Master Navigator Baybayan to keynote UH Hilo fall commencement

by Ken Hupp

Polynesian voyaging navigator and educator Chad “Kālepa” Baybayan delivers the keynote address at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo’s Fall Commencement, scheduled for Saturday, December 16, 9 a.m., in Vulcan Gym.

Students have petitioned for degrees and/or certificates from the colleges of Arts and Sciences (266), Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management (17), Business and Economics (34), Pharmacy (1), and Ka Haka ‘Ula O Keʻelikōlani College of Hawaiian Language (12).

Born and raised in Lahaina, Maui, Baybayan currently serves as Navigator-in-Residence at the ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai‘i, developing wayfinding activities, curriculum, and educational materials that engage individuals of all ages to explore and realize their full human potential.

He has been an active participant in the Polynesian voyaging renaissance since 1975, as captain and navigator onboard the iconic Hawaiian double-hulled voyaging canoe Hokūle‘a, as well as the companion canoes Hawai‘i‘ōloa and Hokūalaka‘i. Baybayan most recently took part in the three-year Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage, which wrapped up in June 2017, after traveling 42,000 nautical miles, visiting 150 ports in more than 20 countries, and training a new generation of navigators, educators, scientists, and community stewards.

In 2007, Baybayan and four other Hokūle‘a navigators schooled by Master Navigator Mau Piailug, traveled to the island of Satawal in Micronesia where they were inducted into the Order of Pwo, a 3,000-year-old society of master deep sea navigators. The Pwo initiation is a sacred ritual, where students of traditional navigation are formally recognized as Palu (navigators). They officially become

International students and exchange important for Hawai‘i

by Interim Chancellor Marcia Sakai

We welcomed a group of special visitors to the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo last month. Seven international education journalists from key press outlets in Asia, Latin America, and Europe were in the State visiting campuses on O‘ahu and Hawai‘i Island as part of a Study Hawai‘i Press Tour aimed to help counter the downward trend in international students studying in Hawai‘i.

This trend is of concern because of the important contributions international students make to the State in cross cultural understanding, global cooperation and economic growth. The tour was hosted by the Hawai‘i Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) and the Study Hawai‘i Educational Consortium, an organization of 28 public and private schools, colleges and universities dedicated to increasing the enrollment of international students in Hawai‘i.

Their concern in the decline is warranted. According to DBEDT’s 2017 Hawai‘i International Education Survey (via the Office of the Governor), Hawai‘i hosted 10,800 students from 27 institutions during the 2016-17 academic year, down from 12,200 students from 31 institutions during the 2015-16 academic year. The total direct economic financial...
master navigators upon the death of their teacher. Piailug passed away in July 2010.

Baybayan earned a BA in Hawaiian Studies from UH Hilo in 1997 and an M.Ed. from Heritage College in 1999.

Anne Rivera, a Communication major, represents the graduating class as student speaker. Born in Poughkeepsie, New York, Rivera transferred to UH Hilo in Fall 2016 after earning an AA in Education from Guilford Tech Community College in Jamestown, North Carolina. Since coming to UH Hilo, she has maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.85, made the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Dean’s List each semester, and was awarded a CAS Dean’s Scholarship in June 2017.

Rivera is just as active outside the classroom. Working with New Student Programs (NSP) in the Division of Student Affairs, she provides support and assistance to first-year students, including freshmen and transfers, through various programming designed to build a foundation for their academic and social integration. In addition to her primary duties, she leads a team of student ambassadors who help support those initiatives and others within NSP, and coordinated various fairs during this fall’s new student orientation. Rivera also works as a public information intern in the Office of the Chancellor, writing articles for posting on-line.

Her commencement address will acknowledge the achievements of the graduating class, while expressing gratitude to everyone who supported them. She also will issue a call to action that she hopes will empower and inspire her classmates by reminding them that commencement marks only one chapter in their lives, and they have much left to accomplish.

Rivera, whose goal is to become a communication professor, plans to attend Georgia State University to pursue an MA in human communication. The graduate program is paired with an internship that will enable her to assist faculty in teaching undergraduate courses.

(Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)

impact of international students for the State was an estimated $225.3 million in 2016-17, down from $302 million in 2015-16. This amount includes tuition and fees plus living expenses. In addition to the direct impact, other economic benefits of international students in Hawai‘i for the 2016-17 period included:

- $484 million added to the State’s total economic output, including direct, indirect, and induced effects
- $32 million in State taxes generated from the total economic output
- $192 million in household earnings attributed to foreign students
- 5,093 jobs supported by foreign students’ spending
- $24,139 overall average annual per student spending

At UH Hilo, we’re not seeing a drop in international enrollment this semester compared to last year with 258 international students this fall (7.3 percent of total student population) up from last fall’s 245 (6.7 percent of total). But in the previous four years from 2012 to 2015, the counts were higher at 263, 276, 274, and 264, respectively.

International education is an important part of the mission of UH Hilo. We pride ourselves on our inclusive community of diverse people and we encourage dialogue where differences in ideas, viewpoints and traditions are valued; this promotes multicultural fluency and prepares our students well for the global society. Along with the initiatives underway at UH Hilo to boost recruitment and retention of State residents, it’s important that we also work on attracting students and scholars to our campus for study and exchange.

International Education Week

The journalists’ tour of Hawai‘i schools on O‘ahu and Hawai‘i Island was timed to coincide with International Education Week (Nov. 13-18), when the UH System joined universities across the country and the world to celebrate international education. Events at UH campuses throughout the State celebrated the contributions of international education and international students with food from countries around the world, dance and music performances, films, lectures and more.

At UH Hilo, the activities during International Education Week included our annual Parade of Nations, where groups of our international students walk from the Campus Center to the Library Lanai wearing traditional dress and displaying the flags of their homelands. It’s a fun and colorful event. On the Library Lanai, students from different parts of the world shared displays and information about their countries.

It was wonderful to share this celebration with the visiting press and I know they came away with an understanding about how beautifully our international students thrive here.

Our celebration of diversity on campus isn’t limited to one week a year. In October, we held the annual Barrio Fiesta where UH Hilo and the local community celebrated the richness of Filipino heritage, culture and scholarship.
As part of Filipino American Heritage Month, this year’s fiesta also served as the opening ceremonies of the first International Conference on Multidisciplinary Filipino Studies. Our campus welcomed researchers from around the world to share and exchange ideas, research, and interest of Filipinos and the Philippines.

Having international students, exchange programs, and conferences as part of our university community enriches all Hawai’i communities and contributes to the local culture and economy, which in turn raises the quality of life for everyone.

Aloha,

Cheryl Sakai

---

**UH Hilo Holiday Celebration and Cookie Contest**

Faculty and staff are invited to this year’s UH Hilo Holiday Celebration and Cookie Contest, scheduled for Friday, December 8, 3-4:30 p.m., in UCB 127. Stop by for light refreshments, to cheer on Cookie Contest contestants, have a photo taken in the festive Photo Booth, and to celebrate the holiday season with the UH Hilo ‘ohana.

For those interested in participating in the Cookie Contest, the rules include:

- Contestants may enter as individuals or in a group
- Up to 2 entries per individual/group
- Contestants must enter the contest no later than 2:45 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 8
- A minimum of 3 dozen cookies of each entry must be baked
- Each entry must have a 3x5 card with the cookie’s name and ingredients
- Contestants may drop off their entries from 2:15 - 2:45 p.m. in UCB 127 on Dec. 8; judging begins at 3:15 p.m.

---

**Campus development featured on December 13 Voices of UH Hilo**

A look back at the past 27 years of campus development and its impact is the topic of discussion on the next Voices of UH Hilo, which airs on Wednesday, December 13 at 7:53 a.m. on AM 670 KPUA.

Auxiliary Services Director Kolin Kettleson, who retires at the end of December, discusses changes brought about through the addition of new buildings and facilities, infrastructure improvements and other initiatives on campus dating back to his arrival at the University in 1990.

*Voices of UH Hilo* features University administrators, faculty and staff discussing programs and initiatives on the second Wednesday of the month throughout the calendar year.

Adam Pack, Professor, Psychology & Biology, was lead author on “Habitat preferences by individual humpback whale mothers in the Hawaiian breeding grounds vary with the age and size of their calves,” Animal Behaviour, November 2017.

Gail Makuakane-Lundin, Interim Executive Assistant, has been appointed as the Systemwide Director of Hawai‘i Papa of Ke Ao (HPOKA) on a part-time basis, effective January 2, 2018. She will facilitate the continuity of HPOKA projects and initiatives and serve as an advisor and advocate for Native Hawaiian student success at the System level. She will also continue to serve part-time as the Interim Executive Assistant to the Chancellor.

Fall Great Leaps takes PAC stage Dec 1

The University of Hawai‘i at Hilo and Hawai‘i Community College Dance programs present the end of semester Great Leaps Dance Concert on Saturday, December 2, preceded by a Friday, December 1 Preview Performance. Both events will be held at the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center (PAC) at 7:30 p.m.

Over 150 dancers will perform 12 original works. Sarah Dunaway’s Performing Arts Senior Project, “Mended,” will mark her seventh appearance at Great Leaps. Kea Kapahu’s Jazz class will dance to Michael Jackson’s “Man in the Mirror,” and Na Wahine Mano Dance Team featuring UH Hilo Performing Arts students and graduates will perform a number set to “oldies but goodies” pop music.

Dance Ensemble students will present three works created by guest choreographers. Dori Yamada’s piece celebrates years of friendship with a departing dancer, Nadia Schlosser’s dance explores overcoming the darkness of pain, and visiting Korean scholar Jeongha Kim demonstrates the wartime resilience of the Korean people. Kea Kapahu and Krisha Zane will perform a dance choreographed by Trina Nahm-Mijo entitled “Kahuwai,” which honors a historic beachfront village near the easternmost point of Kumukahi that disappeared in the 1800s.

The concert will also include Celeste Staton’s ballet piece performed to Samuel Barber’s Adagio for Strings, along with fellow instructor Annie Bunker’s aerial and modern stylings danced to the music of Pink Floyd.

Both events are open seating with tickets for the December 1 Preview priced at $3.00. Tickets for the December 2 Great Leaps Dance Concert are $7.00 General and $5.00 Discount, Student w/Valid ID, and Children 17 years & under.

For more information or to order tickets, contact the UH Hilo Box Office at 932-7490 or artscenter.uhh.hawaii.edu.
Program Spotlight

Program Spotlight is a presentation of Ka Lono Hanakahi that highlights the work of various programs by following a program throughout the entire academic year and providing monthly updates. Here now is this month’s update from the Division of Student Affairs (DSA).

Each year, several hundred students choose to live on campus in one of five residence halls. This semester, the occupancy in University Housing reached an all-time high of 740 students. In this update, we provide information about Housing and Residence Life programming available to our students.

University Housing and Residence Life is committed to providing students with a healthy residential experience by creating an environment where they feel a sense of belonging. We believe that diversity and inclusiveness within our residence halls has a positive impact on a student’s academic endeavors and personal development. Our programming utilizes a student-centric and community development-based approach, through which student leaders in University Housing and Residence Life reach out and educate residents about the resources available to them. Each semester, they organize and offer over 100 programs to engage students and enhance their residential experience. These programs fall into five categories:

• **Impact Projects** focus on the needs and interests of a specific residence hall.
• **Do It Yourself Programs** actively engage students by providing a space for them to have fun while interacting with fellow residents as well as student staff from University Housing and Residence Life.
• **Pop Up Programs** encourage collaboration with a campus partner or student resource to advertise and raise awareness about that partner or resource.
• **Hall Events** are programs geared toward community development. They are planned, organized, and implemented in each residence hall every month to bring the entire hall community together.
• **All Staff Events** are programs that are planned, organized and implemented by all five residence halls once a semester and open to all residents and students on campus.

Timely repairs and upgrades are essential to ensuring that Housing facilities are properly maintained and provide students with essential living elements. Over the summer, two residence halls received enhanced Wi-Fi service. This semester, brand new refrigerators were placed in each unit in Hale ‘Ikena, the only apartment-style hall. And a flooring project is scheduled next summer for at least one of the residence halls.

To truly serve as a home-away-from-home, the Hale Kehau Dining Hall served Thanksgiving brunch and dinner that was open to the entire campus and general community. Students unable to travel home for the holiday were able to spend it with new friends and family they have bonded with in Hilo.
UH Hilo Jazz Orchestra Meets Dweezil Zappa December 8, 9

Dweezil Zappa, Grammy® Award-winning artist and son of the legendary Frank Zappa, performs in a musical tribute to his father when the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo Performing Arts Center (PAC) presents *UH Hilo Jazz Orchestra Meets Dweezil Zappa*, Friday and Saturday, December 8 and 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Zappa has been touring the world playing his dad’s music with his band, Zappa Plays Zappa, since 2008. He has also released multiple solo albums, with the most recent being *Via Zammata* in 2015. Dweezil Zappa and the UH Hilo Jazz Orchestra will play a set together during each night’s performance to commemorate five years of the Orchestra’s annual fall concerts celebrating the music of Frank Zappa.

“We’ve got a special set planned for this year’s show that spans three decades of Frank Zappa’s diverse catalog,” said UH Hilo Musical Director Trever Veilleux. “We’ll be playing songs from many of Frank’s best-selling albums like *Hot Rats*, *Overnite Sensation*, *Apostrophe*’ and *Joe’s Garage*. We are also going to throw in some of our favorite songs from the previous Zappa tribute concerts, including *Florentine Pogen and Sofa*.”

The UH Hilo Jazz Orchestra includes more than 25 singers and musicians with a large horn section blowing over a rock and roll rhythm section. To capture Zappa’s complex music, the orchestra puts in four months of rehearsals.

“They work incredibly hard over the course of the semester to bring our audience a tight, professional-sounding show,” Veilleux said. “It is truly amazing what these young musicians can pull off.”

Tickets are reserved seating and priced at $35 General, $30 Discount and $15 UH Hilo/Hawai‘i Community College students (with a valid student ID) and children, up to age 17, pre-sale, and $40, $35 and $20 at the door. Tickets are available by calling the UH Hilo Box Office at 932-7490, Tuesday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., or ordering online at artscenter.uhh.hawaii.edu.

---

**UH Hilo Briefs**

**December**

1. **Great Leaps Preview Performance**, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission
2. **Vulcan Women’s Basketball vs. Biola**, 5 p.m., Vulcan Gym, Admission
   **Vulcan Men’s Basketball vs. Biola**, 7:30 p.m., Vulcan Gym, Admission
   **Great Leaps Dance Concert**, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission
3. **Vulcan Women’s Basketball vs. Concordia**, 5 p.m., Vulcan Gym, Admission
   **Vulcan Men’s Basketball vs. Concordia**, 7:30 p.m., Vulcan Gym, Admission
4. **Last Day of Instruction**
5. **UH Hilo Holiday Celebration and Cookie Contest**, 3-4:30 p.m., UCB 127
6. **UH Hilo Jazz Orchestra Meets Dweezil Zappa**, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission
7. **Final Examinations**
8. **Voices of UH Hilo** featuring Kolin Kettleson, 7:53 a.m., AM 670 KPUA
9. **Fall Semester Ends**
10. **UH Hilo Commencement**, 9 a.m., Vulcan Gym
11. **Finals Grades Due in MyUH**, Noon
12. **Midterm Examinations**