BACKGROUND OF THE CENTER

The HRCFS was established by the Hawai‘i State Legislature in 1971 to collect and disseminate information about futures studies and to do futures research for public and private groups within the State, the region, and throughout the world (Chapter 222).

Locally, since that time, the HRCFS, recently transferred from the Social Science Research Institute (SSRI) of the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa to the Department of Political Science, has proven to be an invaluable resource. As its annual reports show, it has provided futures-oriented information and conducted workshops for almost all State, County, and City agencies as well as for many commercial and nonprofit local groups throughout the State.

Because the HRCFS works so closely with the Alternative Futures Graduate program within the University of Hawai‘i’s Department of Political Science, the Center was recently relocated to the Department. The Alternative Futures program, created in 1977, has produced scores of women and men who have gone on to become professional futures consultants in many fields, locally, nationally, and worldwide. One component of the graduate program is a paid internship that many students experience either with the Institute for Alternative Futures (IAF), in Alexandria, Virginia, one of the oldest and most respected futures consulting firms in the world, or with the HRCFS itself. The HRCFS also cooperates with the Program in Public Administration, the School of Architecture, and other University units on applied futures-oriented projects especially in global change and environmental management in Hawai‘i and throughout the Pacific Island region.

Nationally, the HRCFS is a major futures resource. For one example, the HRCFS was responsible, with IAF, for creating the concept and reality of “judicial foresight”--incorporating futures studies into judicial administrative decision-making. This began with work done by the HRCFS with the Hawai‘i State Judiciary from the 1970s onward. Subsequently, the HRCFS has engaged in judicial foresight activities indirectly with all, and directly with ten, other U.S. state judiciaries, as well as with the U. S. federal judiciary, many national and state bar associations, and more recently with several foreign judiciaries, primarily in the Asia-Pacific. The State Justice Institute, a U.S. federal agency for state judiciaries, made the category “Futures and the Courts” one of its major funding categories specifically because of work done with and through the HRCFS and the IAF. The HRCFS has also consulted with many other governmental units, universities, businesses, religious organizations, and nonprofit entities throughout North America.

Globally, the World Futures Studies Federation (WFSF), the premier world organization of groups and individuals conducting futures research at a professional level, chose the Center to house the WFSF
Secretariat during the 1980s and early 90s, and awarded the HRCFS its highest honor for excellence in futures research in 1994.

The Center has been an Affiliate Campus of the International Space University (ISU) of Strasbourg, France since 1996. As such, UH faculty and students participate in the Masters in Space Studies (MSS) program at the main campus in Strasbourg and the Summer Session Program (SSP) that is held in different locations around the world (most recently, the University of West Australia, Adelaide; the University of Bremen, Germany; Federico Santa Maria Technical University, Chile; and Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand).

Similarly, selected ISU MSS students come to the University of Hawai‘i campus each year for their Internship Program. HRCFS and ISU also cooperate in various research, training and outreach projects.

Externally Funded Research and Training Projects:


A book based on the conference will be published by the University of Hawaii Press in 2005.


The Center has a formal exchange agreement with the Korea Information Strategy Development Institute (a government sponsored research institute, affiliated with the Office of the Prime Minister under the Korea Council of Economic and Social Research Institutes).

In addition, from October 2004 through December 2005, Mr. Jae-Cheol Kim, Director of Planning and Management, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, of the Republic of Korea, and Director of the Planning Division of The Korean National University of Arts, has been assigned by the Ministry to the Center to conduct research and studies to enable Korea to further develop its popular culture industries from a more futures-oriented perspective.

From January 2 through January 15, 2004, Dator served as a Fulbright Senior Specialist at the request of the APEC Center for Technology Foresight, National Science and Technology Development Agency of Thailand. For two weeks, he gave day-long workshops on foresight and futures studies.

Planning is underway for a conference on Futures of University Governance, to be held in Honolulu in February 2005, in cooperation with the World Academy of Art and Science, and the Toda Institute.

Recent Books and Monographs


Tae-Chang Kim and Jim Dator, eds., Co-Creating a Public Philosophy for Future Generations. London: Adamantine Press, 1999 (From a conference held in Honolulu, sponsored by the HRCFS, and funded by the Future Generations Alliance of Kyoto, Japan)
Recent publications in books and journals


Jim Dator, "When courts are overgrown with grass: Futures of courts and law," Futures. Vol. 32, No. 1 February 2000

Jim Dator, "Bright future for unions?" in Arthur Shostak, CyberUnion. M. E. Sharpe, 1999

Jim Dator, "Return to long waves," Futures, Vol 31, No. 3/4, April/May 1999

Jim Dator, "From tsunamis to long waves and back," Futures, Vol 31, No. 1, February 1999

Recent Articles about the Center

John Griffin, "We can shape Hawai'i's future, or react to outsiders' visions," Honolulu Advertiser, January 18, 2004, p. B3f


October 18, November 12, Interview with Asahi Shimbun reporters. Article appeared in Asahi Shimbun, November 27, 2002

July 15, 26, 29 Telephone interviews with Joshua Davis of Wired Magazine about the practical uses of futures studies. Article appeared in Wired, October 2002, p. 48


Keiji Oshita interview in Japanese, in East West Journal, April 15, 1999


Wade Kilohana Shirkey, "Futurists hope Y2K won't end thinking about possibilities," Honolulu Advertiser, December 31, 1999

**International Presentations 2004**

From January 2 through January 15, 2004, Fulbright Senior Specialist at the request of the APEC Center for Technology Foresight, National Science and Technology Development Agency of Thailand. He gave day-long workshops on foresight and futures studies

- January 6 and 7, "Manpower planning in education, science and technology: a foresight approach," for a APEC regional conference, Siam City Hotel, Bangkok
- January 8 and 9, "R&D Branding for Chiang Mai University" for senior administrators of Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai Orchid Hotel
- January 12, "High level manpower planning in education: A foresight approach" for the Commission on Higher Education of the Ministry of Education, Thailand, Siam City Hotel, Bangkok
- January 13, "Top-end manpower planning in science and technology for industrial clusters," organized by the National Science and Technology Development Agency, Century Park Hotel, Bangkok
- January 14, "Foresight methods in university planning:
Case of private higher education institutions”, organized by The Association of Private Higher Education Institutions in Thailand, Siam City Hotel


July 7, “Universities without ‘Quality’ and Quality without ‘Universities’”, Keynote address For the Australian Universities Quality Forum 2004, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Adelaide Australia
   July 8, Futures Scenarios Workshop
   July 9, Closing wrap-up panel

July 26-August 13, Co-Chair, Space and Society Department. Special Summer Session, International Space University, University of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia

July 31, "Mars or bust! Revisited!!" For the 4th Australian Mars Exploration Conference, University of South Australia

December 7, 8, Lectures on Futures Studies and Space Governance, International Space University, Strasbourg, France

**Presentations on the Mainland 2004**

March 23, Helping the Boeing Corporation design a Lunar Base, Bainbridge Island (Washington State)

June 18, “The ‘Conceptual Revolution’ and the ‘Dream Society of Icons and Aesthetic Experience,’” Discussion with faculty of the School of Architecture and Planning, State University of New York, Buffalo, New York

November 13, Meeting of the Executive Council, World Academy of Art and Science, Dulles Hilton Hotel, Washington, DC

**Selected Presentations in Hawaii 2004**

February 18, "Diecasting in the New American Empire…and other futures" for the 2004 National American Diecasters Association CEO Conference, Four Seasons Resort, Maui at Wailea

September 25, "Looking Backward and Looking Forward" 30th Anniversary of the UHM Department of Planning and Urban Development, Imin Center
   Slide show of “Dreaming the Undreamt Dream” (1971)
   Panel on "Visions of Hawaii's Futures"

**Visitors to HRCFS in 2004**

May 21, Chris Jones, Secretary General, World Futures Studies Federation

May 27, Jonathan Peck, Vice President, Institute for Alternative Futures

June 25, Sohail Inayatullah, Professor of Futures Studies, Tamkang University, Taipei, and editor, *Journal of Futures Studies*
October through December 2005, Mr. Jae-Cheol Kim, Director of Planning and Management, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, of the Republic of Korea, and Director of the Planning Division of The Korean National University of Arts

**International Space University Student Internships:**

1999--Laurance Higgs (UK)
2000--Jonathan Ricketson (Australia)
2001--Sandra Janosik (Canada) (interned with Tom McCord, Hawai'i Institute of Geology and Planetology).
2002--Summer Ann Ash (US) interned with Karen Meech (Institute for Astronomy) and Desiderio Magtanggol Reyes (Philippines) interned with the Futures Center
2003--Stuart Briese (Australia)