UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I AT HILO

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UH Hilo going VoIP
by Ken Hupp

The University of Hawai‘i at Hilo’s campus telephone network is about to enter a new modern era with its conversion to a VoIP system. VoIP, or Voice Over Internet Protocol, is the technology of transporting voice communications over the Internet instead of traditional phone lines.

While it may not be a household name, Internet telephony services like VoIP are presently available from a wide range of providers, including Skype, Vonage, Magic Jack, Time Warner Cable and Hawaiian Telcom. In fact, VoIP has already been installed throughout much of the UH Manoa campus and the UH community colleges. Becoming part of the UH VoIP network will certainly make inter-campus dialing easier. But UH Hilo Webmaster Sunny Walker says there are other practical consequences involved.

“With the expanding campus, we need to purchase additional telephony infrastructure regardless of the technology used,” Walker explained. “Investing in VoIP will allow us to continue expanding at substantial savings while saving considerably on our existing service.”

The University will incur the upfront installation cost of $500,000. But going forward, Auxiliary Services Director Kolin Kettleson anticipates savings of about $200,000 per year using VoIP versus a traditional telephone system.

Part of those savings will occur through the University’s participation in the System-wide voice service system. All calls between campuses will be processed through the UH network, which will eliminate interisland toll charges. Of course, no new system would be complete without a few of the proverbial bells and whistles that come with modern technology. And VoIP is no exception.

“I think users will appreciate some of the new conveniences, like the ability to forward voice mail messages and fax documents to specific mailboxes,” said Computing Center Director Daryl Masuda. “The VoIP system also allows you to forward incoming calls to as many as three alternate numbers if you are unable to answer from your primary phone.”

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Applied learning activities impact our local community
by Chancellor Don Straney

Applied learning is an integral component of the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo’s strategic plan. The University’s Office of Applied Learning Experiences (ALEX) is dedicated to creating more applied learning opportunities to engage students in real-world situations requiring them to put into action the knowledge and skills they are developing through academic coursework.

Applied learning can take many forms, including community-based projects, service learning, research, internships, and practica. The ALEX program recently awarded the 2013 Applied Learning Experiences Excellence in Teaching Award to five members of the UH Hilo faculty. These five individuals stood out from the rest in how they develop and deliver applied learning experiences to their students.

Norman Arancon, assistant professor of horticulture, incorporates research activity into many of his courses. Some research conducted by students forms the basis for more detailed experiments that are eventually published in international peer-reviewed journals. In addition, students in his sustainable agriculture class do service activities that identify community needs and then make use of the knowledge and skills learned in class; students further their understanding of the course content while enhancing
What also differentiates VoIP from the current system is its streamlined operation. The current system utilizes physical wires to directly connect the phone handset to a port on a telephone switch. A separate data network then connects the computer to network equipment that links the campus and UH System data network. Voice communications with VoIP operate as IP Packets within the data network and eliminate the need for a separate voice network.

“The updated wiring and switches will produce a more reliable system,” Kettleson said. “UH Hilo will also own and operate the VoIP switch, meaning we can make all changes and corrections in-house, which will be more timely.”

The anticipated two-year project is a joint initiative by the Office of Campus Technology, Auxiliary Services and Facilities Planning. The conversion will ultimately change all phone numbers on the central campus to allow for five-digit dialing and begin with installation of the back-end infrastructure. Off-campus locations will not be affected.

Phase I will focus on improving the campus-wide data backbone by upgrading the routers, switches, power back-up and equipment rooms. Phase II is scheduled to begin in Summer 2014 and consist of upgrading outdated data lines, which are thought to total about half the lines on campus. IT staff expect to complete a physical inventory of existing network and phone connections by the end of next month, which will provide a more precise number.

Work will begin on the upper section of the campus, including the new Hale `Olelo Building and portables for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, the Student Life Center, portable buildings 19-22, Business Office building, Mookini Library and the new Student Services Center. Other facilities included in Phase I are the Science and Technology Building, Wentworth Hall and the Computing Center. Those areas will receive VoIP handsets during the initial transition, while all others will use their existing handsets until the infrastructure upgrades are completed.

Once the infrastructure is in place, IT staff will begin visiting individual offices to install the new IP phones, complete with new numbers next to the existing analog and/or digital (key system) instruments. On the cutover day, all the old phone numbers will be converted to the new VoIP phone numbers. Roughly half of the users will receive new IP phones and the other half will use the existing analog phones but will be connected through the VoIP system.

The final phase will be to move the VoIP analog lines off the analog gateway and convert to VoIP digital with an IP desk phone. Once completed, the existing analog or digital phones along with their numbers that are not moved to the VoIP system will become inoperable. For more information about VoIP, visit hilo.hawaii.edu/directory/voip/php.

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

April 21 is Ocean Day!

The 6th annual UH Hilo Ocean Day Hawaiʻi Mālama Kanaloa Festival has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Due to ongoing construction at the Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center, this year’s event will be held at Hilo Bayfront Beach Park.

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

Information booths feature UH Hilo Marine Science and Hawaiʻi IMUA III EPSCoR researchers, Kalākaua Marine Education Center, NOAA’s Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, The Honolulu Zoo, Hilo Marine Mammal Response Network, Pacific Tsunami Museum, Mauna Kea Watershed Alliance, Mālama ka ‘Āina, Department of Land and Natural Resources, and many other organizations and community groups with activities focused on protecting Hawaiʻi’s natural resources.


The event is hosted by UH Hilo’s Pacific Island Programs for Exploring Science in partnership with the County of Hawai‘i, EPSCoR Hawai‘i IMUA III, Hawai‘i Pacific Island Campus Compact, UH Hilo Campus & Community Service Program, UH Hilo Student Activity Council, and the University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant.

For more information, e-mail Ho‘oululahui Perry at hperry@hawaii.edu or call JoAnne Riviera at 933-0706.
their sense of personal value and civic responsibility.

Celia Bardwell-Jones, assistant professor of philosophy, helps her students develop their research and critical thinking skills through their participation in an individual social action project, such as reading to second graders, volunteering in a domestic violence shelter or a Native Hawaiian service event. Research questions might include: Is Native Hawaiian philosophy American philosophy? How does tourism affect the identity of Hilo as a municipality?

Michael Marshall, professor of art, has organized a visiting artist program where students work closely with the artists in producing a series of prints in the printmaking lab. He has initiated a collaboration with a nearby charter school to digitally produce the boxes to house the collaborative print series. He also received a grant to launch the Summer Art Institute this year; professional artists will come to Hilo to work with students in their specialized areas.

Harald Barkhoff, associate professor of kinesiology and exercise sciences, designs his courses with hands-on learning that has a service component. For example, he teaches students how to not only appropriately interact with special needs students, but how to modify physical education programs to meet the needs of students with disabilities. During the semester, his students meet 10 times with students with disabilities from Waiakea High School in the UH Hilo gym and/or Student Life Center pool utilizing an individualized education program that each UH Hilo student has designed to meet the special needs of the student they are working with.

Dawna Coutant, associate professor of psychology, developed a course on the psychology of sustainability where students work with a client on a real-world project related to sustainable living in Hawai‘i. The goal for students is to present a workable solution to a current problem in the local community that needs improvement. Feedback from clients has been very positive, and in several cases the student recommendations have resulted in changes in policies and practices of the client organization.

A critical element of applied learning experiences is the application of classroom theories and principles in a real-world environment. For information about engaging students in applied learning activities, contact Tom DeWitt, director of Applied Learning Experiences, at 987-6551 or email tsdewitt@hawaii.edu.

For more news from the Office of the Chancellor, visit my blog: http://hilo.hawaii.edu/blog/chancellor/.

Aloha,

by Jason Armstrong

Given the choice of staying with his beloved Rainbows or launching a new University of Hawai‘i at Hilo baseball program, a young Joey Estrella chose to return to the Vulcans because of something missing from his new job description.

“It wasn’t discouraging because we felt we had a chance,” he said of that inaugural team.

With the benefit of recruiting time, Estrella fielded a second-year squad that upset Nebraska and then University of New Mexico, a nationally ranked NCAA Division I team. “That kind of put Vulcan baseball on the map,” he said.

Still, other challenges remained for Estrella, whose hometown Hilo differed from Honolulu when it came to playing baseball.

“To coach baseball in the wettest city in the United States, you’re going to have to make adjustments,” he said.

Then there was the challenge of signing local kids drawn by the appeal of mainland schools.

“We were able to attract the best players from Maui and Kaua‘i. That’s how we started the program,” Estrella said.

He has continued to mine baseball talent from the Valley and Garden isles, while remaining in contact with some of his earliest players, several of whom now coach their own teams.

“That’s kind of what makes this job even more reward-
Hats off...


Andre Bachmann, Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, was the lead author on “Activity Enhancement of Synthetic Syractin Proteasome Inhibitor Hybrid and Biological Evaluation in Tumor Cells,” published in Biochemistry. He also co-wrote a paper on “AMXT-1501, a Novel Polyamine Transport Inhibitor, Synergizes with DFMO in Inhibiting Neuroblastoma Cell Proliferation by Targeting both Ornithine Decarboxylase and Polyamine Transport,” published in the *International Journal of Cancer*.

Todd Belt, Associate Professor, Political Science, was invited to participate in the Western Political Science Association Conference Roundtable, “Memo to the President: Governing in an Age of Divisive Politics,” held in March in Los Angeles, CA.

Cheryl Ramos, Associate Professor, Psychology, presented results of her research project on “Physical and Mental Health Quality of Life of Long-Term Cancer Survivors in Rural Communities” at the Society of Behavior Medicine conference held in March in San Francisco, CA.


Jeffrey Smith, Assistant Professor, History, and Chris Frueh, Professor, Psychology, co-authored an op-ed on military psychological casualties that recently appeared in the *New York Times*’ “Opinionator” blog: http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/03/20/minds-at-war/.

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Estrella
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ing,” Estrella said while sitting in an office filled with fresh uniforms and a lifetime of baseball knowledge.

It’s that knowledge that allowed Estrella to reward Vulcan fans with more than 650 victories, 12 consecutive playoff appearances, and a 37-year career unequaled in UH Hilo athletics.

He’s guided the Vulcan program through the NAIA - Estrella’s teams made the NAIA World Series three times in four years - and on a journey that included a lengthy stop as an NCAA Division I program before finding a comfortable home in the NCAA Division II ranks.

“We’re definitely where we’re supposed to be,” he said of the changes aimed at luring teams to Hilo by taking advantage of travel subsidies and scheduling exemptions. “We’re a Division II program.”

Estrella also is in the correct place as he prepares to hand off a successful and well-developed Vulcans baseball program.

“When I went to school here, the campus was like roughly 2,000 students,” he said of the then-two-year school.

In the decades since his arrival, Estrella has watched new dormitories, expanded student services and modern classrooms transform the UH Hilo campus into one that attracts more than double the enrollment of those early years.

Despite his numerous on-field accomplishments, Estrella always has received the most satisfaction from watching his players graduate. He serves as an usher at all UH Hilo graduations, except for last year’s, which he skipped to see his daughter receive a degree from UH Manoa.

It’s always been about the students, which is why Estrella wants his final game on April 13 against Academy of Art University to be Senior Day and a tribute to the departing players. Game time is 1 p.m. at Wong Stadium.

But Estrella won’t be departing completely from UH Hilo baseball, offering to throw an occasional batting practice and remain a Vulcan supporter.

“You can’t be affiliated with a program for 37 years and not be associated with it,” he said.

Just leave out the home economics.

(Editor’s note: Jason Armstrong is a UH Hilo graduate and freelance writer with Vulcan Athletics.)

UH Hilo hosts inaugural applied learning summit

by Ken Happ

UH Hilo’s Office of Applied Learning Experiences (ALEX) hosts its first Applied Learning Summit Friday and Saturday, April 12 and 13, on the University campus. The event is open to educators and representatives of organizations wishing to collaborate with the University, and registration is required. The registration deadline is Friday, April 5.

The Applied Learning Summit brings together educators and members of the community to explore and collaborate in developing real-world learning experiences for students in areas such as internships, service learning, community based projects, practica, creative activities and research.

The event features plenary and breakout sessions, panel discussions and a reception, with presenters from the mainland and O‘ahu, award-winning instructors from UH Hilo and project partners from the community and University. All activities are designed to provide hands-on opportunities for participants to design and implement applied learning experiences in their organization or classroom.

Friday’s opening activities begin at 11:30 a.m. and focuses on how community members can partner with educators in service learning, community based projects and internships. The plenary session features Rachel Vaughn, director of the University of Washington Carlson Leadership and Public Service Center. Her organization helped nearly 3,000 students deliver over 54,000 hours of community service in partnership with 450 organizations in a single year. Her session, entitled “Creating Effective Course-Community Partnerships for Service Learning,” examines best practice models for integrating service-learning into the classroom in collaboration with community organizations.

Subsequent breakout session topics include “How To Create Effective Internships, Integrating Research and Service, Community Member / Faculty Project Partnerships,” “Helping Students to Learn By Giving Of Themselves,” “Strengthening Community Connections Through Place-Based Learning,” and “The Key to Student Motivation and Success.”

The day’s program concludes with a mentoring and networking reception designed to bring together students with prospective mentors from the students’ fields of interest. A set of sessions throughout the day have been designed to address the specific needs and interests of community organizations, with the option to attend just Friday’s program.

Saturday’s program begins at 8 a.m. with a plenary session hosted by Dr. Larry Michaelson, founder of Team Based Learning (TBL), an instructional method now being used in over 200 academic disciplines and over a thousand schools in the US and in 35 foreign countries, and the Integrated Business Experience (IBE). Michaelson’s session, “Designing Group Work That Really Works,” engages participants in a series of activities that occur in group assignments and provides four keys to designing effective group assignments.


To register for more information, visit hilo.hawaii.edu/alex/summit or contact event planner Shannon Sampaga at 933-9986 or email sampagas@hawaii.edu.

Anyone requiring auxiliary aids or special accommodations should contact Tom DeWitt at 987-6551 or tsdewitt@hawaii.edu at least seven days prior to the event.
Obake Stories and Ancient Hawaiian Myths Apr 13

The UH Hilo Performing Arts Center’s final event of the season will be held on Saturday, April 13 with Obake Stories and Ancient Hawaiian Myths, told by Alton Chung and Jackie Pualani Johnson at 7:30 p.m. in the PAC.

Chung grew up with the stories, superstitions, and magic of the Hawaiian Islands. “This combined with his Japanese and Korean roots gives him a unique perspective to tell cultural tales and personal stories with a deep sense of reverence and authenticity,” noted PAC Manager Lee Dombroski. “Alton breathes life into traditional Asian folktales with sensitivity and deep connection, and enjoys telling true stories of the Japanese-Americans during WWII. But his true passion is telling ghost stories.”

Storyteller Johnson weaves the epic tale of Pele and Hi‘iaka into a stirring journey of moving images and lilting voices to recreate drama of devotion, revenge and love.

“The words and powerful visuals are taken from Volcano artist Dietrich Varez in his retelling of the ancient story of Pele and Hi‘iaka ‘A Tale of Two Sisters,’ released by Hilo’s Petroglyph Press and graced with block prints befitting the striking confrontations between the passionate siblings,” Dombroski said.

Tickets are reserved seating and are $15 General, $10 Discount, $7 UH Student and Children 17 and under and are currently available at the PAC Box Office.

Parental discretion advised as some material may be too intense for children under age 11.
Campus Events

April

5  Graduate thesis/dissertation to committee deadline

13  *Obake Stories and Ancient Hawaiian Myths*, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission

15  “I” removal and change of grade deadline: Instructor to Ofc of Registrar

15  Last day to submit Credit-by-Exam results to Ofc of Registrar

19  Graduate thesis/dissertation defense deadline

26  Graduate Form 3: Thesis/dissertation to Library and Ofc of Registrar deadline

27  *Great Leaps Dance Concert*, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission