With the start of the 2008-2009 academic year just underway, we have a lot to celebrate.

We have just completed UH Hilo’s 60th anniversary year and now enter into the final year of an ambitious $15 million capital campaign, laying a strong foundation for our University’s next 60 years of service to our island, state, and beyond.

Milestones like these prompt us to reflect on our University’s accomplishments. While it sometimes seems change is happening slower than we’d like, in reality UH Hilo has transformed from a small liberal arts college into a comprehensive university in a remarkably short period of time.

Ten years ago, I gathered input from our University community and our surrounding East Hawai‘i community, and together we developed three major goals: academic excellence, enrollment growth, and resource development. We want to build a university that utilizes our island’s cultural and physical environment to produce global citizens for the 21st century.

Because of the hard work of UH Hilo’s faculty, staff and administrators, along with the invaluable input of our students and the local community, we are answering the educational and economic needs of our island and state. It’s the hard work and dedication of so many people that has made UH Hilo into a powerful economic engine. UH Hilo’s activities have led to a regional increase of over 3,500 jobs, with an overall economic impact of $191 million.

In 2004, the University’s accrediting body, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), gave UH Hilo an excellent review and reaffirmed our accreditation for 10 years, the maximum period WASC awards. In addition, our College of Business and Economics is accredited as are professional programs in Nursing and Education. And our new College of Pharmacy is progressing well in its accreditation process.

We’ve added many academic programs in the past 10 years that answer State and regional needs, and our graduates are entering the professional workforce prepared for the global economy.

We also offer master’s programs in Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental Science (MS), Counseling Psychology (MA), Education (MED), China-U.S. Relations (MA), Hawaiian Language and Literature (MA), and Indigenous Language and Culture Education (MA). And our first Ph.D. program in Hawaiian and Indigenous Language and Culture Revitalization is earning international recognition.

We’ve created innovative programs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM fields) that will help answer our State’s urgent need for STEM professionals. Our highly successful Keahola STEM program, creating a culturally sensitive learning environment for Native Hawaiians and other promising students, is touted by the National Science Board as a model program.

UH Hilo is the gateway for Hawai‘i’s first-generation college students to earn a college degree and enter the workforce. We’ve had an increase in enrollment of more than 35% since 1997, with strong growth in the number of Hawai‘i residents attending. We’re pleased that students of Native Hawaiian ancestry now account for over 21% of the student body. This decade, UH Hilo instituted the Kipuka Native Hawaiian Student Center to promote Native Hawaiian student success. We also strive to maintain a diverse mix of local, mainland, and international students, which creates a true “global village” right on our campus.

To provide our students with the best learning environment possible, we’ve added new classrooms and laboratories. The
University Classroom Building, Marine Science Building, Campus Center Plaza, and Student Recreation Center all provide students space to excel in both mind and body. We will soon build a Science and Technology building, a temporary facility for Pharmacy, and a new Student Services building. In addition, planning is underway for a building for the College of Hawaiian Language.

Since 1998, research activity has grown from $3 million to nearly $20 million annually with funding from NASA, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Our excellent faculty is the foundation of this growth, conducting research on such topics as health disparities, environmental biology, Native Hawaiian and other cultural issues, the agriculture and aquaculture industries, and tourism.

UH Hilo also is at the leading edge of economic stimulus for the State. We initiated Hawai‘i’s Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPScor), a National Science Foundation initiative to boost the entire state’s long-term economic health by providing over $40 million to upgrade science and technology infrastructure.

Collaboration with governmental, scientific, and business interests is key to many of our successes. For example, NASA contributed $28 million toward the development of UH Hilo’s ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai‘i. ‘Imiloa, which means “exploring new knowledge,” examines the connections between Hawaiian cultural traditions and the science of astronomy through its exhibits, planetarium shows, and programming.

Partnerships with our tenants at UH Hilo’s University Park of Science and Technology stimulate research and the economy. Tenants include base facilities for the international telescopes on Mauna Kea, the USDA Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center, the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry, and ‘Imiloa. Taken together, they employ over 400 people and represent a combined investment of $847.6 million.

UH Hilo’s community outreach gives many more people access to higher education and serves the community in other ways. For example, the North Hawai‘i Education and Research Center in Honoka‘a provides classrooms, offices, and computer labs for Web-based education. Another example of UH Hilo’s outreach benefiting the community is the Hawai‘i Innovation Center, a business incubator located in downtown Hilo.

We have a lot more to accomplish. We will continue to seek ways to contribute educationally and economically to our island and state.

As always, when we all work together, great things can happen! Mahalo and aloha for all your support. ❗

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**College of Pharmacy achieves next level in national accreditation process**

UH Hilo’s College of Pharmacy was awarded Candidate Accreditation Status during the June Executive Board Meeting of the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE). Dean John Pezzuto said this is an important step that will help the one-year-old program address a nationwide shortage of pharmacists.

“This second phase in the accreditation process is a critical milestone that takes the College of Pharmacy to the next level, and we are very pleased,” Pezzuto said. “As the first and only pharmacy school in the Pacific Basin from Guam to Alaska, we fill a significant gap that provides opportunities for Pacific Islanders to earn their Doctor of Pharmacy degrees locally. This makes it more likely they will stay to serve the community and hospital pharmacy needs of the islands.”

ACPE accredits all pharmacy programs in the U.S. through a three-step process: pre candidate status for programs that haven’t enrolled students, awarded to UH Hilo in June 2007; candidate status, awarded to a program with students enrolled pending graduating its first class; and full accreditation, for which UH Hilo is on track and eligible in May 2011 when the first group of PharmD students will graduate.

The ACPE team, representing faculty and administration from several notable pharmacy schools, practitioners in the field, and the ACPE accreditation staff, conducted the on-site evaluation in Hilo and Honolulu during the week of April 21.

As part of the review, the College of Pharmacy provided a comprehensive self-study of the PharmD program, as well as other related materials. The on-site evaluation consisted of interviews with faculty, staff, community preceptors and students, and an evaluation report was presented to the dean and chancellor upon completion.

The College of Pharmacy received high marks in virtually every aspect of the evaluation report, and showed progress in every area since the first ACPE inspection in early 2007.

According to the report: “The College has a dynamic, long-term mission with broad coverage that was created through group processes that include faculty endorsement.”

The ACPE recognized Pezzuto in the evaluation for “having autonomy and flexibility to utilize financial resources for programmatic needs” and noted the College has been successful in recruiting and hiring faculty with the necessary credentials to develop and deliver the first components of the curriculum.

The College of Pharmacy seated its inaugural class in fall 2007 with 90 students and 18 faculty and staff. The college has 30 faculty and staff and 180 students at the beginning of the 2008 fall semester. Current plans call for the addition of 80-90 students per year for a total of four classes.
Performing Arts Center season both eclectic and electric

The UH Hilo Performing Arts Center is gearing up for a banner season in 2008-09 with nine events showcasing drama, dance and music.

The season opens on Friday, Sept. 26 at 7:30 p.m. with Devin Phillips & New Orleans Straight Ahead. A Hurricane Katrina evacuee, Phillips showed some irony by naming his 2005 debut CD Wade in the Water. The up-and-coming saxophonist has performed, toured and recorded with some of jazz’s elite, including Wynton Marsalis, Eddie Palmieri, and the Headhunters.

One of the West Coast’s top African-American dance companies, Lula Washington Dance Theatre, will explore the range of motion and emotion on Wednesday, Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m. Created in 1980 on a $25 loan and a dream, the company from the inner-city from South Central Los Angeles presents pieces that range from fun and frolic to powerful political statements.

The UH Hilo Performing Arts Department presents Hotel Street, a drama written by Honolulu playwright Anthony Oliver that explores life on Hotel Street in 1943. In World War II Honolulu, life was tough and prostitution was legal. This performance contains mature themes — parental discretion is advised. Show dates and times are Thursday-Saturday, April 17, 18, 24 and 25 at 7 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, April 19.

Fans of finger picking should pencil in Saturday, April 4 at 7:30 p.m. The Alison Brown Quartet will bring its seamless amalgam of hoedown, Celtic, Latin and jazz to the PAC. Brown, a banjoist, won the 2000 Grammy for Best County Instrumental Performance for her album Fair Weather.

The Bard meets Da Kine in the Performing Arts Department’s presentation of Twelf Nite o Wateval, directed by Professor Jackie Pualani Johnson. The late comedic genius and Booga Booga founder James Grant Benton penned this pidgin adaptation of a Shakespearean classic that almost melts the melting pot. This performance contains mature themes — parental discretion is advised. Show dates and times are Fridays and Saturdays, April 17, 18, 24 and 25 at 7 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, April 19.

Focus on UH Hilo launches fall schedule of shows

Focus on UH Hilo will open its fall schedule of programs this month with shows on continuing education and performing arts. The program is hosted by Chancellor Rose Tseng, and airs live Wednesday evenings during the instructional year from 8:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Channel 55.

CCECS Program Coordinator Dori Yamada will appear on the September 3rd show to discuss programs offered by the College. Joining her will be Helen Hemmes, a member of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Advisory Board, who will discuss efforts to secure a $1 million endowment from the Bernard Osher Foundation.

The guest lineup for the September 17th program includes Lee Dombroski, manager of the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center. Dombroski will preview the 2008-2009 performance season and discuss the new Performing Arts Center Scholarship.

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 x47501 or x47643.

Peter Gabriel, Ziggy Marley and Amadou and Mariam. Get your tickets early for Kidjo’s performance on Thursday, Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m. as it is a guaranteed sellout.

“Finally, Shakespeare that isn’t boring!” is how one student-critic at the University of North Carolina described the Actors from the London Stage performance of Much Ado About Nothing. The five actors, all veterans of the classical theatre such as the Royal Shakespeare Company, the National Theatre of Great Britain and Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre, will tread the boards on Thursday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Hemmes, a member of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Advisory Board, who will discuss programs this month with shows on continuing education and performing arts. The program is hosted by Chancellor Rose Tseng, and airs live Wednesday evenings during the instructional year from 8:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Channel 55.

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Hats off to...

Kay Daub, Associate Professor and Chair, Nursing, had “Pheochromocytoma: Not Your Everyday Diagnosis” published in the July 2008 refereed journal, American Nurse Today.

Phil Castille, Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, had his article, “‘No More Obscene Than the Truth’: Erskine Caldwell’s God’s Little Acre and Southern Industrial Protest” appear in the Winter issue of Situations: Project of the Radical Imagination, published by the Center for the Study of Culture, Technology and Work at the City University of New York. Also, he presented a paper, “Hawaii’ii Scottsboro: the ‘Ala Moana Boys’ and 1930s White Race/Rape Anxiety” at the Annual Meeting this spring of the American Culture Association in San Francisco.

Bill Heacox, Professor, Astronomy, was invited to the BRITE-Constellation workshop in Vienna, Austria. The project aims to launch a set of astronomical nano-satellites into orbit next year to do high-precision stellar photometry from space. The project is a joint venture of several Austrian and Canadian universities and research centers; UH Hilo is the only American university invited to participate.

Nina Buchanan, Professor, Education, presented “High School Teaching & Learning Through Integrative, Self-selected Projects: The West Hawaii’ii Explorations Academy Model” with Bill Woerner, Heather Nakakura and Curtis Muraoka at the 2008 National Conference on Differentiated Instruction in Las Vegas in July. Over 140 educators from throughout the nation participated in the session designed to assist them in implementing project-based learning in their middle or high schools.

Wayne Miyamoto, Professor, Art, was a Visiting Artist at the Institute of Art and Design at the University of West Bohemia, Pilsen, Czech Republic in July. He also presented a solo exhibition, “Wayne Miyamoto: A Decade of Prints and Works on Paper,” at the Contemporary Museum, First Hawaiian Center, Honolulu, over the summer.

Sandra Wagner-Wright, Professor, History, presented a paper, “Mumbai, Maternal Identities, and Commercial Realities: A Case Study of Reproductive Tourism” at the Seventeenth Annual World History Association Conference held at the University of London, Queen Mary College, in June.

William Mautz, Professor, Biology, presented the paper, “Dynamics of the Coqui Frog Invasion of Hawaii’ii,” at the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in Montreal, Quebec in July.

Patsy Iwasaki, Lecturer, received a UH Professional Assembly grant to attend the 20th Annual Hawaii’ii Great Teachers Seminar held last month at Kilauea Military Camp, Volcano National Park. The retreat brought together higher education teachers from throughout the State and nation to exchange innovations and solutions to teaching.

Misaki Takabayashi, Assistant Professor, Marine Science, and Marine Science student, Makani Gregg, were invited by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to participate in an international workshop on “Responding to Climate Change in the Pacific,” to be held this month at Hawaii’ii Institute of Marine Biology. The workshop aims to develop a
framework of response to the effects of global climate change on coral reefs in the Pacific and to promote a dialog between western science and traditional management approaches.

Yoshitaka Miike, Assistant Professor, Communication, was asked to serve as a reviewer for the Asian Journal of Communication, a flagship publication of the Asian Media Information and Communication Center in conjunction with the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.

Harald Barkhoff, Associate Professor, Kinesiology and Exercise Sciences, and Taupouri Tangaro, HawCC, had their manuscript, “Spirituality in Imagery. Application of the Hawaiian Ki’i Concept into Sport Psychology” accepted for publication in the International Journal of Religion and Sport. Additionally, Barkhoff accepted invitations to serve as reviewer for the Journal of Applied Sport Psychology and The Sport Psychologist, to serve on the editorial board of AthleticInsight, the online journal of sport psychology, and was appointed to serve on the Hawai’i Charter School Review Panel.

Bryan Kim, Professor, Psychology, was featured in the Summer 2008 issue of the Section on Ethnic and Racial Diversity Newsletter. The article described his career development and accomplishments since earning his Ph.D. in counseling, clinical, and school psychology from UC Santa Barbara in 2000. The Section is a part of the Society of Counseling Psychology (Division 17) of the American Psychological Association.

Removal of Mauna Kea’s first telescope marks end of era

A storied chapter in astronomy at the University of Hawai‘i has come to a close with last month’s removal of the first research telescope located on Mauna Kea. The University’s 24-inch telescope was built in 1968 and became a 40-year fixture of Mauna Kea’s scientific community.

“This telescope had a lot of history,” said UH Hilo Astronomy Professor William Heacox. “Even though the years of wear and tear had eroded its capabilities, we were still sad to see it go.”

Funded by the Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories, the facility was operated from the beginning by the UH Manoa Institute for Astronomy (IfA). Even after its transfer to UH ownership, it continued to be referred to as the “Air Force 24-inch telescope” or “AF 24-inch,” to distinguish it from the Planetary Patrol 24-inch telescope, which was later replaced by the Gemini observatory.

In the 1970s when few large telescopes were available, UH astronomers used the AF 24-inch to conduct pioneering observations of objects in the solar system, including asteroids and the outer planets. As new and larger telescopes took up residence on Mauna Kea, it took on the role of a test bed for the bigger instruments.

The instrument’s frequent use in support of larger and heavier instruments eventually took its toll, and its accuracy in tracking the Earth’s turns declined. Even so, the telescope remained an important research and learning tool, with UH Hilo faculty and students using it to collect data for more than 13 published research projects since 1995.

“It is fair to say that most, perhaps all, of our astronomy graduates have learned how to ‘do astronomy’ with the old 24-inch telescope in its unheated dome,” Heacox said. “I have probably spent more than 100 nights using that instrument, and did most of my Ph.D. thesis research with it in the mid-1970s. Professor Richard Crowe and instructors Norm Purves and John Hamilton have similar histories.”

The recent removal of the old telescope and installation of the new dome clears the way for a new, larger telescope for the exclusive use of UH Hilo astronomy faculty and students. The new telescope is being funded by a $650,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, while building reconstruction, which is currently underway, will be paid for.
by University Repair and Maintenance funds.

The new telescope is being built by Equinox Interscience, Inc. of Golden Colorado, where the instrument is being assembled. It will be shipped to Hilo for installation around mid-October. The instrument will eventually be remotely operated from the new Science and Technology Building on campus, providing students with observational astronomy training second-to-none.

“We’re talking about good old fashioned nuts and bolts research,” Heacox said. “Our students will have plenty of opportunity to get time on the telescope and co-author research papers for publication, which is going to add a lot of value to their undergraduate degrees.”

A Message from Chancellor Tseng...

A Global Dialogue...Women in Higher Education

September 22, 2008

4:00pm – UH Hilo Performing Arts Center

For the first time in UH Hilo’s history, an international gathering of women university presidents and chancellors will convene to share their perspectives on the role of women’s leadership in higher education.

This historic presentation will serve as an empowering and inspiring message and will offer networking and mentoring opportunities.

Please join me in welcoming my guests, Noriko Mizuta, Chancellor, Josai University; Sandra Harding, Vice Chancellor, James Cook University; Chen Naifang, President, Beijing Foreign Studies University; Chen Weijia, Chair, University Council, Communication University of China; and Mary Jossy Nakandha Okwakol, Vice Chancellor, Busitema University, Uganda.

Mahalo and I’ll look forward to seeing you for this unique conversation!

PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
Phone: 974-7555
Email: uhhconferencecenter@gmail.com

Tenure and promotion awarded

Congratulations to the following faculty members who received tenure and promotion:

Tenure and Promotion:
Bryan Kim, Professor, Psychology
Todd Belt, Associate Professor, Political Science
Michele Ebersole, Associate Professor, Education

Tenure:
Philip Castille, Professor, English
Edward Fisher, Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences
Bartley Frueh, Professor, Psychology
Mark Okamoto, Professor, Pharmacy Practice
Drew Martin, Associate Professor, Marketing

Promotion:
Philippe Binder, Professor, Physics and Astronomy
Peter Mills, Professor, Anthropology
Kathryn Besio, Associate Professor, Geography
Cheryl Ramos, Associate Professor, Psychology
Candace Rosovsky, Assistant Specialist, Women’s Center

Ka Lono Hanakahi is published by the Office of University Relations on the first of the month during the academic year for faculty and staff of the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. News and submissions are welcome. Deadlines are on the fifteenth of each month for the following first of the month publication. Contact Alyson Kakugawa-Leong, Director of Media Relations, Beaumont Cottage, (808) 974-7642 or email alyson@hawaii.edu.
OLLI strives for $1 million endowment

by William Kunstman

UH Hilo’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute is going for a $1 million endowment from the Bernard Osher Foundation. OLLI-UH Hilo earned its fourth-year grant of $100,000 from the Foundation this April and is using the resources to pump up community outreach, member benefits and course content. Come April 2009, OLLI-UH Hilo will need at least 500 paid members and a rich array of courses and programs to qualify for the big endowment.

OLLI –UH Hilo provides non-credit courses to mature learners at sites around Hawai‘i Island, including Hilo, Honoka‘a and Waikoloa. “We’re excited about continuing our work in the community,” said CCECS Interim Dean April Komenaka-Scazzola, who continued, “Now our challenge is to increase the quality of our offerings while meeting the membership benchmark required by the Osher Foundation to obtain the endowment.”

Chancellor Rose Tseng and Interim Dean Komenaka-Scazzola will soon send a letter inviting faculty and staff aged 50 or more to participate in the OLLI program and purchase $25 annual memberships. Partnerships with such organizations as the UH System Alumni Association, ‘Imiloa, the Friends of the Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park, County Office of Aging, and the Kanoelehua Industrial Area Association will also take the good word about OLLI to a larger audience.

Current OLLI benefits for those aged 50 or more include reduced class fees, 20% off UH Hilo Performing Arts Center Events, and a 20% group discount with the Hawai‘i Concert Society. OLLI members aged 50-60 qualify for the UH Hilo Library’s $30 annual community user fee, normally reserved for those 60 and over.

Programs offered this fall in Hilo include two “Conversations About Great Ideas” seminars. Classes in Hilo comprise OLLI Creative Writing Workshop, OLLI Health Series: Adult Onset Diabetes, Organic Container Gardening, and The Immigrant Experience: The History of Immigration to Hawai‘i. OLLI also offers 13 classes at the North Hawai‘i Education & Research Center (NHERC) in Honoka‘a and three in Waikoloa.

To learn more about the kinds of programs and classes available through CCECS, visit http://www. uh.hawaii.edu/academics/ccecs/ or call x47664. (Editor’s note: William Kunstman is program coordinator, OLLI, NHERC.)

Annual alumni golf tourney is Oct 25!

The UH Hilo Alumni & Friends Association hosts its 5th Annual Golf Tournament on October 25 at the Hapuna Prince Golf Course in Kawaihae. The tournament is open to anyone who possesses an established handicap.

“The purpose of this tournament is to raise scholarship funds for students who are alumni themselves or have immediate relatives who are graduates of UH Hilo,” said Yu Yok Pearring, marketing and alumni director.

“Tee off begins at 8:00 am. and the fee of $175 covers green fees, a cart, mulligans, snacks, beverages, lunch and a gift bag including our popular premium golf polo shirt,” she added.

Special hotel room rates have also been secured for those who wish to enjoy the weekend at Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel. Those interested in participating in the tournament and/or stay at the hotel should call x47643 or x47501, or visit the alumni golf website at http://www.uhh.hawaii.edu/alumni/golf.

UH Hilo earns federal grant for Pacific Island Center

Plans for UH Hilo’s proposed Center for Pacific Islander Education and Retention have received a major boost with receipt of a $682,982 grant from the U.S. Department of Education for planning and design.

The cost of the two-year project totals $1,994,557 with the $1.3 million balance coming in year two for conversion and renovation of under-utilized space at the Campus Center, where the facility will be housed.

The Center is scheduled to open in Fall 2010 and will host speakers, presentations, and performances, while providing an informal gathering place for students, faculty and staff. Other activities will include peer mentoring, tutoring and learning communities and multicultural training and workshops. Key features will include wireless internet access, flat screen TVs and a library, complete with relevant education, leadership, and cultural materials and resources to help increase Pacific Islander student success and retention.

“We have a long history of Pacific Island students coming to UH Hilo to earn a degree so that they can return home to assume important leadership positions,” said Student Development Director Jim Mellon. “We believe this Center constitutes one of the missing links that will help these students get the most out of their educational experience.”

The proposed name will be the Etak Center for Pacific Islander Education and Retention. ‘Etak’ is the system of traditional navigation utilizing extensive knowledge and understanding of the sea, wind, and stars which Pacific Islanders have used to successfully navigate the vast Pacific Ocean for thousands of years.
Campus Events

September

1  Holiday: Labor Day
17  Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55
3  Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55
22  A Global Dialogue… Women in Higher Education, 4 p.m., PAC
12  Final deadline to apply for Fall 2008 graduation
26  Devin Phillips & New Orleans Straight Ahead, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission
14  Last day to exercise Credit/No Credit option

Last day to drop classes without “W”

Last day to receive 50% refund of tuition for complete withdrawals;
NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED AFTER THIS DATE