Campus construction remains active with lower profile

by Ken Hupp

New building construction is poised to return to the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo for the first time since 2013, following December’s groundbreaking on a permanent home for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy.

Plans submitted to the County and awaiting approval call for a two-story complex with outdoor covered areas, spanning 45,000 square feet, located on 4.5 acres on South A‘ohoku Place in the University Park of Science and Technology. Key features include a pair of 120-seat lecture halls, multi-function rooms, wet labs for biology and chemistry, support spaces including an analytical lab, conference rooms and offices. Construction on the $33 million facility could begin as early as this fall, and would take about 20 months to complete.

“Construction of this building is a huge leap forward in the history of the College,” said Founding Dean John Pezzuto. “Once complete, it will allow the faculty, staff and students to realize their full potential, and embody a landmark for providing community service.”

Meanwhile, campus construction has been far from quiet while awaiting the start of work on the pharmacy building. Considerable activity is taking place in the form of numerous projects that are well underway or green-lighted, totaling an estimated $31 million with another $22 million in the planning and/or design stage. Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs Marcia Sakai said the impact of construction on Hawai‘i’s economic output is significant. To illustrate how significant, Sakai cited the multipliers employed in a 2007 study by the State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

“Every construction dollar generates $2.13 in direct, indirect and induced spending, while every dollar spent on architecture and engineering services has a total impact of $2.10,” Sakai said. “So the Collaborative youth program launched in West Hawai‘i

by Chancellor Don Straney

In an effort to improve the future of West Hawai‘i youth and young adults, the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo is partnering with leading educational and State government groups to start an innovative collaboration aimed at improving the quality of life for 11- to 25-year-olds.

Coordinating the project is Kei-Lin Cerf, UH Hilo’s new director of strategic community development for West Hawai‘i.

Joining the effort are the Hawai‘i State Department of Education (DOE), Kamehameha Schools, the County of Hawai‘i, Queen Lili‘uokalani Children’s Center, and several other West Hawai‘i organizations.

The group, called Hōkūpa‘a (the North Star or literally, the immovable star), held its first meeting in January to discuss the West Hawai‘i Complex Area’s ongoing need to align the work of programs, organizations, and the community for better outcomes among youth and young adults.

Also collaborating on the project is Hawai‘i Community College, the Hawai‘i County Council, the Prosecutor’s Office, the nonprofit Learning Coalition, and the Hawai‘i State Office of Youth Services.

The group is motivated by some sobering statistics.

While nine percent of the overall working age
Construction
Continued from page 1

combined impact of the campus-managed projects totals an estimated $112 million.”

Among the projects winding down, which could be completed this month, is the addition of a new wing at the Hale Kanilehua dormitory to support the Living, Learning Community program. The new addition is attached to the facility via a connecting structure built in an earlier phase and includes an enclosed second floor lanai for use as a multi-purpose room. The building has undergone a wide range of renovations since 2012, including the recent additions of 17 new bed spaces and an open air classroom pavilion. PV panels are also being installed, with that job expected to be completed in July.

Another job nearing completion is the construction of a chemical storage unit. The facility being built next to the Science and Technology Building is expected to be finished by the end of the month.

A project that will fuel future developments is expected to wrap up by the end of the summer with completion of a $3.5 million water infrastructure improvement project that began in 2012. Crews have been installing a pump, transmission lines and related improvements to bring water from a well drilled earlier in the University Park above Komohana Street. Upon completion, it will provide approximately 1,800 gallons per minute for future initiatives and fire protection needs.

Last year’s opening of the new Student Services Building cleared the way to begin the facelift now underway at the old facility that will become the new home of the College of Business and Economics (CoBE). Work, including replacement of the air conditioning system, ceilings, lighting and controls, electrical and data distribution, roofing and courtyard pavers, is expected to be completed this summer.

Campus security is being enhanced through a pair of improvement projects involving the addition of new equipment and upgrades to existing systems. Phase I improvements include installation of security cameras, electronic locks, intrusion detection emergency call stations and related infrastructure, which are expected to go online in June. Phase II improvements include upgrades to the campus emergency operation office and related infrastructure, which should wrap up by the middle of October.

Climate-control issues are the focus of three projects scheduled for this summer on centrally-located buildings, including the Campus Center, where work began last year to replace the existing air conditioning and related repairs. Crews will also replace the air conditioning system in the building housing the Chancellor’s Office, and make various improvements to the Performing Arts Center, including replacement of air handlers and other air conditioning improvements.

And the Old Gym on Kapiʻolani Street will be sporting a newer look following major repairs and upgrades expected to begin by summer and wrap up by the end of the year. Bids are presently being accepted for the project, which will include re-roofing the gym and adjacent locker buildings, replacing the tile flooring, upgrading the electrical feeder, and installing new ceiling fans and Salto locks.

Initiatives currently being planned or designed include three traffic safety-related projects led by construction of a Kawili Street Pedestrian Overpass that will link the University Village with the Campus Center Plaza. Plans are also underway to construct a sidewalk on the campus side of Kapiʻolani Street to improve street crossing safety, along with creating turning lanes and related improvements at the entrance to the UH Hilo Panaewa Farm.

The Hale Kauanoe student housing complex will undergo repairs and expansion to create an emergency shelter. A new, 1,200 square foot building with a kitchen and an emergency generator will be constructed and connected to the existing facility via a covered walkway. Plans also call for installation of hurricane shutters on the ground floor windows of the men’s and women’s wings.

Hale Kehau and Wentworth Hall are both slated for roof work, although the scope will vary. The former will be confined to lead removal and related repairs, while the latter will undergo a complete replacement.

And finally, a committee has been meeting to develop a Way-finding & Signage Master Plan including Signage Design Standards to govern on-campus signage. The plan’s implementation will be based on the availability of funding.

The projects underway, along with those in the pipeline, promise to help keep the construction cylinder of East Hawai‘i’s economic engine firing. At the same time, they’re providing the updated facilities base for UH Hilo to continue its growth and development as a quality, full service residential campus.

(Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)
population in the state of Hawai‘i has less than a high school diploma, a full 19 percent of the population in West Hawai‘i has less than a high school education, the highest percentage in the State (U.S. Census, 2006-2010 survey).

Further, of the students who do finish high school, too few students are pursuing post-secondary education. While almost 26 percent of high school graduates in the State attend one of the UH community colleges, the lowest “go rate” in the State is in West Hawai‘i at 15.8 percent.

Further still, 28 percent of 16-19 years-olds are neither employed nor enrolled in school.

National research shows this puts these young people at greater risk for young adult poverty, unhealthy lifestyles, lower lifetime earning potential, and increased reliance on social services.

The new group’s first task is to build on currently successful programs and make stronger connections between agencies, programs, and most importantly, people who are already seeing positive results such as parenting groups and ʻāina-based (land-based) STEM education specialists.

Part of the mission of Hōkūpa‘a is to gather data to help make better decisions. This will help all youth and young adult programs and services connect with each other to find ways to learn from each other.

Ultimately, the goal is to help more students graduate from high school, when they will be better prepared to make smart choices about college or employment. This in turn improves the quality of life for the students, their families, and the community as a whole.

The high number of students in West Hawai‘i without a high school diploma is a big challenge for postsecondary education because these students are very likely not college ready. UH hopes to change that with the opening of Palamanui. But students must be prepared for that option through support and intervention starting many years earlier.

Art Souza, West Hawai‘i Complex Area superintendent, sums up the work ahead well when he says, “The work of educating a child is the work of an entire community. Schools participating in trusting partnerships with our broader communities is crucial to caring for the social, emotional and academic wellness of all our children.”

Hōkūpa‘a will host a Youth Support Forum in the near future. For information, contact Kei-Lin Cerf by email at klcerf@hawaii.edu or (808) 896-6110. Learn more about the project at the UH Hilo Stories website.

Mahalo,

Donald Q. Straney

Mahalo,
Hats off to...


Jon Goebel, Assistant Professor, Art, recently had his work published in the book, Contemporary American Print Makers, by E. Ashley Rooney and Stephanie Standish. The book displays the works of 75 printmakers and print shops across the U.S. More details about the book can be found at: http://www.schifferbooks.com/contemporary-american-print-makers-5615.html.

Charmaine Higa-McMillan, Associate Professor, Psychology, co-authored “Patterns of child mental health service delivery in a public system: Rural children and the role of rural residence,” currently in press with the Journal of Behavioral Health Services and Research.

Todd Belt, Professor, Political Science, was invited to give a presentation on “President Obama’s Foreign Policy in an Age of Limits” for a roundtable on “Evaluating the Obama Presidency” at the upcoming Western Political Science Association Conference in Las Vegas, NV in April.

Leng Chee Chang, Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a grant from the UH Cancer Center to research “Evaluation of Hirsutinolides Derived from Vernonia cinerea in the Treatment of Cancer.” Associate Professors Supakit Wong-wiwathananukit, Pharmacy Practice, and Dianqing Sun, Pharmaceutical Sciences, serve as co-principle investigators.

Karen Pellegrin, Director, DKICP Strategic Planning and Continuing Education, was an invited panelist for the eHealth Initiative annual conference, held in Washington, D.C. in February. Her panel discussion topic was “Business and Clinical Motivators – Incentives for the Entire Care Continuum.”

Ka Lono Hanakahi is published by the Office of University Relations during the academic year for faculty and staff of the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. News and submissions are welcome with priority given to current faculty and staff members. Deadlines are on the fifteenth of each month for the following first of the month publication. Contact Alyson Kakugawa-Leong, Director Media Relations, (808) 932-7669 or alyson@hawaii.edu.
National board continues full accreditation for College of Pharmacy

After a focused, on-site evaluation and separate review by the board of directors of the national agency that regulates pharmacy schools, the UH Hilo Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy has been granted continuation of full accreditation.

The status extends to June 30, 2017, but is contingent on continuous progress that is monitored by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). DKICP had been accredited on a provisional basis until June 2015 but was in danger of being placed on probation before the legislature approved funding for a permanent building last year.

“The College did an outstanding job of explaining their value to the state of Hawai‘i in order to secure legislative funding, which was necessary to meet accreditation standards,” said Matthew Platz, vice chancellor for academic affairs. “I am quite certain that the support of the legislature had a strong influence on the positive decision rendered by the evaluation team.”

ACPE is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the national agency for the accreditation of all professional degree programs in pharmacy. Institutions must meet 30 standards having to do with issues such as curriculum and facilities or face sanctions that include probation and ultimately closure.

“This College of Pharmacy is a treasure for the entire State of Hawai‘i,” Dean John M. Pezzuto said. “Continuation of full accreditation acknowledges the hard work and dedication of our tremendous team of faculty, staff, and students as well as the overwhelming community support we receive. With a new building on the horizon, we are confident the College will continue to grow and expand, and continue to make our citizens proud.”

ACPE granted DKICP pre-candidate status in June 2007 and attained full accreditation upon graduation of its inaugural class in 2011. During one site visit, the ACPE noted the lack of permanent facilities as an area of deficiency, and in October, then-Gov. Neil Abercrombie released the funds for the building.

“We are indebted to all those in the University, the community and the legislature who stood by us,” Pezzuto said.

DKICP must submit an interim report by October 15, 2015. A comprehensive self-study will be due next year, followed by a site visit in 2017.

Poetry comes to life in new UH Hilo art exhibit

The UH Hilo Art Department has opened an exhibition of visual responses to poetry by an international cast of 29 artists that is on display through April 15, 2015 in the 3rd floor Campus Center Gallery.


The exhibit was created in partnership with Poetry Scores, an all-volunteer international arts organization based in St. Louis, MO that translates poetry into other media. To learn more about the organization, visit http://poetriescores.blogspot.com.

The UH Hilo Gallery is open 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and closed on holidays.

For more information, contact Professor Michael Marshall at 932-7237 or email mdmarsha@hawaii.edu.

“DARK AGE”, Graphite on Paper, by Mayuko Ono Gray, Houston, TX
Association of Hawai‘i Archivists holds annual meeting at NHERC

On February 14 and 15, 2015, the Association of Hawai‘i Archivists (AHA), an organization that consists of archivists from throughout the State, came to Hawai‘i Island for its annual conference. The theme of the conference was “Celebrating the Archives and Cultural Sites of Ka Moku O Keawe in Kona, Waimea and Honoka‘a.” The group toured the Kona Historical Society, Hulihe‘e Palace, and the Paniolo Heritage Center at Pukalani Stables before arriving at the North Hawai‘i Education and Research Center (NHERC) in Honoka‘a.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Billy Bergin, author and founding member of the Paniolo Preservation Society (PPS), who gave a presentation on the history of PPS and the collections it holds. Bergin explained how the board of PPS has offered its document collection that is currently housed at Pukalani Stables to the NHERC Heritage Center so documents can be kept in a more environmentally appropriate repository.

Dr. Momi Naughton gave a tour of the NHERC Heritage Center and talked about working with communities to develop regional centers that reflect the diverse heritage of Hawai‘i. Naughton will be giving a lecture that will expand on this theme of using the example of the development of the NHERC Heritage Center on March 2nd from 7- to 8:30 pm at the Lyman Museum in Hilo.

The Brave at UH Hilo March 10

Massive Company from New Zealand brings The Brave to the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, March 10, at 7:30 p.m.

“Founded by lead Artistic Director Sam Scott, Massive Company creates original, contemporary work that reflects the multi-cultural identity and voice of the South Pacific,” explained PAC Manager Lee Dombroski. “The company is responsible for delivering some of New Zealand’s most popular homegrown theater with a history of national and international touring.”

The Brave is a bold and honest work that interweaves the stories of eight diverse Auckland-based men to share their most sincere ponderings on what it takes to be a man. “The Brave uninhibitedly confronts themes of family, love, loss, fear, hope, belonging, manhood and brotherhood,” Dombroski said.

According to Scott, “Massive Company strives to engage their audiences with thought-provoking work. With boundless energy and playfulness, the ensemble’s work evokes the human spirit in its most present and vulnerable state. Extensive forums, workshops and feedback sessions play an integral part in all of the company’s work.”

Tickets are Reserved Seating and pre-sale priced at $30 General, $25 Discount and $15 UH Hilo/HawCC students (with a valid student ID) and children, up to age 17. At the door, ticket prices are: $35 General, $30 Discount and $20 UH Hilo/HawCC students (with a valid student ID) and children, up to age 17.

Tickets are available by calling the UH Hilo Box Office at 932-7490 or by ordering online at artscenter.uhh.hawaii.edu.
Celebrate *Girls’ Day Diva Festival 10.1*!

The UH Hilo Performing Arts Center presents the *Girls’ Day Diva Festival 10.1* on Sunday, March 8, beginning at 3 p.m. on the Campus Center Plaza. The event moves to the Performing Arts Center for a concert featuring award-winning Kaumakiwa, Shawn Pimental, and Kekuhi Keali‘ikanaka‘ole at 5 p.m.

“Festivities begin with food samplings generously donated by local restaurants Abundant Life Natural Foods, AJ & Sons Catering, Akmal’s Indian Kitchen, Big Island Delights, Ken’s House of Pancakes, Liko Lehua Café, Milie’s Deli & Snack Shop, Pineapples Island Fresh Cuisine, Ponds Hilo, Sodexo, Sweet Cane Café & Sweet Thunder Sushi,” said Arlene Terry, event chair. “This year people will have the opportunity to purchase ‘surprise boxes’ containing a variety of fabulous items, all donated by women owned/operated businesses. The Grand Surprise is an overnight in the Palms Cliff House Suite, complete with private jacuzzi and a gourmet breakfast, donated by Pacific Media Group.”

For the first time this year, an Extended Experience ticket will be available. The ticket includes a presentation by the artists, a complimentary surprise box, one drink ticket, and food samplings served in Campus Center Room 301.

“This experience is intended to bring the audience closer to artists and their work,” explained PAC Manager Lee Dombroski.

“Before hula becomes a thought that manifests into a pulse, hula is an energy in embryo, becoming dynamic through our connection with our *wailua iki*, or inner world, and our *wailua nui*, our outer world. If we experience hula from this lens, hula is beyond a choreography of text; it is ritualizing life,” noted Keali‘ikanaka‘ole. “Hula ‘aia‘a (style of hula practiced by the Kanaka‘ole family) is our participation in world consciousness.”

At 4:30 p.m., the event moves to the Performing Arts Center. The performance begins at 5 p.m.

*The Girls’ Day Diva Festival 10.1* is supported by sponsorships from local businesses. This year’s “Super Stars” include Business Services Hawaii, GW Construction, Hawaii Forklift Service, Inc., Hirayama Brothers Electric, and Ken’s House of Pancakes, with “Twinkling Stars” Creative Arts Hawai‘i. Proceeds benefit the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center Scholarship Fund and the Performing Arts Center’s programs.

Tickets are Reserved Seating and priced at $40; Extended Experience tickets are $65 (Extended Experience tickets are not available online).

Tickets may be purchased at the UH Hilo Box Office, Tuesday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

For more information and to purchase tickets, call 932-7490, or order online at artscenter.uhh.hawaii.edu.

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**Opening of “Na Paniolo o Hamakua – The Cowboys of Hamakua” exhibit**

The UH Hilo NHERC Heritage Center invites faculty, staff, and students to opening festivities of its new changing gallery exhibit, “*Na Paniolo o Hamakua – The Cowboys of Hamakua*,” on Tuesday, March 31 at 5 p.m. at the Heritage Center in Honoka’a.

The exhibit features photographs and artifacts from Hamakua-area ranches and paniolo. Light refreshments will be served.

*Yutaka Kimura hunting wild pig in the 1940s. Kimura was the Parker Ranch manager of Puukikoni Dairy in Hamakua.*
2015 Spring Commencement reminder

The UH Hilo Commencement Committee reminds faculty that the rehearsal for Spring Commencement will be held on Friday, May 15, beginning at 2 p.m. at the Edith Kanaka’ōle Multi-Purpose Stadium. Spring Commencement will be held on Saturday, May 16, beginning at 9 a.m. Faculty are asked to arrive by 8:40 a.m.

For faculty entrance and robing, faculty should enter through the right side door of the main entrance (marked with a blue star on the map) and proceed to the new dressing rooms located on the Hamakua side of the stadium. See attached map for details.

A light continental breakfast will be served at the faculty robing area.

Contact the Commencement Committee at 974-7555 with any questions.

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Campus Events

**March**

4, 5  Vulcan Baseball v. Fresno Pacific Univ, 4 p.m., Wong Stadium, Admission

6   Last day to drop a class online with “W”

6, 7  Vulcan Softball v. Azusa Pacific Univ Noon, Vulcan Field

8   Girls’ Day Diva Festival 10.1, 3 p.m., CC Plaza

9  Vulcan Softball v. Dixie State Univ, Noon, Vulcan Field

10   The Brave, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission

10, 11  Vulcan Baseball v. Dixie State Univ, 4 p.m., Wong Stadium, Admission

13, 14  Vulcan Softball v. California Baptist Univ, Noon, Vulcan Field

23-27  Spring Recess

26   Holiday: Prince Kuhio Day