throughout our communities, and across the globe.

Chancellor Tsunoda stated that, “These changes will require a willingness to work and an ability to change.” Those changes are already occurring. This newsletter, for instance, was written using the new names of our campuses. A set of guidelines is being produced as this goes to print, and a series of campus briefings is being scheduled.

No doubt there will be many questions and issues that arise due to the changes in the campus names. The new guidelines will be helpful. You can also look for answers in upcoming newsletters or you may call or e-mail Marilyn Walsh (956-3862/mwalsh@ccc.hawaii.edu) or Susan Lee (956-3859/susanlee@hawaii.edu).

NAME CHANGE BRINGS NEW OPPORTUNITY TO GROW AS A SYSTEM
A 52-foot mold used to create the hulls for a Hawaiian voyaging canoe was recently completed at Honolulu CC’s Marine Education and Training Center (METC) at Sand Island. Honolulu CC’s marine technology students built the mold and, in the process, are helping UH Hilo’s Hawaiian Language College to preserve and promote Hawaiian culture and history. UH Hilo commissioned the community college to create the mold which will be used to build the hulls of a voyaging canoe for the UH Hilo students.

According to Mr. Chad Baybayan, the project’s grant supervisor at UH Hilo, “This joint effort will enhance the learning experiences of our UH Hilo students, and it has the potential to benefit the Hawaiian community at large.” The project was made possible through a grant awarded by ‘Aha Pūnana Leo. Baybayan solicited the help of the Polynesian Voyaging Society and The Friends of the Hokūlea and Hawai’iloa in pulling together the resources to design and construct the new double-hulled canoe which will be called “Hōkūalaka’ī.”

This is the first time a mold of this size has been built for a Hawaiian canoe, and the partnership provides valuable learning experiences for both UH Honolulu and UH Hilo students. UH Honolulu instructor Bob Perkins explains, “The project increases the feasibility for other educational, cultural and community groups to build similar voyaging canoes using this mold. The project has also provided a valuable, uniquely Hawaiian, hands-on learning opportunity for our METC students.”

The hull mold and plug will be sent to J. Dowssett Co., a Honolulu boat-builder, that will complete the hulls using composite materials such as 3/4” PVC foam and vinyl ester resin. Though traditionally the voyaging canoes are carved from the wood of native Koa and other trees, Baybayan says the use of modern materials not only protects the native forest, but also makes the canoe more durable, less expensive to produce and easier to maintain. Construction of the Hokualaka’ī should be completed by next summer.