Cooperative Education Program of benefit to students and business community

by Chancellor Don Straney

In this month’s column I’d like to share an emerging initiative being developed at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo’s College of Business and Economics under the leadership of the College’s dean, Krishna Dhir.

In recent years, the College has taken major strides in establishing itself as an academic community of high stature. The attainment of accreditation and subsequent reaccreditation of its programs by the Association for Advancement of Collegiate Schools of Business International certify this exceptional achievement.

Going forward, in collaboration with regional industries, the College is proposing to complement its intellectual capital with expertise in practice. The intent is to augment academic and scholarly expertise with expertise in the practice of the profession. This initiative will enable the College to contribute significantly to workforce development needed in our region. In designing this initiative, the College has enjoyed great encouragement from representatives of the hospitality and resort industries in West Hawai‘i.

Already, a number of internship opportunities are being extended to our Business students by regional businesses such as the Hawai‘i Electric Light Com-

Summer session applications now being accepted

by Ken Hupp

As students prepare for a week away from the classroom during this month’s spring break, final preparations are being made for Summer Session 2014, which begins registration April 1. Applications are now being accepted for both sessions, with Session One scheduled for May 27-June 20, and Session Two running June 23-August 1.

Newly appointed Program Coordinator Scott Kawachi and his staff have been putting the finishing touches on the selection of courses that will be offered this summer, and will be posting that list online this month. A total of 173 courses are being offered, including credit classes, several non-credit courses, workshops and student activity events. Nearly half will be offered online.

In designing their curriculum, summer planners have focused efforts on maximizing options for students to get the high demand courses they need to meet their degree requirements, but can’t always get, because they often fill up quickly during the fall and spring semesters. That extra opportunity has taken on added importance in recent years as the UH System has sought to increase the number of students graduating in four years through initiatives like the “15 to Finish Campaign.” At the same time, they’ve sought to supplement the summer educational menu with various classes and programs that are typically not offered during the regular academic year.

As in past years, the 2014 summer course offerings will highlight the University’s familiar role as a living, learning laboratory with classes and programs emphasizing the island’s cultural and academic resources, including field courses in biology, geography and marine science.

Back again by popular demand is QUEST (Quantitative Underwater Ecological Surveying Techniques), the intensive marine science field course conducted each year on the west side of the island. The two-week course trains undergraduates in underwater ecological
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pany and the public accounting firm of Taketa, Iwata, Hara & Associates. These internships prove invaluable not only to our students and local businesses, but also to our island community as a whole.

Building on this concept, and with the assistance of its Advisory Board, the College is developing a model for a Cooperative Education Program. Cooperative education refers to a structured approach to education that combines classroom-based learning with practical work experience in an industry. The Cooperative Education Program proposed by CoBE is a model program offering multi-term, three-way agreements between organizations, the College, and undergraduate students.

One major benefit of the proposed program is to facilitate the affordability of the College’s undergraduate degree programs. Through this program, a student will spend one semester a year, usually the summer semester, working full time for salary with an organization, returning to UH Hilo to enroll as a full-time student for the next two consecutive semesters, usually the fall and the spring semesters. Usually the student will return to the same organization for each of the three semesters involved.

While working in the organization, the student will enroll at UH Hilo to earn three internship credits for which, at the end of the semester, the student will be required to submit a reflective report on the work performed. Registration for credit will also give the student access to health insurance.

The student will be required to make the commitment to remain in this program until graduation, usually with the student working in an organization for a total of three semesters prior to the completion of the undergraduate program of study. The salary earned during the semesters spent working in the organization will enable the student to afford the cost of education for the entire program of study for the undergraduate degree.

This Cooperative Education Program concept has been discussed to date with members of the Advisory Board of the College, and the leadership of several business organizations, all of whom have received the idea enthusiastically.

CoBE is seeking partners in cooperative education from local businesses and is welcoming suggestions for further improvement of the concept. To share ideas or learn more about the program, contact Krishna Dhir at (808) 932-7272, (808) 494-5988, or kdhir@hawaii.edu.

Aloha,

[Signature]

(Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)
The 7th annual UH Hilo Ocean Day Mālama Kanaloa Festival will be celebrated on Sunday, March 9, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hilo’s Bayfront Beach Park.

This free, public event is hosted by UH Hilo’s Pacific Island Programs for Exploring Science (PIPES) in partnership with the County of Hawai‘i, EPSCoR Hawai‘i IMUA III, UH Hilo Student Activities Council, UH Hilo Student Association, Board of Media Broadcasting, Board of Student Publications, and the UH Sea Grant.

Since its debut in 2007, the festival has become a popular community event, drawing crowds in excess of 2,000 participants. Volunteer Coordinator Amelie Sterling says the event also serves as an important learning resource for students.

“Ocean Day is a great volunteer opportunity for students to gain a service learning experience as well as enhance their resumes and build skills for the future,” Sterling said. “Some faculty members even offer it as an opportunity for students to gain extra credit or fulfill a community service requirement within their course.”

Ocean Day focuses on increasing awareness of ocean and coastal issues such as conservation, sustainable use of resources and ocean safety through fun, interactive displays, activities and booths. Its various activities illustrate the impact people have on the ocean environment, promote conservation of the ocean and coastal resources in a culturally sensitive way, and communicate the outcomes of current ocean and coastal research, management and education efforts in Hawai‘i.

This year’s event includes fishing games, marine critter touch tanks, craft making, makahiki games, face painting, poi pounding, seed planting, marine debris displays, and more. Attendees can also enjoy live, local entertainment throughout the day along with a variety of food booths.

For more information, email UHpipes@hawaii.edu or call 933-0707.
Hats off to...

Patricia Uber, Professor, Pharmacy Practice, co-authored “The Vexing Problem of Thrombosis in Long-Term Mechanical Circulatory Support,” published in Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation.

Sarah Smith, Coordinator, Nursing Lab, had her solo authored manuscript, “Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR): an Intervention to Enhance the Effectiveness of Nurses Coping with Work-Related Stress,” accepted for publication in International Journal of Nursing Knowledge. Additionally, Smith presented “Hospitals’ Characteristics’ Impact on 30-Day Mortality and Readmission Rates” at the International Nursing and Emergency Medicine Conference in Las Vegas, NV, and was invited to present two of her research studies at the National Association for Healthcare Quality’s 39th Annual Educational Conference on “Quality in Harmony Across the Continuum” in September 2014.

Terrance Jalbert, Professor, Finance, co-authored “Marginal Tax Rates around the Hawai‘i Itemized Deduction Cliff,” recently published in Accounting and Taxation.

Chris Frueh, Professor, Psychology, received a “knockout” review from Kirkus Reviews on his fifth novel, Unto the Daughters of Men, and was featured in the publication’s January 15, 2014 edition.

Adam Pack, Associate Professor, Psychology and Biology, was re-elected Chair of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council at its February meeting on O‘ahu. The Council is comprised of 52 primary and alternate members representing the State of Hawai‘i, various constituencies, and Federal agencies. Pack currently occupies the Council Seat for Hawai‘i Island.

Supakit Wongwiwatthanukit, Associate Professor, Pharmacy Practice, co-authored “A Training Program for Pharmacy Students on Providing Diabetes Care,” published in American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education.


Michael Marshall, Professor, Art, is showing “Variegation #27” in an exhibition opening this month at the Atrium Gallery in St. Louis, MO. “Intimate” features the work of seven artists on display until May 2014. Marshall is represented by a group of five diamond mono print compositions from a suite of works created during his spring 2013 sabbatical.

Jon Goebel, Assistant Professor, Art, was recently awarded a UH Hilo Faculty Travel Award to attend the Southern Graphics Council International Conference this month in San Francisco, CA, where he will be participating in an international exhibition entitled “Monumental Ideas in Miniature Books III.” The traveling exhibit of artist books begins at San Francisco State University in tandem with the SGC International printmaking conference. The exhibit will travel extensively throughout the U.S. and internationally for the next three years. http://www.sgcisanfrancisco.org
PAC presents spectacular and joyous Feet Don’t Fail Me Now

The UH Hilo Performing Arts Center welcomes Rhythmic Circus on Tuesday, March 11, with Feet Don’t Fail Me Now beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center.

“It is said that there’s tap dancing, and then there’s Rhythmic Circus,” noted PAC Manager Lee Dombroski. “This percussive-dance phenomenon electrifies audiences with its hard-hitting, rapid-fire tap, side-splitting humor and finger-snapping tunes. Their performance features unbelievable tap from four award-winning dancers, a one-man beat-box phenomenon, and an infectious six-piece band that channels everything from funk to blues and rock and roll to salsa that will excite, energize, and inspire audiences of all ages.”

Tickets are reserved seating and priced at $25 General, $20 Discount and $12 UH Hilo/HawCC students (with a valid student ID) and children up to age 17, and are available by calling the UH Hilo Box Office at 932-7490 or ordering online at artscenter.uhh.hawaii.edu.

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Registration deadlines this month for TCBES celebration

Everyone is invited to the 6th Annual Tropical Conservation Biology & Environmental Science Research Symposium, Alumni Celebration & Excursion scheduled for April 3-5 to celebrate 10 years and 100 graduates.

The Research Symposium on April 3 & 4 showcases the works of undergraduate and graduate students with poster or oral presentations beginning at 8:30 a.m. in Campus Center 301. The keynote speaker is Dr. Rob Robichaux, founder and president of the Hawaiian Silversword Foundation and Distinguished Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Arizona. For a complete schedule, see: http://tcbes.hilo.hawaii.edu/symposium2014/schedule.html.

An Alumni & Friends Reception will be held on April 4 beginning at 5:30 p.m. in UCB Room 127. Cost is $20 per person and the RSVP deadline is March 19.

On April 5, an excursion to Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge is offered. Participants will learn about banding native birds and go sightseeing in a forest typically open to the public only once a year. Cost is $60 per person and is limited to the first 25 participants. The RSVP deadline is March 19.

For additional information or any questions, contact TCBES Club President Corie Yanger at (808) 430-0913 or cmyanger@hawaii.edu or TCBES Director Dr. Donald Price at 932-7178 or donaldp@hawaii.edu.

Campus Events

March

3-4 TCBES Research Symposium, 8:30 a.m., CC301
7 Last day to drop a class online with “W”
9 ’Imiloa’s 8th Annual Family Day, 9-4 p.m., ’Imiloa
11 Rhythmic Circus, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission
21 Danu, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission
24-28 Spring Recess
26 Holiday: Prince Kuhio Day