UH Hilo enrollment reaches record high

by Ken Hupp

Enrollment growth at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo set a new record for Fall 2005, with enrollment totaling 3,431 students compared with 3,365 during Fall 2004.

Within the system, UH Hilo has the second highest percentage enrollment increase and the highest student – semester credit hour average. UH Hilo students are averaging 12.6 credits compared to 11.4 at UH Manoa and 8.5 at UH West O‘ahu.

This fall’s two percent increase in headcount and the student credit hour figures have again validated UH Hilo’s leadership position in attracting students from throughout the State and the nation seeking a quality, comprehensive, residential university.

“Any time you set a new record, you’ve got to be pleased,” said Chancellor Rose Tseng. “This is a big accomplishment, but we would be growing by a lot more if housing wasn’t such a big barrier.”

The difference this year was the addition of a new housing source in the private sector, which increased the University’s off-campus bed spaces by 25 percent. Other factors included new graduate programs and additional sections of popular classes.

The addition of the Hawai‘i Naniloa Hotel to existing agreements of understanding with Hilo-area hotels and apartment buildings provides the University with space for approximately 400 students, in addition to the 622 housed on campus. Even so, the waiting list for residence halls typically exceeds 300. That situation is unlikely to change, and may even get worse until more campus housing units come on line.

The University’s most immediate prospect for future housing remains the China-U.S. Center, which will house 800 when completed. The project’s first phase, which would accommodate 200, could still be ready by Fall 2006. Officials expect to know by early next year whether that timetable will be met. A new residence hall complex slated for 16 acres on Nowelo Street below the Mauna Kea Astronomy Education Center would add another 600 – 1,000 bed spaces and would be built after the China-U.S. Center is completed.

Spotlight

New CAFNRM Dean articulates vision rooted in island tradition

by Ken Hupp

At first glance, you might expect to see him as part of the Royal Court during Merrie Monarch week. Solidly built, soft-spoken but confident, with a dark complexion and neatly trimmed beard, Dr. William Steiner, the new dean of the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management is an impressive figure when you meet him. Yet equally impressive is the background he brings to the position he assumed on September 1st and his vision for transforming the College.

Steiner spent the past decade as director of the Pacific Islands Ecosystems Research Center (PIERC) in Honolulu, which conducts federal research on the living natural resources in the Pacific Basin for partners who manage these resources, along with the agencies in the Department of Interior, Defense and at State and County levels in different island systems. During that period, the Center experienced substantial growth in its activities and budget, while Steiner was simultaneously serving as an adjunct professor at UH Manoa.
Enrollment
Continued from page 1

The overall enrollment was driven by increases in a number of individual categories. A particular bright spot is UH Hilo’s popularity with National Student Exchange (NSE), a consortium of more than 170 colleges and universities throughout the mainland and Canada, founded in the 1970s. UH Hilo joined the program in 1973, and has since grown to become the nation’s second most popular exchange institution. A total of 90 NSE students have enrolled at UH Hilo this fall. Through this exchange, the University was able to accommodate several students this fall who were victims of Hurricane Katrina.

UH Hilo also continues to attract a large number of international students, who account for 12 percent of the overall student population. A total of 398 students from 36 countries enrolled this fall, compared with 355 in fall 2004. The University attracts the largest number of international students from Japan (116), Federated States of Micronesia (105), and Republic of Korea (47).

While developing new markets outside Hawai‘i, the fall enrollment numbers also reflect UH Hilo’s commitment to attracting more students from throughout the State. This fall, UH Hilo was the “university of choice” for 2,036 Hawai‘i students. Roughly one-third of the student body is made up of Big Island families and around 20 percent of the enrolled students come from the Hilo-area high schools: Hilo; Waiakea; and St. Joseph.

A development of particular pride this year has been the University’s academic resource management. Under ideal circumstances, students are able to get the classes they want, while classrooms have few, if any, empty chairs. Dr. Stephen Hora, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, said that goal was largely met.

“I’m pretty pleased with the job that our deans, division directors and department chairs did in this area,” Hora said. “If you take a look at our classes, we are filled, and most students are satisfied.”

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

Faculty Development series underway

by Drew Kapp

The Keahola STEM Program, together with Kipuka Native Hawaiian Student Center and the CAS Dean’s Office, invites faculty and staff to a brown bag Faculty Development seminar series being held each Monday this month at noon in K 128. Light refreshments will be provided by the CAS Dean’s Office.

The series focuses on promoting the success of UH Hilo students through raising our awareness of their unique characteristics and perspectives, as well as through pedagogical innovation and curriculum enhancement, with special emphasis on the sciences.

The first two seminars on October 3 and 10 features staff representing the Kipuka Native Hawaiian Student Center, lending context to some of the issues explored in the series. Gail Makaukane-Lundin, director of the Center, will share both quantitative and qualitative data about Native Hawaiian students in general and in the sciences. This seminar will include a panel of Native Hawaiian students who will share their perspectives with seminar attendees. Her presentation examines “How Native Hawaiian Students Experience College: through their eyes & voices.”

On October 10, Kalani Makekau-Whittaker, well-known for his support of our Native Hawaiian student community, offers evidence that Hawai‘i is indeed “The center of the scientific world.”

October 17 features Kamaka Gunderson, project manager of the Keahola STEM Program, and Dr. Elizabeth Stacy of our Biology Department talking about “Attention to Retention.” The pair will offer ideas on getting our students enthused about and committed to their classes and our University. They will share details derived from a recent “On Course 1” workshop.

The last two seminars, on October 24 and 31, will be led by Dr. Becky Ostertag and Dr. Cam Muir, respectively. Ostertag, an ecologist who has been recognized as an outstanding mentor and researcher, will share information she has gleaned from workshops on student-oriented instruction for science faculty. Her talk will be on “Student-oriented teaching for scientists.”

Muir, whose work with evolutionary genetics involving considerable student participation, will take a close look at “Dirty Fingernails: supporting learning with experience.”

(Editor’s note: Drew Kapp is a project specialist, Keahola STEM Program.)

Euro Club October activities

The University community is invited to “The Pleasure of Bread” with Jim O’Keefe on Friday, October 7 at 6 p.m. in Campus Center 301. There will be a bread making demonstration as well as bread tasting with cheese and grapes. This event is a fund raiser for the club and a small admission fee will be charged.

Strawberry and Chocolate, a Spanish movie (with English subtitles) nominated for an Academy Award in 1994 for Best Foreign Language film, will be shown on Wednesday, October 19 at 5 p.m. in K 272. No admission charge, and popcorn and juice will be served.

For additional information, please call Kamila Dudley at x47521.
Buchanan’s long-term project recognized nationally

Teacher education takes place both in the classroom and out in the field. For the past 12 years, Dr. Nina Buchanan, educational psychologist and professor of education, has applied theory to practice as she worked to develop curricula and innovative practices in instruction and staff development at schools throughout the island and the State. Notable among her activities has been her involvement in the West Hawai’i Explorations Academy (WHEA), a project-based learning environment situated on the site of the National Energy Laboratory of Hawai’i (NELH) in Kona.

What started 12 years ago as a school-within-a-school for Konawaena High School students who were interested in science and learning outdoors, WHEA now serves 140 students in grades 7-12 as one of the most successful charter schools in the State. The school is fully accredited by WASC, uses projects such as its award-winning solar car project, the largest reef tank in Hawai’i, a seahorse growing farm, and others to teach its students math, science, writing, social studies. Its students design many of their own projects, manage their own time, and consistently score at high levels in State and federal testing.

Almost a year ago, Buchanan brought this school to the attention of Intel Corporation. After extensive evaluation, Intel Corporation and Scholastic Inc have named WHEA “a School of Distinction” in the area of science achievement. The Intel/Scholastic program honors schools for implementing innovative and replicable programs that support positive educational outcomes.

The awards celebrate the successes of some of the nation’s best schools and highlight effective use of technology, the benefits of strong science programs, and the development of excellent classroom teachers. This award spotlights what is right with American schools, demonstrates that public schools can produce high achievement, and helps other schools replicate that success. Buchanan and former WHEA Director Bill Woerner authored the award application that focused on 1) new structures for 21st century learning, 2) quality student projects that seek solutions to authentic scientific challenges, and 3) serving the community through on-going community education projects.

Buchanan’s involvement began in 1994 with the receipt of a National Science Foundation curriculum development grant. This enabled her to work with Woerner, an award winning physics teacher, to apply psychological and developmental concepts of learning in the creation of a new, small learning community high school with an emphasis on science. Buchanan has conducted research at WHEA resulting in numerous publications and presentations locally, statewide and nationally. In addition, she has been featured on the George Lucas Educational Foundation Web site, in live Web-casts and on CDs and videotapes.

When asked about her WHEA involvement, Buchanan said, “As a public university educational leader, I believe that I must be actively involved improving Big Island schools, not just criticizing them. All faculty members have expertise of value to the k-12 schools and have a responsibility to create partnerships like the one I have had with WHEA and develop new ways to organize and deliver instruction.”

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Vulcan Basketball/Volleyball highlight October Focus on UH Hilo

Two of UH Hilo’s most storied programs will be featured on the October telecasts of Focus on UH Hilo. The program is hosted by Chancellor Rose Tseng, and airs Wednesday evenings during the instructional year from 8:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Channel 55.

Julie Morgan, head coach of the Vulcan volleyball program and Jeff Law, head coach of men’s basketball, appears on the October 5th telecast. Morgan will give an update on the current season, which began in August. Law will preview the upcoming hoop season, which tips off in November. The guest lineup for the October 19th program is currently being confirmed.

Focus on UH Hilo highlights UH Hilo programs, up and coming developments and the University’s partnerships with various community organizations.

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Terrance Troupe (shown here) and the 2005-06 Vulcan Basketball squad kick-off its season with Midnight Madness, scheduled for Friday, October 14 at the New Gym. (Photo by Daniel Levine.)
Hats off to...

William Mautz, Associate Professor of Biology, is serving the County of Hawai‘i as Research and Development Section Chief of the Coqui Frog Working Group to coordinate research information related to developing controls for the invasive frog species on the Big Island. Mautz is also participating in the series of Hawai‘i State Legislators’ Big Island Invasive Species Community Meetings to help educate the public about efforts and opportunities to control the frog invasion.


Terrance Jalbert, Associate Professor of Finance, and David Hammes, Professor of Economics, had their paper “Portfolio Issues of Mobilization Insurance” accepted for publication in the Journal of Business and Economic Research. The paper is co-authored with Mercedes Jalbert.

Patti Urso, Assistant Professor of Nursing, made the following presentations over the summer: “Pathophysiology on WEBCT,” New Mexico State University School of Nursing, “Caring in the Big Island,” University of Colorado, and “Telephone Delivered Interventions in Smoking Cessation,” American Nurses Association MFP Summer Institute at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.

Ron Gordon, Professor of Communication, presented a keynote address in August at a joint conference of the International Association for Health Communication Sciences, the World Communication Association, and the Pacific and Asian Communication Association. “Communication, Dialogue, and Transformation” was given at the Sapporo Convention Center in Hokkaido, Japan. He also moderated the plenary session, a symposium featuring the presidents of nine communication associations located in Australia and New Zealand, Malaysia, Korea, Japan and the U.S. The session topic was “Communication and Global Cultures: Transforming Communities.”

Michael Marshall, Associate Professor of Art, last month participated in Spirit, Attrium Gallery, St. Louis, MO, and MAINSTREAM art: What is it?, Portfolio Gallery, St. Louis, MO.

Thomas Pinhey, Associate Professor of Sociology, had an article on the amplification of methamphetamine for physical aggression and sexual behaviors among adolescents in Guam accepted in Substance Use and Misuse. The article was co-authored with N. Ree Wells, Missouri Southern State University.

Robert Fox, Professor of Physics and Astronomy, had his recent invited book review on “The Charter School Dust-up: Examining the Evidence on Enrollment and Achievement,” by Chernoy, Jacobsen, Mischel and Rothstein appear in the current issue of Columbia University’s Teachers College Record. The book review can be viewed at [http://www.tcrecord.org/Content].

Robert Fox, Nina Buchanan, Professor of Education, and Randy Hirokawa, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, received a $15,000 contract from the Hawai‘i Charter School Administrative Office to support training and research activities related to Local School Boards in Hawai‘i charters schools. After analysis of a Web-based questionnaire distributed to local charter school leaders...
within the State, they will formulate and deliver training modules designed to improve charter school governance in Hawai‘i. The project is designed to provide the basis for eventual certification of Hawai‘i charter school boards by the State Board of Education. Fox and Buchanan serve as co-directors of the UH Charter School Resource Center while Hirokawa serves as senior fellow.

**Eric Im**, Professor of Economics, had a paper on “Discontinuous Extraction of a Nonrenewable Resource” accepted for publication in *Economics Letters*, a journal of the Institute of Advanced Studies at Princeton University. The paper was co-authored with James Roumasset at UH Manoa.

**Wayne Miyamoto**, Professor of Art, participated in the 4th Lessandra World Art Print Annual at the National Palace of Culture, Sofia, Bulgaria, in June. He also participated in “Summertime,” an exhibition organized by the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts at the Hawai‘i State Museum in Honolulu, which ended last month.

**Todd Belt**, Assistant Professor of Political Science, presented a paper on “Accentuating the Positive in US Presidential Elections” at the American Political Science Association Conference in Washington, D.C. He also served as a discussant on a panel, “Information and Rationality in Vote Choice.”

**Lawrence Rogers**, Professor of Japanese, had his translation of Kenzaburo Oe’s short story, “Respect-the-Aged Week” published in the latest issue of the literary journal *The Threepenny Review*. Oe was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 1994.

**Harald Barkhoff**, Assistant Professor of Health and Physical Education, had “Longitudinal Analyses of Mood in Highlight Sport Competitions: A Season Long Study of a Training Champion vs. a Competitor Type Athlete in Artistic Roller Skating” accepted for publication in the *Journal of the American Board of Sport Psychology*. The paper is co-authored with Ian Pagana (Cancer Research Center, Honolulu) and Elaine Heiby (UH Manoa).

**Nadine Wolff**, Instructor of Mathematics, had “The Terwilliger algebra of a distance-regular graph that supports a spin model” published in the *Journal of Algebraic Combinatorics*, and “Parameter constraints for a distance-regular graph that supports a spin model” published in the Proceedings of Com2MaC Workshop on Distance-Regular Graphs and Finite Geometry, Pusan, Korea. Both papers were co-authored with John S. Caughman IV of Portland State University, OR.

**Erica Bernstein**, Lecturer of Mathematics, had “Multiscale Riesz Products and their Support Properties” published in *Acta Applicandae Mathematicae: An International Survey Journal on Applying Mathematics and Mathematical Applications*. The paper was co-authored with John J. Benedetto, University of Maryland College Park, MD and Ioannis Konstantinidis, University of Houston, TX.

**Jon Cauley**, Professor of Economics, will have his paper “Some Basic Considerations in Creating State-of-the-Art Remuneration Packages” presented at the International Business and Economic Research Conference, to be held in Las Vegas, NV this month. The paper was co-authored with Steve Landry.
Spotlight
Continued from page 1

The UH position marked Steiner’s return to Hawai‘i after holding a similar position for nine years at the University of Missouri and a similar position at the University of Illinois as an assistant professor and researcher in genetics and biology.

Though born in Honolulu, Steiner, his father and brother moved to Owyhee County, Idaho, where they established a family ranch. The name sounds remarkably close to Hawai‘i, which is no accident, according to Steiner.

“Owyhee and Hawai‘i are actually different spellings of the same word,” Steiner explained. “This was the first territory named by the first legislature in 1863 for the river, mountains and mining areas that were explored by Hawaiian fur trappers in 1819 and 1820. So we felt about as home as we could living on the mainland.”

Steiner attended Boise Junior College, where he earned an A.S. in agriculture. He later added a B.A. in zoology and a Ph.D in genetics from UH Manoa in 1974. After that it was off to the mainland to begin a career in teaching and research that would keep him away from Hawai‘i for more than 20 years. Although the work was rewarding, Steiner longed for an opportunity to come home, which materialized when the PIERC and UH Manoa positions became available.

“One of the major reasons I wanted to get back to Hawai‘i was to get re-acquainted with my Hawaiian relatives,” Steiner said. “It’s a rather large `ohana that includes the Haili, Punahele and Haleakala families, so I’ve definitely had my work cut out for me.

If you spend any time at all with him, it also becomes abundantly clear that Steiner is deeply committed to making a long-lasting contribution to his native land. He’s already distinguished himself through leadership roles in some high profile initiatives to benefit Hawai‘i and Native Hawaiian students.

In 1996, Steiner founded and managed the Department of Interior-Hawai‘i program for Polynesian intern students in Oceania. The program provided summer internships to Native Hawaiians enabling them to gain practical experience in the field in biology while establishing working relationships that could foster development as professional biologists. The program has since merged with the University of Hawai‘i Intern Program (HIP), which enable students to earn credits while doing internships.

He has also served since 2003 on the advisory board for the UH Hilo-NSF-funded Keaholoa Science, Technology, Education and Math (STEM) program providing guidance, mentoring and funding support to Native Hawaiian students in their last year of high school and first year of college while building a technically and scientifically able group of young students of Hawaiian ancestry.

But these initiatives look more like appetizers to the main course if Steiner is successful in implementing his vision for CAFNRM. He sees the College as the vehicle for promoting sustainable agriculture and natural resources with the goal of making the island more food and energy independent. Steiner’s vision extends beyond the Big Island, but believes this is the pace to start.

“The Big Island in my view can serve as the anchor for the entire chain of islands,” Steiner said. “We have the most land in agriculture, the best forests, and the best opportunity to support the State.”

One factor driving his vision is high oil prices, which he feels are here to stay. His theory is based on his belief that all the big oil fields in the world have been discovered, production has peaked and China’s economic boom will continue to consume any additional production that comes on line.

“China’s impact on the world’s oil market is only beginning to be felt,” Steiner said. “And that adds up to more, not less, demand going forward.”

Steiner says Hawai‘i’s oil market is only beginning to be felt, but he believes the current high cost of energy may add the necessary sense of urgency to make it an idea whose time has come.

“As long as energy was cheap and abundant, there was little, if any, incentive to change existing practices,” Steiner said. “But now you have high oil prices, and that could be the tipping point.”

Steiner’s vision is also rooted in his Hawaiian heritage, and admits that his background has played a role in his decision-making. He sees a direct link between cultures and the environment they live in, whereby people make use of what their environment provides.

“Hawai‘i, prior to its exposure to western civilization, had wood, fiber, fish and the ocean and that model worked well,” Steiner said. “Thanks to subsequent research and technological advances, we have even more to work with now, so I have no doubt that model will work again if we return to it.”

Some of the areas Steiner wants to explore include the use of biomass to produce methane as an alternate fuel, more reliance on the forest for every day materials and producing more of the food we eat. Other sustainable practices include more emphasis on using natural predators for pest control to get away from pesticides and oil.

Steiner is currently polling his faculty to develop a joint vision for a sustainability model. He believes Hawai‘i has an opportunity to become a leader in this area and develop its own unique niche.

“Based on what other colleges are doing, it’s wide open,” Steiner said. “Few, if any of them, face the sense of urgency that we do, so we have the chance to do it first and that gives us a tremendous advantage in lining up things like support and funding.”

And if anybody thinks Steiner’s vision is wishful thinking, then think again, because he’s set an ambitious timetable for seeing it through. His goal is to move this vision forward within five years, or move on.

“When I say ‘move this vision forward,’ I mean having the vision, goals and funding in place, and to have this vision accepted by faculty, legislators, farmers, citizens, etc.,” Steiner said. “If I cannot move it, then the University will need to get someone who can because the concept of sustainability is firmly based.”
Alumni scholarship recipients named

The UH Hilo Alumni & Friends Association announces the awarding of its first scholarships to students for the 2005-2006 academic year.

Three individuals were selected based on their scholarly achievements and financial need. Each recipient received $1,000 to help defray their educational costs.

Patrick C. Jenkins of Hilo, a graduate of St. Joseph High School, graduated from UH Hilo in Spring 2003 with a baccalaureate degree in business administration. He is currently pursuing his certification in teacher education.

Keri M.T. Kimura of Hilo is a junior at UH Hilo majoring in administration of justice and political science. Kimura is a graduate of Waiakea High School. Kimura’s mother is a 1998 graduate of UH Hilo.

Lola K. Salimova of Hilo, originally from Uzbekistan, is an economics major who graduated in the spring of 2003. She is currently working toward her masters in China-U.S. Relations. Salimova graduated from Titov high school in Uzbekistan.

To qualify for the scholarship, applicants must meet the GPA requirements (2.5 or higher for undergraduates or 3.0 or higher for graduates), possess a degree from UH Hilo and are continuing to pursue another degree at UH Hilo or have immediate relatives who are graduates of UH Hilo.

The UH Hilo Alumni and Friends Association started raising scholarship funds through its Golf Scholarship Tournaments in 2004 and 2005 and at a silent auction during its 2005 Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards Banquet. Next year, the Association’s 3rd Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament is scheduled to be on October 14, 2006 at the Hapuna Golf Course.

For more information on the golf tournament or the Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards Banquet, contact UH Hilo’s Marketing and Alumni office at x47501 or x47643 or log on to http://www.ugh.hawaii.edu/~alumni/.

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## Campus Events

### October

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vulcan volleyball vs. BYU-Hawai‘i, 7:15 p.m., New Gym, Admission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 19   | Strawberry and Chocolate, 5 p.m., K 272  
*Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55* |  |
| 20   | Board of Regents meetings in Hilo, UCB 127 |  |
| 5    | *Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55* |  |
| 7    | “The pleasure of bread” with Jim O’Keefe, 6 p.m., CC 301, Admission |  |
| 14   | Last day to withdraw from courses with “W” |  |
| 19   | Strawberry and Chocolate, 5 p.m., K 272  
*Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55* |  |
| 21   | Board of Regents meetings in Hilo, HawCC campus |  |
| 24   | “I” removal deadline: student to instructor |  |
| 28   | Last day for international students to apply for spring 2006 semester admission |  |
| 29   | Vulcan volleyball vs. Hawai‘i Pacific University, 7:15 p.m., New Gym, Admission |  |
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