

STATE OF HAWAII
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
SPARK M. MATSUNAGA INSTITUTE FOR PEACE

MAJOR FUNCTIONS

The issues of war and peace took on a special urgency in the current generation, as an escalating arms race produced weapons of destruction with the capacity to destroy our civilizations. In spite of the fact that the Cold War is acknowledged to be over, regional inequalities in living standards and human rights create the seeds of unrest in many areas of the world. Recognizing the urgent and universal desire for peace in the world, the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii established the University of Hawaii Institute for Peace in December, 1985, and in May, 1990, changed the name to the Spark M. Matsunaga Institute for Peace in honor of the late Senator who worked for peace and social justice.

FUNCTIONS

- To sponsor the support peace education and research projects at the University of Hawaii and within the community at large.
- To provide a peace studies curriculum for both undergraduate and graduate students, and thereby to promote broader thinking toward the development of a peaceful world.
- To support research into nonviolent means of resolving disputes.
- To promote interaction and outreach with the local, national, and international peace communities.
- To cooperate with individuals and organizations in a continuing dialogue on the global quest for justice and peace.

The Spark M. Matsunaga Institute for Peace will coordinate and stimulate research and education on topics such as the nature and conditions of a just and sustainable social order; the relationship between justice, human needs, and violence; the causes and conditions of violence; and the path and struggles leading toward the resolution of conflict. The Institute will pay special attention to the Asia-Pacific region, bearing in mind the problems of peace, like those of war, have no geographical boundaries.

The Institute has a Council composed of faculty members from various academic disciplines from the Manoa campus as well as faculty from other campuses. The program is an inter-disciplinary Manoa program which works closely with other units in the University. The program has general funds and three permanent positions as of February, 1990. The Director of the Institute is a faculty member selected by the Council and appointed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.