Chancellor Straney:

Thank you, President Greenwood. Chairman Martinson, Vice Chairs Lee and Carlson, members of the board, on behalf of the students, and faculty and staff of the Big Island, Chancellor Yamane and I are pleased to welcome you to Hilo.

Hilo is the home to two campuses of the University of Hawai‘i on this island. Those two campuses serve an area that’s slightly larger than the rest of the state combined, which has eight campuses to serve its needs. Our population though is smaller and it’s spread out over a broader area and as I think you’ll see later in the presentation, one of the challenges we face is to provide higher education opportunities across a distributed landscape.

I’ll briefly give you a thumbnail sketch of UH Hilo. Chancellor Yamane will then describe Hawai‘i Community College. And then we’ll both talk about a few things that we are doing together. I think quite clearly both campuses view the partnership between ourselves as an important component of being able to successfully provide higher education to the people of the island.

It’s been traditional to think about UH Hilo as a teaching campus, but I think increasingly the better way to think about us is as a campus that integrates teaching, research and service in ways that both challenge students to achieve their best academically—we have research grade faculty involved in real world community projects that give students an experience that is greater than you might get at the typical teaching-only institution—and that challenge allows them to have an impact on conditions locally. Our programs are grounded in the Hawaiian experience and we view local impact as important in the evaluation and development of our programs as global impact on the scholarly community.

We have several advantages at UH Hilo. Our buildings have been built so that classes are of a size that encourages learning. You’ll notice that this room for example is a little
more intimate than many of the rooms the board meets in. Similarly, our classrooms are designed so that students and instructors have close connections and can develop the types of rapport that’s necessary to really challenge students to learn their best.

Because of our location and our international connections we’ve been able to attract very high quality faculty, many of whom could have taken jobs at any other university in the country but because their research and scholarly interests can best be done here, they choose to come to UH Hilo and our students and our community benefits tremendously from that.

I earlier this year presented the report card on UH Hilo on how we are doing relative to the expectations of the [UH] system in terms of graduation rates and impacts on the workforce, resources and stewardship. One reason to put this up is that since I last showed you this, the figures have been audited and it turns out we missed our graduation rates for STEM degrees last year by one student, and the dean of arts and sciences has gotten the message that that won’t happen again—couldn’t find the student [audience laughter].

But we’re at 4,100 students and continue to grow. That’s a 50 percent increase over the last 12 years. Seventy percent are state residents, 22 percent Native Hawaiian, which is at the [UH] system average, eight percent of the students are from international situations. For this year’s freshman class, 25 percent of our students went to high school on O’ahu, and chose to come to attend a four-year program on the Big Island here because of the environment we offer and the degree programs. Importantly, 65 percent of our students are on financial aid. There’s been an increase in the last year in the percentage of the freshman who are receiving financial aid this year; 80 percent of the freshmen receiving some form of financial aid.

UH Hilo is contributing to the growth of a research industry on the island of Hawai‘i, and in conjunction with several federal laboratories that are here. The growth of research dollars continues. This is driven in large part by the tremendous faculty that Dean [John] Pezzuto has brought together in the College of Pharmacy. And just as an example, the growth of research in pharmacy, which supports the PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences that you approved two meetings ago, has now brought to this island equipment and facilities that are rarely found in a town the size of Hilo. This is a picture of an NMR machine and there are maybe two other people in the room who know what that is. Suffice it to say, that this is the machine that says you are doing modern chemistry, modern research grade chemistry. UH Hilo has three of them. And the woman who is standing at the back of this picture isn’t a technician who is supporting the work, that’s a graduate student who’s a member of the first class in the PhD in Pharmaceutical Science. She got her high school degree at Waiakea High School just down the road, she started her college career at Hawai‘i Community College, she transferred to UH
Hilo, and now she’s a PhD student in Pharmaceutical Sciences with a career ambition to work for a pharmaceutical company to discover and create new drugs that will help the people across the world.

We are able to do that now because of the facilities and the capability that have been brought to UH Hilo that extend beyond the simple teaching and provide our ability to do cutting edge research. Pharmacy also has allowed us to create a cluster of degree programs focused on rural health, which is becoming a major focus of what we’re doing.

At this point let me turn things over to Chancellor Yamane to give you an overview of Hawai‘i Community College.

**Chancellor Noreen Yamane:**

Good morning, Chair Martinson, President Greenwood and members of the board. And thank you to Chancellor Straney for allowing me a few minutes of his presentation time to share with you about Hawai‘i Community College.

As a two-year institution in the University of Hawai‘i system, Hawai‘i Community College both in Hilo in East Hawai‘i and in West Hawai‘i is committed to serving all segments of our island community and to provide quality educational opportunities by embracing our unique Hawaiian culture and values. In so doing, we embrace the concept of *kauhale*, which traditionally means “the Hawaiian village.” *Kauhale* is an ‘ohana with administrators, faculty, staff, students and their families, and our Hawai‘i island community that contributes measurably to the success of our college’s mission and outcomes. In the spirit of *e ‘imi pono* or “seeking excellence,” all components of Hawai‘i Community College are united into an academic village, without walls, focused on the overall success of our students, our families and community to community-based learning activities, integration of technology, becoming the center for the study of Hawaiian culture, and for caring for the environment.

Hawai‘i Community College offers a wide variety of career and technical education programs and associate in arts degree programs. If you look at this list, these are all the programs that are offered on our campuses, that are located both on the Manono campus and here at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo campus. In addition to these programs, we also offer, at the University Center at West Hawai‘i, bachelor’s degrees, master’s degrees, graduate certificates, and one doctorate degree over at the West Hawai‘i side of the island.

Hawai‘i Community College has areas of special accreditation and these areas are in the culinary arts, which are accredited by the American Culinary Federation Foundation;
our Early Childhood Education and our Children’s Center, which is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children; our Intensive English program, which is accredited by the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation—we are the only accredited IET program in the state; and of course our A.S. degree program in Nursing, they are accredited by the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission.

Hawai‘i Community College has seen a remarkable enrollment growth since 2006. And the reason why I’m starting at 2006 is that this is the baseline for our strategic planning. So since 2006, our enrollment was 2,358 students, and now in 2011, we are at 3,929 students. This represents a 67% enrollment growth over the last several years.

In this slide, I’d like to share with you our growth in the Native Hawaiian population. In 2006, we had 699 students, today we have 1,627 students. And this represents a growth of about 133%.

Within our student population, there is wide diversity. And if you see on this pie graph, 42% of our students are Hawaiian or part Hawaiian.

This is based on our fall [2010], what our students look like here at Hawai‘i Community College. Back in fall [2010] our enrollment was 3,815 students: 92.5% of them were from the island of Hawai‘i, from the outer islands we had 4.3%, US mainland 1.9%, and from our international areas 1.3%. Fifty-fifty percent of our students were full time and part time. We have a split: 40% are men and 60% of our students are women, and the mean average age is 26.2 years.

I’d like to share with you the need for financial aid that we’ve been allowed to award to our students. Because we’re in an area in which we are underserved, our population of students needs financial aid assistance. We are currently 787 students over our current goal, which means we have an increase over the goal of 115.6%. Back in 2006, in dollars translations, we awarded $1.5 million. This academic year, we’re expected to award over $8.5 million in overall financial assistance to our students.

Next, Don will give you what we are trying to do island wide.

**Chancellor Straney:**

Both of our campuses have been pursuing a strategy of bringing the island opportunities for education. Just as finances restrict access to higher education on this island, distance does as well. And while many of our facilities and programs focus in Hilo for historical reasons, we’ve begun spreading them out to other parts of the island. The yellow dot [on the slide] on the west side is the site of the Palamanui campus for Hawai‘i
Community College that Noreen will talk about a little bit later. Up in the north part of the island in Honoka’a, the North Hawai’i Education and Research Center has been developed, which is a collaborative venture between our two campuses that provides instruction onsite in Honoka’a at all levels of instruction as well as providing facilities for research and outreach activities that have become quite extensive locally. We are now looking at how we can duplicate that in other parts of the state.

One challenge that we have is to increase the transfer of students from Hawai’i Community College to UH Hilo. And to address that we’ve begun putting together teams from both campuses to examine degree pathways in particular subjects to give the students roadmaps that they can use so that if they begin their [academic] careers at Hawai’i Community College they’ll have a plan on how to achieve a bachelor’s degree through UH Hilo.

We have those pathways in place for the Administration of Justice and Business Administration programs. We currently have faculty from both campuses discussing the same pathways to go from Hawai’i CC’s Digital Media Arts program into a Bachelor of Arts program at UH Hilo, and to allow students in the Forest TEAM program at Hawai’i CC to transfer into our agriculture programs. We will start soon some discussions in the [HawCC] Hawaiian Lifestyles and [UH Hilo] Hawaiian Studies programs and Human Services and Psychology and Sociology. Those discussions are being fostered by a Title III grant that both campuses share and Noreen will describe that briefly.

**Chancellor Yamane:**

I took the liberty of placing this brochure at each one of your seats and this describes some of the activities included in the Title III grant. The Title III Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions Cooperative Grant is actually $3.38 million spanned over a five-year period from 2010-2015. It’s a collaboration between I Ola Haloa, which is at Hawai’i CC, and Kīpuka, which is the Native Hawaiian Student Center at UH Hilo. It’s designed to increase student transfers from Hawai’i CC to the University of Hawai’i at Hilo, creating bridging activities so that teaching and learning can occur simultaneously between the two institutions, and also provide professional development activities for both Hawai’i CC faculty and staff along with UH Hilo [faculty and staff].

The top picture there is our kuku'ena, and these are our ladies from both Hawai’i CC and the University Hawai’i Hilo representing a combination of administrators, faculty and staff along with their kumu Dr. Tangaro. And MRC, President Greenwood, is right in the center with her beautiful red kihei. They are under the direction of Dr. Tangaro and I believe their lessons are every Monday and Wednesday night from 5:00 to 7:00. Below the sign Hālaulani [in other photo on slide]—this is the grant that will foster that joint
partnership between the two institutions—that sign just went up on one of our classrooms on the lower campus. This will house both faculty and staff at Hawai‘i Community College and faculty and staff at UH Hilo so that we can address the transfer issue between the two institutions.

Future goals for our two campuses: We are going to do an Integrated Long Range Development Plan for both of our campuses, which includes a proposed new site for Hawai‘i Community College at Komohana. This is an exciting time because our plan will mirror that for UH Hilo. And so have decided, or agreed to, a location at the Komohana Complex and we should be taking our joint plans before you for your approval in the near future.

We also have a campus at Palamanui on the west side of the island. This campus is proposed to relocate our current existing facilities in Kealakekua that we are currently renting and move them down to this new area. We plan to build out the campus in four phases, which will allow us to grow to approximately 1,500 FTE. We are looking forward to that development for us as well as for UH Hilo, who does plan on offering or delivering more programs to the west side of the island.

We are planning to jointly explore the development of some kind of educational resource center in the area of Puna, where much of our student population is. They have a difficult time traveling to Hilo. Transportation is a problem—our island is rather large and the cost of gasoline is high and traffic from Puna into Hilo is very, very crazy, reflects Honolulu that traffic [audience laughter].

In closing, we are committed to creating a future together for the people of Hawai‘i. This is from both campuses, both Chancellor Straney and myself.

Mahalo for your time.

[Applause.]

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