One of our greatest accomplishments in 2011 was the University ‘ohana and surrounding local community working together to develop UH Hilo’s new strategic plan (see www.hilo.hawaii.edu/strategicplan). The long-term plan gives us a pathway to the future and guides us as we start 2012. One of the goals, which I’d like to discuss in this column, is to foster a vibrant and sustainable environment within which to study, work and live. The aim is to develop an attractive and sustainable physical, technical, and organizational infrastructure that engenders a greater sense of pride in UH Hilo as a vibrant and welcoming institution of higher education.

One of the key components of this “sustainability goal” is responsible stewardship for Hawai‘i’s precious natural resources by developing an environmental sustainability plan to exhibit leadership in recycling, sustainable resource use, food production, “green” building design, and use of renewable energy sources on campus. We already are making great strides in these objectives and you can read about several projects currently underway on campus in Ken Hupp’s cover story in this edition of Ka Lono Hanakahi.

UH Hilo is not in a vacuum working on sustainability issues—this is a trend found not only on our campus but throughout our entire island and state. A statewide initiative that dovetails in part with UH Hilo’s sustainability goals can be found in the work of the Hawai‘i Re-formed panel pursuing new sustainability charge

by Ken Hupp

To many, the term “Unplugged” is synonymous with the popular series of performances by major recording artists that debuted on MTV in 1989. But the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo’s re-formed Sustainability Committee hopes that term will come to symbolize how the University meets its everyday needs.

The panel, formerly known as the Energy Savings/Sustainability Committee, was first appointed in Fall 2008 with the goal of identifying energy savings and sustainability projects as well as reducing electricity use during economic slowdowns and tight budgets.

After a year of working behind the scenes and evaluating its direction, the group, comprised of faculty, staff, students and administration, has re-formed and resumed meeting under a new name to reflect Chancellor Don Straney’s desire to make the University a more sustainable campus and take a broader view of the challenge.

“Sustainability is about more than producing energy and reducing its cost. It’s also about food, fuel, finances, and all aspects of our activity as a university,” said Dr. Cam Muir, associate dean, college of arts and sciences and committee chair. “This is a crucial challenge because we live in an isolated island system that relies on a model that is unsustainable.”

Muir notes that Hawai‘i is the state most heavily dependent on imported oil and presently imports an estimated 90% or more of its food, which makes it highly vulnerable to any supply disruption. He also believes the days of inexpensive fossil fuels are
Collaboration
Continued from page 1

EPSCoR* Statewide Governance Committee, of which I am co-chair and which is providing leadership for development of the Hawai’i Statewide Science and Technology Strategic Plan. The committee recently submitted a proposed planning and coordination guide to Governor Neil Abercrombie on “Sustaining and Improving Quality of Life for a Prosperous Hawai’i: A Statewide Framework for Science and Technology,” including a section on sustainability with energy and food. (*EPSCoR is a multi-million dollar federally-funded and statewide initiative called the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research.)

The EPSCoR committee’s plan, still in draft form, is meant for state and local governments, businesses, and the education sector and “provides a pathway for sparking conversations and actions that will bring to bear the latest knowledge and technology to grow, diversify and strengthen a resilient state economy, and improve the overall quality of life for Hawai’i residents.” The plan advocates four key objectives: 1) strengthen the sci-tech talent pool; 2) foster synergies between Hawai’i’s sci-tech businesses and institutions; 3) advance sci-tech for a healthy state; and 4) invest in sci-tech for a resilient, sustainable island state.

In keeping with the theme of Ka Lono’s cover story, I’d like to key in on Objective 4: a sustainable island state. Noting that the state imports 90% of its energy (through oil) and 85% of its food needs, the EPSCoR committee expresses concern in its plan that Hawai’i is therefore exposed to increased risks relating to energy and food supplies. “If Hawai’i develops technologies in these areas that reduce dependence on imports, the state will not only have more independence but it will also be less susceptible to variations in the global costs of energy and food,” the plan states. “Investment in scientific and technological research to help Hawai’i produce more of its own energy and food for domestic use and exportation will help to ensure that the state is protected.”

I’ve placed as one of my priorities the advocacy and support of initiatives that bring us closer to a truly sustainable campus, island, and state. This includes not only the projects underway on campus such as the installation of photo voltaic panels on several of our buildings and promotion of “Local First” days in our campus eateries, but also, as the EPSCoR plan describes, working to “[c]ultivate a ‘green workforce’ by providing programs and courses in Hawai’i’s education sector that will ensure Hawai’i has the skilled workers to solve its energy and food sustainability challenges.” A program that comes to mind is the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management’s beehive management courses based at the University’s agricultural farm lab in Pana’ewa tackling diseases that threaten to wipe out our island’s primary pollinators.

Both UH Hilo’s strategic plan and EPSCoR’s sci-tech plan encourage the facilitation of discussion and collaboration to advance objectives of each framework. I recently convened 27 leaders from our local community—representatives of education, health, technology, business, local government, and community non-profits—to convene for a Community Vision Summit. The discussions were lively and fruitful, focusing on the strategic directions of UH Hilo in the coming years. The group talked about their shared vision of our island’s future, and how to build two-way relationships to reach our common goals. Among the most prevalent topics was the need for UH Hilo to focus on energy and agriculture. “UH Hilo has to focus on the new trends where jobs are and communicate this to the community,” said one participant. “This will produce the ‘fire in the belly’ for motivation in education.”

For more news from the Office of the Chancellor, please visit my blog at http://hilo.hawaii.edu/blog/chancellor/.

Donald H. Shaney
a thing of the past, or will be in the near future.

Gail Makuakane-Lundin, interim executive assistant to the chancellor and a member of the Sustainability Committee and a long-time advocate of sustainability, believes UH Hilo’s efforts can have an impact that extends beyond the boundaries of the campus.

“As a place of learning and knowledge, the University is ideally suited to be a leader in changing the way we do things, and promoting sustainable practices is one aspect of that,” said Makuakane-Lundin, who has obtained grant funding for various sustainability projects on campus. “Given our high profile in the community, the steps we take can serve to encourage others to follow suit as they learn about them.”

The committee is still gauging the pulse of the campus community before initiating any University-wide actions. However, members have made a number of recommendations to the Chancellor, including creation of a native forest on campus, establishment of a shuttle bus service to the most heavily trafficked off-campus sites, and developing a campus facility to recycle used cooking oil and produce bio-diesel fuel.

That proposal took an important step forward with the recent delivery of a bio-diesel conversion platform, which could be up and operating this spring. Among the panel’s goals that a reliable production of bio-fuel could help fulfill is the conversion of UH Hilo’s fleet of vehicles to models that run on electricity or diesel as they come up for replacement.

“Our aim is to produce enough bio-diesel for all our vehicle needs, and find alternative energy sources like solar PV so that we can literally ‘unplug’ the University,” Muir explained. “We believe it’s entirely possible, but will take a combination of approaches to accomplish.”

One idea under consideration is a system employed in a couple of test sites on the continent that utilize greenhouse-based composting algae and bio-char production to generate electricity and produce a high-quality, weed-free fertilizer. Groups as diverse as the Blue Planet Foundation, Kamehameha Schools and HELCO are also looking at the system, which requires an up-front investment of over $2 million. The initial expenses typically take 2-3 years to recoup but could be recovered quicker in Hawai‘i due to its consistent year-round weather and electricity costs that run much higher than in the ‘Middle 48.’

“The beauty of this system is that it doesn’t just produce electricity. To produce our own food, farmers have to bring in materials like fuel, fertilizer and soil additives, which can be quite expensive,” said Muir, a farmer himself. “But if we could make those things here, the task would be much more feasible.”

Muir says the University’s cafeteria waste could help fuel the operation by providing a steady stream of discarded food, paper and other products to produce a quality fertilizer while recycling plastic and other materials. That would require setting up a system to sort and separate items, and getting the campus community to buy into the practice. But he believes everybody understands how important the effort is and will support it.

“The budgetary crisis really amplified the need for us to reduce spending on things that we don’t need to be spending those amounts on,” Muir said. “If we can make reductions in the millions of dollars we’re spending on electricity each year, those monies could be better used in the classrooms.”

Going forward, Muir says the committee wants the campus community to play an advisory role by sharing its expertise and ideas.

“We want to tap into the vast knowledge and expertise that we know exists on campus,” Muir said. “But we also need to know what their priorities are. Is it most important for us to grow the food we consume from the cafeteria, to create bio-diesel, or install more solar panels? These are the things we want to find out so that we can develop the appropriate strategies.”

For more information on the committee and sustainable practices, visit sustainabilitycommittee.uhh.hawaii.edu or contact Muir at 974-7300.

(Editors’ note: Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)

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**International Nights 2012**

International Nights 2012 will be held on February 17 & 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center. Tickets go on sale January 17th.
Hats off to...

Carolina Lam, Director, Global Education, presented “Ensuring the Learning in Service-Learning/Civic Engagement Programs” at the Character and Citizenship Education Conference in Singapore in November. The presentation highlighted the four-week service-learning program, “Castellano en Peru,” offered each summer through UH Hilo.

Chris Frueh, Professor, Psychology, is the UH Hilo site principal investigator for R01 research grant funded by NIH titled, “PTSD and Addiction Disorder Screening and Treatment for Incarcerated Men,” a clinical trial conducted within the New Jersey prison system in partnership with investigators at Rutgers University.

Michael Marshall, Professor, Art, is showing recent works in a group exhibition, “Drawings,” at the Skoto Gallery in New York, NY. Also, he received a Hawai‘i Council for the Humanities award in conditional grant support for the UH Hilo Poetry and Blues Project, which takes place February 6-10 at the Palace Theater and UH Hilo campus. The project will engage English, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, and History faculty and students from UH Hilo and Hawai‘i Community College.

Misaki Takabayashi, Associate Professor, Marine Science, co-authored a manuscript with her TCBES master’s student that describes the pathology of the “growth anomaly” of the Hawaiian endemic coral, Montipora capitata. The paper is publically available online at http://dx.plos.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0028854 and was published in PLoS One Biology, a high impact peer-reviewed journal.

Paula Zeszotarski, Assessment Coordinator, College of Pharmacy, attended the 20th annual Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) Assessment Institute in November. The conference was for faculty, student affairs professionals, and administrators to learn new techniques, approaches, and ideas in a variety of outcomes assessment areas, including general education and major fields as well as civic engagement, student development, and electronic portfolios.

Linda Connelly, Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, co-authored a paper on “Activation of nuclear factor kappa B in mammary epithelium promotes milk loss during mammary development and infection,” published in the September Journal of Cellular Physiology.  

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January Focus on UH Hilo features Service Learning

Focus on UH Hilo launches its spring semester with a discussion of campus Service Learning initiatives. The show airs on Friday evening from 8:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Channel 55.

Campus and Community Services Coordinator Talaitie Petrowski appears on the January 20th telecast to discuss various activities her program has undertaken. Joining her will be Break Thru Adventures (BTA) Coordinators Kaipo Dye and Keahi Tajon, who will preview this year’s annual drug and alcohol-free eco-service program that takes place during spring break.

Focus on UH Hilo highlights UH Hilo programs, up and coming developments and the University’s partnerships with various community organizations. Anyone interested in participating in the program should contact UH Hilo’s Marketing and Alumni Office at 974-7501 or 974-7643.
Big Island teachers team with College of Pharmacy at engineering workshop

Twenty-nine local teachers will be better equipped to introduce engineering concepts to their students after attending a workshop during their holiday break. The workshop was led by the UH Hilo College of Pharmacy on campus December 16.

“Engineering plays an important role in many careers, including pharmaceutical manufacturing,” said Ken Morris, professor of pharmaceutical sciences who led the workshop that provided tools teachers need to inspire students to look into engineering careers. “This represents a huge opportunity to address many issues on the Big Island, from energy generation to the observatories, to roads and bridges.”

The program is funded through a grant from the National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center on Structured Organic Particulate Systems (NSF-ERC-SOPS), with UH Hilo as an outreach partner.

The opportunity to attend the workshop was offered to educators in the Hilo-Laupahoehoe-Waiakea Complex who teach science, technology, engineering and math, known as STEM disciplines. Future plans are to offer the workshop to all Big Island school complexes.

“We hope this will provide a natural link to training students in engineering at the undergraduate level at UH Hilo and other UH campuses,” Morris said.

The course combined classroom instruction with hands-on activities and laboratory exercises that focused on understanding engineering concepts and methods. Raj Davé, distinguished professor of engineering at New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), was both an instructor and advisor for the College of Pharmacy on the engineering-specific content of the workshop. UH Hilo instructors included Mahavir Chougule, assistant professor in pharmaceutical sciences, and Mazen Hamad, assistant professor in chemistry. Xinyan Wang, undergraduate engineering coordinator at UH Hilo, organized the workshop with Bess Jennings, one of three state Department of Education (DOE) STEM resource teachers on the Big Island who attended the workshop.

“The workshop gave teachers a better understanding of the range of careers in engineering and how to interest their students in the subject,” Jennings said. “This is important because the discipline of engineering is a key aspect of the focus on revitalizing teaching and learning through STEM-based education.”

Many teachers also said they would like to see future workshops geared to elementary-level students.

“K-12 students could benefit from more exposure to these concepts so they can get excited about careers in these important developmental fields,” Davé said. “Teachers who teach STEM classes are key to communicating that excitement.”

Mark your calendar for next month’s Distinguished Alumni and Service Banquet!

Faculty and staff are invited to attend the UH Hilo Alumni & Friends Association’s 12th Annual Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards Banquet on Friday, February 24 at the UH Hilo Campus Center beginning at 5 pm.

This year’s Alumni honorees are Gary Hara (Brigadier General for Hawai‘i National Guard), Dennis O’Brien (Principal of E.B. DeSilva Elementary School), Gladys Sonomura (community volunteer), and Ross Wilson (Principal of Current Events). The Service honorees are Dr. Miyoko Sugano (Professor Emeritus) and Jimmy Yagi (former Vulcans coach).

The Association’s signature event features an entertaining program emceed by Newton Chu, a sumptuous buffet, and a silent auction to raise scholarship funds. Cost is $75 or a table of eight for $600. The RSVP deadline is February 14th.

To purchase tickets or for more information, call the Marketing and Alumni Office at 974-7501 or 974-7643.
UH Hilo School of Nursing accepting applications through February 15

The UH Hilo School Of Nursing will soon be accepting student applications beginning January 15, 2012 for the first cohort of Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) beginning August 2012. The program will train post BSN registered nurses to be Family Nurse Practitioners (FNP) with a subspecialty in Transcultural Nursing. Students entering this degree program can expect to receive:

- Doctoral-level education which includes the scientific knowledge and clinical research of populations required for safe nursing practice and growing concerns regarding the quality of patient care delivery and outcomes.

- Education and training for graduate students in (a) cultural competency and culturally competent research methods, (b) chronic care management and the unique needs of the growing population of older adults, (c) health technology and electronic health records for use in rural areas, (d) community based participatory research to facilitate formation of community partnerships and engage people in the community in addressing patient needs.

- Applied experience that educates and trains primary healthcare providers who are grounded in community and population-based health promotion that helps address health disparities and improve community capacity.

For additional information, contact Dr. Alice Davis at Aedavis@hawaii.edu or go to http://hilo.hawaii.edu/depts/nursing/.

Chancellor’s Mahalo Celebration

Jan Hall, Office Assistant in the Business Office (right), won the Sodexho Baker’s Tastiest Choice and Student’s Presentation Choice awards for her baklava recipe. Jan is congratulated by Lyssa Warren-Dale, Student Activities Council Executive Chair.

Chancellor’s Most Original Choice Dessert winner Barbara Bostwick, Educational Counselor with Student Support Services, is congratulated by Chancellor Don Straney for her winning recipe of Strawberry Delights - fresh strawberries filled with cream cheese, sprinkled with a graham cracker crumbs/macadamia nut mix.

UH Hilo Report turns to 2012

Sign-ups for the UH Hilo Report have begun for Spring 2012. The UH Hilo Report is a one-minute feature that airs during the academic year on radio stations KPUA, KWXX and B97 and is also posted on the University’s website. Programs can focus on virtually any non-commercial topic, and will run for approximately two weeks. To reserve one of the remaining program slots, contact Ken Hupp at hupp@hawaii.edu.
KTA Super Stores, UH Hilo launch “Score for Scholarships” fund raiser

KTA Super Stores and the UH Hilo Office of Intercollegiate Athletics kicked-off “Score for Scholarships” January 4 with a new, in-store fundraising program benefiting both customers and student athletes.

From now until February 14, when customers donate $10 toward “Score for Scholarships,” they receive a $10 coupon that can be put toward their next purchase of $50 or more. Coupons are printed on receipts and are valid for two weeks from the time of the donation. Coupons will be available while supplies last.

In addition to the in-store fundraising, KTA Super Stores will continue awarding monetary funds for UH Hilo athletes’ on-field accomplishments in the following sports during each home game: basketball (men’s & women’s), soccer (men’s & women’s), baseball, softball and women’s volleyball.

For basketball, KTA donates $50 for every 3-point basket the Vulcans score. Each goal in soccer equals a $100 donation and volleyball aces are awarded $50. For both baseball and softball, the Vulcans receive $25 for strikeouts, $50 for doubles, $75 for triples, $100 for homeruns and $500 for grand slams.

“We are very excited to hold an all-new, in-store fundraiser,” said Tracey Yamane, marketing manager, KTA Super Stores, “that’s a win-win scenario for customers to save on their groceries while helping our UH Hilo athletes pursue a quality education.”

In addition, when customers purchase three participating “Score for Scholarship” products, they will receive one free men’s basketball ticket for any home game. Each KTA Super Stores location will have specially-marked logos to identify the following participating vendor products: ConAgra Foods, Frito Lay, Gatorade, General Mills, Hawaiian Sun, Hershey’s, Kraft, Love’s, Pepsi, Procter & Gamble and Quaker.

“Our goal, with the support of KTA Super Stores and the generosity of the community, is to provide a perpetual source of financial support for athletic scholarships for many years to come,” said UH Hilo Athletic Director Dexter Irvin.

All of the donations collected during the in-store fundraiser and from UH Hilo athletes’ on-field accomplishments, will be put into the KTA “Score for Scholarships” Endowment Fund. The fund goes toward offsetting scholarship costs for tuition, room, board, books and other academic support services.

Since 1997, KTA Super Stores has raised more than $160,000 for UH Hilo Athletics.

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Broadway virtuoso Ben Vereen in concert!

The UH Hilo Performing Arts Center presents Ben Vereen in concert on Saturday, January 21 at 7:30 p.m.

“There are few entertainers today as accomplished and versatile as Ben Vereen,” said Lee Dombroski, performing arts center manager.

“Mr. Vereen’s legendary performances transcend time and have been woven into the fabric of this country’s artistic legacy. He says his first love and passion is and always will be the stage.”

Vereen has appeared on Broadway in Wicked, Hair, Jesus Christ Superstar, Pippin, Grind, Jelly’s Last Jam and A Christmas Carol, to name a few, and in numerous film and TV productions. “He remains the consummate actor, singer, and all around entertainer with a legendary career,” Dombroski added.

Tickets are reserved seating and priced at $30 General, $25 Discount and $15 Students/Children. Box Office hours are Tuesday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

For more information and to purchase tickets, call 974-7310 or order online at: Artscenter.uhh.hawaii.edu.
## Campus Events

### January

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<tr>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Orientation, Advising and Registration</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Last day to register without $30.00 late fee</td>
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<td>Last day to withdraw from classes without owing tuition &amp; fees</td>
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<td>First day of instruction</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Last day to register or add a class</td>
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<td>14-20</td>
<td>Late add with permission only</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Holiday: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Last day to completely withdraw from classes without owing tuition</td>
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<td><em>Focus on UH Hilo</em>, 8 p.m., Channel 55</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td><em>Ben Vereen in Concert</em>, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Last day to apply for Spring 2012 Commencement</td>
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<td>Last day to exercise Credit/No Credit</td>
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<td>Last day to submit Auditors Form</td>
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