Na Pua Noʻeau celebrates two decades of service to Hawaiian keiki

Na Pua Noʻeau proudly celebrates two decades of educational enrichment this month for gifted and talented Native Hawaiian children.

Currently, about 1,000 students in the University of Hawaiʻi System have some involvement with Na Pua Noʻeau before matriculation, according to Na Pua Noʻeau Assistant Director Kinohi Gomes.

“Just about 10 percent of the Hawaiian kids enrolled in the University of Hawaiʻi System campuses were Na Pua Noʻeau participants,” he said. “I think just the overall growth of our organization, starting from Hilo and now being a statewide program is one of the biggest accomplishments we’re able to point to. All of the centers that have been opened were not driven by Na Pua Noʻeau, but by the communities and the families from each of those areas.”

Na Pua Noʻeau’s main center and the office of Dr. David Sing, the only director in the program’s history, remains at UH Hilo. Other center locations include UH Manoa, where Gomes’ office is, plus UH Center at West Hawaiʻi, Maui and Kauaʻi Community Colleges, Molokaʻi Education Center and Lanaʻi High and Elementary.

Na Pua Noʻeau sponsors the Hideo Noguchi Scholarship for the Advancement of Native Hawaiians, ‘Aha ‘Opio Alaka‘i, the Hawaiian Youth Leadership Program, AhaPuaa – the Pathways Program and the classic programs featuring Super Saturdays. And on Saturday, March 14, Na Pua Noʻeau presents the 18th annual Hawaiian Family fair, on the UH Hilo Campus Center Plaza from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with arts and crafts booths, make and take booths, Native Hawaiian artisans, food booths, keiki games, keiki ID, a healthy keiki contest, free health screening, health, education and social exhibits, and live entertainment with Cyril Pahinui, the Waiakea Ukulele Band and Ke Ola Pono No Na Kupuna.

This year’s Hawaiian Family fair is dedicated to the memory of Aunty Bernie McKeague, who passed away last year. “Aunty Bernie came to Na Pua Noʻeau as part of a senior work...”

University loses longtime friend and supporter

by Ken Hupp

Officials at UH Hilo are mourning the loss of longtime friend and supporter John F. “Jack” Gifford. The noted electronics industry pioneer who championed educational programs for youth died suddenly of a heart attack at his vacation home in Kona on January 11, 2009, the exact day of his 68th birthday.

Gifford rose from humble beginnings to become one of the founding fathers of the analog industry, to which he devoted nearly 45 years. His pathway to success was the journey that many youngsters dream of, but only a select few actually achieve.

“Like many of our own students at UH Hilo, Jack grew up in a family with parents who had not had an opportunity to go to college,” said Chancellor Rose Tseng. “His route to higher education...”
force program with the county,” said Amanda Ishigo, ‘Aha ‘Opio Alaka’i program director. “Na Pua No’eau employed her part-time to assist with various facets of public relations, applications and community outreach. Her joy was in seeing students and families participate who she had personal contact with. Her family became regular participants. Her grandchildren were active participants in all of Na Pua No’eau’s broad offerings. Her daughter is an active parent, attending many of the events that are offered for parents. Her son-in-law is a member of the Na Pua No’eau advisory committee – a group that helps to provide feedback to the Na Pua No’eau staff.

“The Hawaiian Family afFAIR planning committee and community partners selected Bernie for the spirit of ‘ohana that she manifests with her family in providing and promoting education and a healthy life,” she added.

The current economic climate, with budget cuts and belt-tightening, has cut many educational programs to the bone. Gomes is confident that Na Pua No’eau will continue to thrive.

“In the history of Na Pua No’eau, funding has always increased and decreased, but the drive for us has always been the commitment from our families and communities that continue to be a part of our program,” he said. “Although money is nice to have to make our operation work, it’s not the sole basis of why we do what we do.

“I’m looking forward to broadening ourselves so we outreach to more students, especially in the rural communities. That’s something we’re currently working on, as well as building on our resources to collaborate with other agencies both within the University and communities statewide.”

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**Gifford**

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came through his athletic ability and the full baseball scholarship he earned from UCLA.”

Gifford made good use of that scholarship by graduating in 1963 with a BS in electrical engineering. He began his career in 1964 at Fairchild Semiconductor, the groundbreaking integrated circuit manufacturer that spawned Intel Corporation and National Semiconductor. At the age of 24, he was named product manager of the company’s new analog chip division, which became the industry’s first dedicated analog business.

He left the company in 1969, and co-founded Advanced Micro Devices, where he served as chief financial officer. Gifford joined Intersil in 1971, working several years on a part-time basis while maintaining a small tomato farm near Sacramento. He eventually became president of the company, which was sold to General Electric in 1980 for $240 million.

Gifford remained with Intersil until 1983, and shortly thereafter founded Maxim Integrated Products. Under his leadership as CEO, chairman and president, Maxim became a world leader in the design, development and manufacturing of analog and mixed-signal electronic items with products found in a wide variety of microprocessor-based equipment and wireless and fiber communications. He retired due to medical reasons in 2007, but remained with Maxim on a part-time basis as a strategic advisor focused on product planning and business direction.

His high-tech savvy earned him numerous industry awards, including CEO of the Year by Electronic Business Magazine in 2001 and America’s Best Semiconductor Industry CEO by Institutional Investor Magazine in 2005. Gifford’s accomplishments are also enshrined at his alma mater. In 1990, he was elected to the UCLA Baseball Hall of Fame, where he joined such notable inductees as Jackie Robinson, Dr. Bobby Brown, Mike Gallego, Tim Leary, Todd Zeille and Don Slaught. And in 1992, he was named the 1991 Alumnus of the Year by the UCLA College of Engineering.

In May of 2007, Gifford delivered the keynote address at UH Hilo’s Spring Commencement and received an Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree in recognition of his pioneering role in the electronics industry and tireless public service. Major beneficiaries of his philanthropy include the UH Hilo Baseball program, which has received some $200,000 in operational and scholarship support from Gifford’s foundation. Vulcan Coach Joey Estrella first met Gifford during a 2002 series with UCLA.

“At the time, the person who had maintained our field in Kona was leaving the islands and we faced the possibility of losing it because there was no funding for upkeep,” Estrella said. “That’s when Bruins coach Gary Adams told me he had a UCLA alumnus friend living here, who was already donating to various youth programs in Kona and introduced me to Jack who gave us money to maintain the field.”

The following year, he teamed up with the Betty Kanuha Foundation and the Department of Parks and Recreation to co-sponsor the annual Kalae Iki Baseball Youth Clinic in West Hawai‘i. Each July, some 200 youths between the ages of 7 and 17 take part in the free,
Dudley and UH Hilo Conference Center collaborate on hazard preparation guide

by Judith Fox-Goldstein

The UH Hilo Conference Center, in collaboration with the Hawai‘i Island Chamber of Commerce, and Dr. Walter Dudley, UH Hilo professor of oceanography, will be releasing the first printing of the “Hazard Preparedness Pocket Card” at the end of this month. This innovative educational tool will be distributed to UH Hilo students, the community and to visitors on the Big Island in a limited release edition.

The first such tool of its kind, the Pocket Card, and the accompanying Web site, http://hazardprep.com/ (under construction), will provide vital information on “How to Avoid Becoming a Victim” during a natural disaster. Dudley and the UH Hilo Conference Team (Judith Fox-Goldstein, Jules Ung and Brent Norris) have spent the better part of the year researching, editing and compiling the data, which is included in this card.

Information on disaster preparedness, in the occurrence of tsunamis, earthquakes, hurricanes, windstorms, rainfall, flooding, storm surge, high surf and volcanic hazards has been included. Specific instructions are recommended and the guide also contains a listing of medical facilities, fire stations, tsunami evacuation zones, emergency radio stations and offers information on supplies for basic disaster kits.

The initial grant, secured by the UH Hilo Conference Center, was provided by the Hawai‘i County Department of Research & Development with invaluable support from the Big Island Visitors Bureau, KGMB TV, Hui Ka Ua, and Green Collar Technologies, all excited by the slogan, “We Prepare Because We Care.”

(Editor’s note: Judith Fox-Goldstein is administrative director, conference center.)

Gifford

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three-day clinic where Estrella and coaches from major Division One programs like UCLA, Stanford and Santa Clara come in to teach the fundamentals of America’s national past time.

“When you met Jack, you immediately recognized his brilliance and the drive that made him so successful in the high-tech world,” Estrella said. “But you also saw a very kind, down-to-earth person who dedicated his life to helping young people realize their dreams. He was truly one-of-a-kind.”

Throughout the years, Gifford gave away countless gloves, bats and balls to camp participants. He recently added an educational component for the parents, focusing on how to select a college, obtaining financial assistance and complying with NCAA requirements.

“That was really important to him, because his athletic skills were his ticket to the education that became the basis of his professional success,” Estrella said. “He saw first-hand the impact sports with the proper emphasis on education can have on a young person’s life and worked hard to expand that pathway of opportunity to as many people as possible.”

He was also active in numerous scholastic and charitable activities outside of Hawai‘i, contributing to the University of California Hall of Science Lower Education Program and co-founding the East Palo Alto Education and Tennis Foundation. Both efforts deal with improving the quality of math and English education in local area underprivileged schools. Despite his passing, it is clear that Gifford has left a lasting legacy.

“Jack never forgot his roots and made every opportunity to help increase access for young people to higher education,” Tseng said. “Our hearts go out to his widow Rhodine and his children and grandchildren. UH Hilo will miss him terribly but we will always be inspired by his passion for helping others.”

(Editor’s not: Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)
Hats off to...

Karla Hayashi, Writing Coordinator, will co-present “Reaching Across the Street: A Collaborative Effort Between High School and College Composition Faculty” at the Conference on College Composition and Communication, the college composition unit of the National Council for Teachers of English in San Francisco, CA this month. The project was funded through GEAR Up Hawai‘i and is a summary of a writing skills alignment project involving faculty from Hilo High, Waiakea High, HawCC and UH Hilo. Hayashi’s participation is funded through the UH Hilo Research Council. Additionally, she will serve as moderator for the “College Readiness” session of the National Education Association’s Higher Education Conference, “The Seamless Web of Education,” this month in Portland, OR.

Chris Frueh, Professor, Psychology, is the co-author of the following papers: “Sociodemographic, perceived and objective need indicators of mental health treatment use and treatment-seeking intentions among primary care medical patients,” Psychiatry Research 2009; 165:145-153, and “Disseminating evidence-based practices for adults with PTSD and severe mental illness in public-sector mental health agencies,” Behavior Modification 2009; 33:66-81.

Philippe Binder, Professor, Physics, had his paper, “Reflections on a wall of light,” published in the November 2008 issue of Science. The paper recounts the history of how Maxwell’s demons came to be understood through more than one century of analysis. It also describes a recent real-life realization of a Maxwell demon in a quantum optics experiment performed by Mark Raizen’s group at the University of Texas, Austin, where Binder was recently on sabbatical. Binder also offers the correct explanation of why the Second Law of Thermodynamics is not violated in this experiment. Additionally, his paper on “Chaos-based forecast of sunspot cycle 24,” co-written with his student Isaac Crosson, was published in January in the Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics; doi:10.1029/2008JA013859.


Bryan Kim, Professor, Psychology, is a co-author of “Students’ Perspectives on Strategies to Improve Classroom Instructions Related to Ethical Practices in Rehabilitation Counseling,” which was published in Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Journal.

Judith Fox-Goldstein, Administrative Director, Conference Center, had her article, “Destination Management: Challenge, Crisis, or Opportunity,” accepted for publication in the International Festival and Events Journal and the International Association for Collegiate Conference and Event Directors News Journal.

Susan Jarvi, Associate Professor, Biology & Pharmaceutical Sciences, was an invited speaker for a symposium on genetic pest management entitled, “Genetic Manipulation of Pest Species: Ecological and Social Challenges,” held this month at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC. The presentation, “Avian malaria: Can GPM save endangered species?” is co-authored with Dennis Lapointe, Carter Atkinson (USGS-BRD PIERC, Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park) and Michael Samuel (Univ of Wisconsin-Madison).

William Concepcion, Counselor, Counseling Center, had his paper, “Examining the Predictive Utility of a Multidimensional Measure of Acculturation on the Psychological Functioning of Asian Americans,” accepted for presentation at the 117th Annual Convention of the Ameri-
Jean Ippolito, Assistant Professor, Art, had her paper, “Art Commodities from Japan: Propagating Art and Culture via the Internet,” accepted for presentation at the 4th International Conference on the Arts in Society, to be held in conjunction with the Venice Biennale in July. The conference will be held in the Palazzo Cavalli Franchetti of the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti in the heart of Venice.

Adam Pack, Assistant Professor, Psychology & Biology, is the first author of the scientific publication “Male humpback whales in the Hawaiian breeding grounds preferentially associate with larger females,” that appeared last month in the journal Animal Behaviour. The paper documents for the first time a positive correlation between female humpback whale body length and the number of male escorts she attracts. Pack presented this work in February at “Whale Quest,” a three-day research, education, and media forum on humpback whales held annually in Kapalua, Maui. Additionally, he was recently appointed as a guest associate editor of the journal Marine Mammal Science.

Wayne Miyamoto, Professor, Art, has been selected as an Artist-in-Residence for 2009 at the Serie Project in Austin, TX for the Serie Project XVI Program. Miyamoto will work with the master printers at the Coronado Studios in Austin to produce new work in an edition of silkscreen prints. The prints are produced in a limited edition by the Serie Project and are presented in project-sponsored exhibitions in the U.S. and abroad.

Walter Dudley, Professor, Oceanography, has been tasked by the Pacific Services Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with a tsunami outreach project focusing on Alaska and Hawai’i. The goals of the project include communicating valuable tsunami-related lessons through capture of video interviews with survivors of the 1964 Good Friday earthquake and tsunami in Alaska, the largest earthquake ever recorded in North America and the second largest ever in the world. Of the 122 deaths attributed to the tsunami, 106 were in Alaska.


Seri Luangphinith, Associate Professor, English, had the following articles recently published in The Greenwood Encyclopedia: “Darrell Lum,” “Patsy Sumie Saiki,” “Bamboo Ridge Press,” and “Juliet Sanae Kono.” The articles on Lum and Kono are based on interviews, and the first-ever personal interview given by Lum.
Price, Stacy, TCBES get $1.18 million biodiversity grant

The Moore Foundation is underwriting a $1.18 million grant to Dr. Donald Price, director of the Tropical Conservation and Biology and Environmental Science (TCBES) program and Dr. Elizabeth Stacy, assistant professor of biology, to study the biodiversity and genetics of several groups of Native Hawaiian plants and insects.

The work by Price and Stacy builds on the Moore Foundation support of DNA bar coding and related biodiversity-based research in the Pacific. This bar coding project will use the Hawaiian Islands, especially Hawai‘i Island, as an evolutionary laboratory to evaluate the utility of DNA bar coding for young species of plants and animals, and to identify additional DNA “bar coding genes” useful for these groups.

The project will engage undergraduate and graduate students, technicians and post-doctoral associates at UH Hilo.

“The world is rapidly losing species, largely through human-induced environmental changes,” noted Price. “The conservation of Earth’s remaining biodiversity will require improvements in species identification and delineation, as well as better understanding of the factors that create and maintain biodiversity.”

“Since DNA is the genetic material of all life on Earth, it can be used to identify and catalog species,” Stacy added. “The ‘Bar code of Life’ Initiative posits that species identification can be done using a short segment of DNA in the mitochondrial genome for animals and a similarly short segment of DNA in the plant’s chloroplast genome. It has become clear, however, that this ‘single-gene’ approach to bar coding is not sufficient for delineating all species.

“The Hawaiian Islands, and especially young Hawai‘i Island, is an ideal natural laboratory for testing the utility of DNA bar coding for recently derived species and for identifying additional DNA regions for bar coding,” Stacy explained. “The main Hawaiian Islands represent the most isolated island group, five million-year-old Kaua‘i to Hawai‘i Island, which is still forming. The younger islands, especially Hawai‘i Island, are microcosms of environmental diversity, boasting extreme environmental and climatic ranges in a geographically small area.”

The project will involve extensive sampling and DNA sequence analysis of two insect groups and two groups of flowering plants with a large number of young species on Hawai‘i Island and Maui.

“Evaluating the usefulness of DNA bar coding on Hawai‘i Island will establish the usefulness of the technique for evolutionarily young species, which likely make up a significant portion of Earth’s biodiversity,” Price said.

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2009 UH Hilo faculty/staff awards

The UH Hilo Administration reminds the University community to consider nominating a worthy colleague for one of UH Hilo’s awards, to be presented at the End of the Year Celebration in May.

This year, the following awards will be made:

**Koichi and Taniyo Taniguchi Award for Excellence and Innovation**

*Nomination Deadline: March 9, 2009*

Recognizes creativity in teaching, scholarship, and artistic production at UH Hilo. Any full-time UH Hilo faculty or staff member is eligible. Teams consisting of two or more faculty or staff may also be nominated (students may be part of teams led by faculty or staff).

**Award for Excellence in Scholarly/Creative Activities**

*Nomination Deadline: March 20, 2009*

Presented to a member of the tenure-track faculty or a full-time BOR classified professional staff member for outstanding achievement in scholarly and/or creative endeavors.

**Outstanding Support Employee Award**

*Nomination Deadline: March 20, 2009*

Presented to a University support service employee who has made significant contributions to UH Hilo. Nominee must be working as a secretarial, clerical, technical or paraprofessional employee at UH Hilo.

**Professional Staff Award**

*Nomination Deadline: March 20, 2009*

Presented to a faculty/professional staff member who has made major professional contributions to his/her unit and to the University as a whole, and has made a positive impact on the welfare of students and colleagues. All UH Hilo full-time BOR-classified professional staff are eligible for this award, except for prior recipients.

Nomination instructions for all of these awards are posted at the following Web site: [http://www.uhh.hawaii.edu/uhh/awards](http://www.uhh.hawaii.edu/uhh/awards).
UH Hilo Conference Center coordinates Onizuka Science Day

by Judith Fox-Goldstein

In collaboration with the Onizuka Memorial Committee, hundreds of volunteers, exhibitors and presenters, UH Hilo hosted the 9th annual Ellison Onizuka Science Day in January.

Celebrating the life and achievements of Astronaut Ellison Onizuka, who perished during the Challenger tragedy, this day is inspired by Ellison’s commitment to the students of Hawai‘i and his passion for science and math.

Astronaut Daniel Tani offered a view from above as he shared photos and DVDs from his recent 18 months aboard the ISS (International Space Station).

Exhibits from the Center for the Study of Active Volcanoes and Marine Science, together with workshops and displays from IfA, USGS, NOAA, and the telescope community, added to the excitement of the day, but we are hoping for increased participation from our faculty as we make plans for the 10th Annual Ellison Onizuka Science Day.

“It’s a time to capture the interest of these potential students and to let them know about our cutting edge science programs,” remarked Chancellor Rose Tseng.

Please call the Conference Center if you’re interested in participating as a presenter or if you’d like to offer a hands-on workshop for students. For information, contact Judith Fox-Goldstein at foxgolds@hawaii.edu or call x47555.
Campus Events

March

4  Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55
   Last day to withdraw from courses with “W”

   Much Ado About Nothing, 7:30 p.m., PAC,
   Admission

18  Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55
   Spring Recess

26  Holiday: Prince Kuhio Day 🌟