As we finish up the fall semester and prepare for winter break, I want to extend my deepest appreciation for all your hard work during a busy and challenging year. Thank you for your dedication to our students, to our university community, and to our Big Island community.

I want to especially thank all of you for working together on the budget challenges. In the face of an uncertain economy, the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo enrolled the largest number of students in history this fall. This demand for our programs tells us that access to higher education is more valued than ever before. UH Hilo faculty, staff, and students have worked very well together as a 'ohana and as a result, despite great challenges, we have protected the instructional core of the campus and direct services to our students. I fully understand that this came at great sacrifice to many of you. I’ve learned a lot from you about the Hawaiian value of lokahi and about working together collaboratively in the spirit of unity.

While the nation faces difficult times, we are all so lucky to live and work in such a beautiful and vibrant place. I am proud of what our students are accomplishing. I’m in awe of the high caliber of teaching, research, and outreach done by our faculty; our students and our surrounding community all benefit from the excellent work done by our faculty. Our staff is second to none for professionalism in support of
of “Commissioned Work to be Built.” Both projects reflect his philosophical approach, which strives to create uniquely special places and environments rooted in the Hawaiian way of life and sustainability.

Other current work includes the International Marketplace, the Princess Kaiulani Hotel Redevelopment, and master planning efforts for the Turtle Bay Resort, Makena and Hanalei Plantations. His notable completed projects include the Westin Ka’anapali Ocean, Honua Kai and Royal Lahaina Resorts; Ritz Carlton Kapalua Bay Club & Residence and Royal Hawaiian Hotel historic renovation.

In addition to Hawai‘i, Iopa has led and participated in the development of projects throughout Asia, South America and the South Pacific. His work has earned him numerous awards and recognition, including being named one of Hawai‘i’s brightest young leaders (40 under 40) by Pacific Business News, one of the State’s most Influential Leaders for the Next Twenty-Five Years (25 for the next 25) by Hawai‘i Business Magazine and the 2008 SBA Business Person of the Year for the City and County of Honolulu.

Clinton K.V. Tavai, affectionately known as “Kahōkū,” represents the graduating class as student speaker. Tavai has maintained a 3.28 GPA majoring in Hawaiian Studies and Communication.

Tavai’s campus and community service activities reflect his values rooted in the Hawaiian culture and language, which he credits with helping him grow extensively as a humble individual. He participated in the restoration of the Hale O Lono fishpond in Keaukaha, along with the UH Hilo Hawaiian Club/Kipuka Mala and Waipi’o clean-ups, and assisted the Kamehameha Schools Teacher Induction Program and Kele Kanahele: Master Ni’ihau shell maker.

His commencement speech, to be delivered in both Hawaiian and English, will entail a brief history of the Hawaiian language and cultural struggles from which he will draw a parallel to his own personal trials and college as a whole.

For more information on Commencement, contact Mary Ann Tsuchiyama at 974-7555 or email commencement@hawaii.edu. For special accommodations, contact Susan Shirachi at 933-0816 (V) or 933-3334 (TTY). Requests should be made at least 10 business days prior to the event.

(Editor’s note: Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)
Campus construction helping
fuel island economy

By Ken Hupp

As Hawai‘i navigates the current economic climate, UH Hilo is becoming a reliable source of stability through initiatives that are providing the construction industry with a timely shot in the arm. A review of various capital improvement projects that have either begun or will get underway by the end of the 2011-2012 academic year is proving once again that the University packs a powerful economic punch.

“Current construction activity at UH Hilo has us working on all cylinders, involving both our Office of Facilities Planning and the System Office of Capital Improvements,” said Dr. Marcia Sakai, interim vice chancellor for administrative affairs.

“The approximately $64.3 million in ongoing construction will also contribute an estimated $140 million to the state and local economies.”

Front and center are two projects located in the heart of the main campus. The new Student Services Building located between the existing facility and the Performing Arts Center will provide an addition to the current building to consolidate Student Services functions and house the Vice Chancellor’s office along with other related administrative functions.

The project also includes creation of a recently completed new parking lot at the corner of Kapio‘iani and Kawai Streets complete with new rock walls, UH Hilo brass logo, brass signage and new landscape, which will offset parking spaces taken out of circulation during the construction period.

Utility work is now underway following the successful relocation of two large monkey pod trees south of the existing Student Services Building to the new parking area. Meanwhile, site preparation work is focusing on mass excavation, the addition of structural fill, concrete form work, rebar installation and pouring of concrete. The revised completion date is now December 2012.

Meanwhile, work on a one-story addition to the Campus Center for a new book store is expected to wrap up by August 2012. Underground utilities have been installed and the concrete shell has been completed, which clears the way for roof installation. Interior work will commence once the roof is in place. When finished, the store will provide an outlet for the purchase of textbooks, materials, school supplies, various merchandise, and concessions, and feature computers with free internet access, big screen television and a gathering place for friends and study groups.

Wentworth Hall is undergoing a complete makeover as many former tenants have moved in to the new Science and Technology Building. Spaces formerly used for Astronomy, Physics and Chemistry are being renovated for use as teaching and research labs for Biology, Marine Science, the TCBES program and Core Genetics while the lecture hall and existing offices will return to their former use after improvements are completed by summer 2012. Improvements include new lab and safety stations, enhanced electrical, lighting and climate controls, new ceilings and exterior soffits.

Elsewhere, a flurry of activity is underway on a three-acre parcel on Nowelo Street in the University Park, which will become the permanent home for the programs and operations of Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘e‘ikōolani College of Hawaiian Language. The two-story structure spanning 37,000 square feet will feature classrooms, a performing arts auditorium, and various special use rooms and offices. The current estimated completion date is January 2013.

Off campus, work is nearing completion on Phase 2B-1 at the North Hawai‘i Education and Research Center (NHERC) in Honoka’a. The project includes the addition of a covered pavilion with restrooms along with lofted space for a future kitchen. Construction is expected to be finished by next spring.

This month, work is slated to begin on Phase II of the re-surfacing and re-stripping of various parking areas on and off campus. Between now and August, work will concentrate on parking areas at the Old Gym, Business Education and Music portables along with the Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center in Keaukaha.

Finally, two housing improvement projects are expected to begin by the time the academic calendar concludes in May. The renovation and upgrade of the Hale Kanilehua residence hall will pave the way for UH Hilo’s first living, learning community by adding a small classroom, living quarters for a scholar-in-residence, a fully functioning community kitchen and more student bed space. That work is expected to close Hale Kanilehua for the 2012-2013 school year.

The electrical upgrades, door and window replacement, restroom and roof repairs at Hale Kanilehua will also be undertaken at Hale Kauanoe and Hale Ikena. The latter two will be conducted in two phases, with Hale Ikena’s door and window replacements taking place next summer while the electrical upgrade at Hale Kauanoe will get underway a year later.

For now, the project pipeline is poised to remain active with several either set to begin at a later date, or in various stages ranging from solicitation of bids to pre-final design. They include the $32 million University Village Phase I, which will create the first student housing units since 1989.
Hats off to...

Chris Frueh, Professor, Psychology, co-authored “Associations between binge and heavy drinking and health behaviors in a nationally representative sample.” *Addictive Behaviors* 2011; 36:1240-1245, and gave an invited talk on “Behavioral healthcare for combat-related PTSD: epidemiology and treatment” at Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute, Roanoke, VA.

Jan Ray, Assistant Professor, Education, presented two research papers she co-authored at the World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education in October. “Teachers’ Attitudes, Behaviors, and Opinions Related to Social Media Use” and “Using the SKATE Method to Align Written Curriculum and Supporting curriculum in Preservice Teacher Education” will also be published as refereed proceedings of the conference.

Michael Marshall, Professor, Art, was one of three visual artists featured in the October publication of *Black Renaissance/Renaissance Noire*, Vol 12, Issue 2-3 Summer/Fall, was awarded a $2000 UH SEED Diversity and Equity grant to support the UH Hilo Poetry and Blues Project taking place in February 2012, and served as a Visual Arts Consultant with the Hawai‘i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts for the Annual Fall Juried All-media Exhibition at the East Hawai‘i Cultural Center in Hilo last month.


Andre Bachmann, Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, co-wrote “Syntheses and cytotoxicity of syringolin B-based proteasome inhibitors,” published in *Tetrahedron*, and “Syringolin B-inspired proteasome inhibitor analogue TIR-203 exhibits enhanced biological activity in multiple myeloma and neuroblastoma,” published in *Pharmaceutical Biology*.

Roy Goo, Assistant Professor, Pharmacy Practice, was presented the Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award at the annual Hawai‘i Pharmacists Association meeting in October. Goo works out of Pali Momi Medical Center on O‘ahu specializing in acute care and infectious diseases.

Carolyn Ma, Associate Professor, Pharmacy Practice, received the Bowl of Hygeia award from the Hawai‘i Pharmacists Association at their annual meeting in October. The award is presented annually and recognizes pharmacists who posses outstanding records of civic leadership in their communities.


Dianqing Sun, Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, co-authored “Design, synthesis, and biological evaluation of callophycin A and analogues as potential chemopreventive and anticancer agents” and “The Structure Activity Relationship of Urea Derivatives as Anti-Tuberculosis Agents,” both published in *Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry*.  

Photo by Fred Sweets
UH Hilo receives award to promote Asian American & Pacific Islander education

The U.S. Department of Education has selected UH Hilo as one of 11 colleges and universities to receive part of a grant through the Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPIS) Program for fiscal year 2011-2012.

UH Hilo’s award is $399,977 for the first year and is part of a five-year grant which runs through 2016 totaling $1,994,025. The University will use the funds to develop and implement a comprehensive, culturally informed student support program to strengthen learning, engagement and success.

The key components include a summer bridge program, academic support services such as advising, tutoring, peer mentoring and financial aid counseling, activities that have been shown to have a high impact on student engagement such as on-campus employment, first-year experience courses, and service-learning and research projects, and faculty development workshops. The project will also conduct and disseminate research into best practices that facilitates the success of Pacific Islanders in higher education.

“Most of the research on Asians and Pacific Islanders aggregates these diverse populations into one monolithic group,” said Jim Mellon, director of international student services and intercultural education at UH Hilo and the project’s principal investigator. “One of the aims of this project is to disaggregate data on these diverse groups, dispel myths about Asian and Pacific Islanders in American higher education, and find out what unique factors contribute to and facilitate their success.”

Mellon added that the project will enable UH Hilo to develop and assess innovative approaches that are informed by cultural values such as the importance of group achievement and to be at the forefront nationally in this area.

Established in 2007, the AANAPIS program seeks to increase the capacity of higher education institutions to better serve disadvantaged college students. With about one of every three students being Asian American or Pacific Islander, UH Hilo was one of the first institutions nationwide to receive an AANAPIS grant when it initiated a similar project in 2008.

“UH Hilo has a proven record as an institution of choice for Islander students,” noted Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Luoluo Hong. “We want to do all we can to support their success and improve their learning outcomes. Building the new Islander Student Center was the first step; now we need to ensure we provide needed programs and services.”

Additional information on the AANAPIS Program is available online at http://www2.ed.gov/programs/aanapi/index.html.
Public shows interest in rat lungworm disease at College of Pharmacy forum

by Maggie Morris

Even the name of the disease conjures up old Twilight Zone episodes and horror films: rat lungworm disease. The rare parasitic infection has been reported to have devastating effects when transferred to humans, and can lead to coma, paralysis and death.

But there is some comfort in the fact that there are experts on the disease in Hawai‘i gaining knowledge about the potentially life-altering condition.

Dr. Susan Jarvi, associate professor in the College of Pharmacy and director of the Pre-Pharmacy Program, organized and served as moderator for a panel of scientists, health professionals and community educators who spoke to a capacity crowd of largely community members Nov. 9 on the UH Hilo campus.

“This disease isn’t specific to Hawai‘i,” Jarvi told the audience of 100 concerned citizens, some victims of the disease. “Rat lungworm disease has been reported in more than 30 countries, including Thailand and China.”

Jarvi, who was an invited participant in the International Rat Lungworm Workshop on O‘ahu in August, is coordinating efforts to consolidate available educational and research information toward establishing a Center for Rat Lungworm Studies on the Big Island.

“This potentially debilitating disease can be prevented but it takes a great deal of diligence and educating the public, as well as our health professionals, to recognize the threats,” Jarvi said. “I’m hoping to increase our bank of knowledge through applying for grants and conducting more research, but the bottom line is that people need to know what it is and what they can do to avoid becoming infected.”

The disease-causing organism (Angiostrongylus cantonensis) reproduces in rats and is transferred to slugs and snails.

“Eating raw snails and slugs, intentionally or unintentionally, infects people, and the slugs and snails can easily be overlooked in salads or other uncooked produce, especially as the juveniles may be very small,” said Dr. Rob Cowie from the Pacific Biosciences Research Center at UH Manoa. “Washing food carefully is the key.”

After ingestion, the worm larvae move from the intestines into the circulatory system, and then into the nervous system. They eventually travel to the brain, said Dr. Jon Martell, associate professor of medicine at the UH John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Diagnosis is made indirectly by piecing together a patient’s history and exam, but the first CAT scan and MRI is usually normal, he said. Only a few labs currently conduct blood tests, and getting the results takes too long to do any immediate good.

Symptoms include headaches, nerve pain, sensory disturbance, urinary problems, ascending paralysis, weakness, coma, and in some cases, he said, death.

“This disease is a self-limited illness because the worms eventually die,” Martell added. “But a lot of damage can be done as the worms travel through the central nervous system.”

Kay Howe knows first-hand the destruction left behind. Her son contracted the disease in December 2008. It took three visits to the emergency room before doctors admits him and diagnosed him with rat lungworm disease. He spent two and a half months in a coma and the last three years working with his Mom, an educator who worked with doctors to combine their Western medical approach with alternative therapies and supplements, to achieve almost full recovery.

“I’ve spent the last three years trying to make sure other people don’t have to go through what we went through,” she said.

Other panelists included Marlena Dixon, Hawai‘i Department of Health; Dr. Rob Hollingsworth, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Pacific Basin Area Research Center; and Jim Hollyer, UH Manoa Director of Agricultural Development in the American Pacific Program, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

The forum was a public service by the UH Hilo College of Pharmacy and sponsored by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture of the US Department of Agriculture, UH Manoa, and Big Island Global HOPE.

(Editor’s note: Maggie Morris is a public information officer, College of Pharmacy.)

December Focus on UH Hilo features sustainable agriculture

Focus on UH Hilo wraps up its fall semester of telecasts with a discussion on sustainable farming practices. The show airs on Friday evening from 8:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Channel 55.

Dr. Norman Arancon, assistant professor of horticulture, appears on the December 2 program and will discuss his research on vermiculture, composting, soil ecology and organic agriculture.

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 974-7501 or 974-7643.
A Holiday Card to Hilo… Come Celebrate with Us is Dec 11

Tickets are currently on sale for the UH Hilo Symphony Orchestra’s A Holiday Card to Hilo…Come Celebrate with Us, a concert of seasonal music at the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center on Sunday, December 11 at 2 p.m. Under the baton of conductor Dr. Matthew Howell, the concert features the UH Hilo Symphony Orchestra and Chorus along with the UH Hilo Kapili Choir and the Hawai’i Youth Invitational Chorus.

The concert repertoire includes classical music and Viennese favorites by Prokofiev, Strauss, and Lehar. UH Hilo voice lecturer, Amy Horst, will be the featured soprano on Viella’s song from the Merry Widow and Julianne Cross will be the soloist for O, Holy Night. Together they will perform a duet from Die Fledermaus. Hanukkah, Christmas, and Hawaiian music will also be presented along with holiday favorites arranged by Rodney Wong and Tony Adams, professional musicians from Hawai’i Island. A special piece written by John Rudder from the film Home Alone will be enjoyed by audience members young and old.

Tickets are priced at $15 General, $10 Discount, and $7 UH Students and children 12 and under, and patrons are urged to get tickets early for this popular annual event. Box Office hours are 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tuesday-Friday.

For disability accommodation, contact Heidi at 933-3209 (v) or 933-3334 (TTY) at least 10 working days prior to the event.

Green Days at UH Hilo

The following days will be observed as Green Days at UH Hilo with power reductions in campus buildings as UH Hilo continues with its efforts to conserve energy:

Winter Break: Saturday, December 17, 2011 through Monday, January 2, 2012

Spring Break: Saturday, March 24, 2012 to Sunday, April 1, 2012

With classes not in session during the above referenced periods, UH Hilo will work to reduce power consumption in most buildings as part of our contribution to the Green Days Program.

The negotiated collective bargaining supplemental agreement for employees in HGEA Bargaining Units 2, 3, 4 and 8 and the excluded counterparts at the University aligns with this initiative, as the agreements regarding supplemental time off further reduce the number of people working on campus during these designated non-peak use periods. This makes the Green Days implementation prudent. Copies of the supplemental agreements may be viewed at [http://www.hawaii.edu/ohr/download/collbarg/BU8,%20SUP,%20Temporary%20Salary%20Reduction%20and%20STO.PDF](http://www.hawaii.edu/ohr/download/collbarg/BU8,%20SUP,%20Temporary%20Salary%20Reduction%20and%20STO.PDF).

For details of the UH Hilo Green Days program, see [http://hilo.hawaii.edu/green_days/](http://hilo.hawaii.edu/green_days/) or contact Vice Chancellor Marcia Sakai (marcias@hawaii.edu, 974-7750). If anyone has specific questions or concerns regarding other aspects of the program, calls should be directed to the following offices:

Health and Safety and Campus Security:

Ken Ikeda, keni@hawaii.edu, 933-3300

Electrical Management:

Kolin Kettleson, kolin@hawaii.edu, 974-7369

Human Resources:

Kerwin Iwamoto, kerwini@hawaii.edu, 974-7449

Ken Hupp from the Office of Media Relations was among the UH Hilo faculty, staff, administration and student body who donated blood during the Blood Bank of Hawai‘i’s annual campus visit in November. The event is coordinated by Baseball Coach Joey Estrella and Associate Director of Campus Recreation Tommy Hamilton with their team of volunteers including the offices of Administrative Affairs, Security, Auxiliary Services and Campus Center staff. This year, donors from UH Hilo and the community teamed up to contribute 110 pints of blood, compared to 89 a year ago. The participants included 32 first-time donors.
### Chancellor’s Mahalo Celebration features dessert contest and children’s activities

The annual Chancellor’s Mahalo Celebration on Thursday, December 15 from 3-4:30 pm on the Campus Center Plaza features locally grown and produced foods prepared by Sodexo. Faculty and staff will also have an opportunity to demonstrate their talents through a Holiday Dessert Contest and vie for a prize in the following categories: Sodexo Baker’s Tastiest Choice: $50 Sodexo meal card; Chancellor’s Most Original Choice: $50 gift certificate; and Student’s Presentation Choice: $50 gift certificate from SAC.

There will also be hands-on activities for children to make and take home with them.

Happy Holidays!

---

### Campus Events

#### December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Last day to apply for spring 2012 classified admission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Graduate Form 3: Thesis/Dissertation to Library &amp; Office of the Registrar deadline</td>
<td>Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Last day of instruction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Mahalo Celebration, 3-4:30 p.m., CC Plaza</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Last day to submit a change of major to Office of the Registrar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Fall 2011 Commencement, 9 a.m., UH Hilo New Gym</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Final grades due in MyUH by noon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-16</td>
<td>Final examinations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>