Yahoo! co-founder to keynote UH Hilo commencement May 16

by Ken Hupp

UH Hilo will feature one of the biggest names of the Internet era when Yahoo! Inc. co-founder and part-time Hawai’i resident Jerry Yang delivers the keynote address at spring commencement, scheduled for Saturday, May 16, at 9:00 a.m. at Edith Kanaka’ole Stadium.

A total of 487 students representing the Colleges of Arts and Sciences (404), College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management (20), College of Business and Economics (43), and Ka Haka ‘Ula O’Ke’elikolani College of Hawaiian Language (20) are candidates for various degrees or certificates.

The 40-year-old Yang was born in Taipei, Taiwan and moved to San Jose, California at the age of eight with his mother and brother. Yang earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in electrical engineering from Stanford University where he was a member of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. He has maintained ties to his alma mater, and is presently on leave from the University’s electrical engineering Ph.D. program.

Yang emerged as one of the stars of the dot-com explosion while still in college, when he teamed with David Filo to create an Internet website consisting of a directory of other websites in 1994. “Jerry’s Guide to the World Wide Web,” was later renamed Yahoo!, leading to Yang and Filo co-founding Yahoo! Inc. the following year.

What began as a Web portal with an extensive directory of products and services for online activities has since grown to become a leading global Internet brand and one of the most heavily trafficked networks. The company provides services in more than 30 languages and in more than 30 countries, regions and territories, including localized versions of Yahoo!

UH Hilo is meeting WASC expectations

by Dr. April K. Scazzola

UH Hilo faculty and administrators have been hard at work since August bringing UH Hilo into full compliance with the expectations of our accrediting commission in two areas where we’d been found lacking: effective shared governance and a stronger Ph.D. program in Hawaiian and indigenous language and cultural revitalization.

Following a special visit to our campus a year ago by a team of academic leaders from several California universities, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges informed us in June 2008 that we needed to establish a “systematic method for codification of University policies,” to give the faculty Congress oversight of curricular review and approval, and to clearly define and distinguish the roles and powers of faculty governance and university and college administration. The Commission also required us to develop policies and structures to ensure the quality and integrity of our new doctoral program in Ka Haka ‘Ula O’Ke’elikolani College of Hawaiian Language.

All of these changes, the Commission stated, must be in place and functioning by the time of the next special visit, October 14-16, 2009. During that visit, we will also report on progress in our new GE program and in student learning assessment.

Following a “listening tour” among constituent groups conducted by VCs Phil Castille and Luoluo Hong, in September 2008, Chancellor Rose Tseng appointed a task force comprised of representatives from the degree-granting colleges, the Congress, and the Graduate Council. She charged the task force with addressing these governance and pro-
Commencement
Continued from page 1

As a key member of the executive management team, Yang’s focus at Yahoo! throughout the years has included corporate strategy, technology vision, strategic business partnerships and international joint ventures and talent recruitment.

Yang is also a member of the company’s board of directors, in addition to sitting on the boards of Yahoo! Japan, Cisco Systems, Alibaba, the Asian Pacific Fund and Stanford University Board of Trustees.

In addition to his high tech achievements, Yang has earned a reputation as a philanthropist through his generous support for higher education. In 2007, Yang and his wife, Akiko Yamazaki, donated $75 million to Stanford University, with $50 million designated to support environmental research. His previous gifts to Stanford have funded scholarships, undergraduate education, and other campus programs at the School of Engineering, the Asia Pacific Research Center, the Stanford Japan Center, and the Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve.

Yang will be honored during the UH Hilo Commencement with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree to recognize his achievements as a global visionary and for his charitable contributions.

Patricia Michaels-Hausman-Walters, who will earn bachelor of arts degrees in psychology and anthropology, along with a certificate in women’s studies, will serve as student speaker. A non-traditional student, Walters’ success at UH Hilo is the latest chapter in an inspiring story of triumph over adversity.

Walters enrolled at UH Hilo in 2003, 12 years after suffering a traumatic brain injury when she slid head first into the galley service door handle of a DC-9 while working as a TWA flight attendant. The accident initially left her in a vegetative state with numerous physical and cognitive injuries, unable to write or speak.

After months of rehabilitation, Walters regained the ability to speak and write. Years later, she still faces long-term learning disabilities such as long- and short-term memory loss, and the loss of math and organizational skills, but manages to overcome those challenges through hard work and determination made possible by an unshakable spiritual strength.

She completed her first semester at UH Hilo with a 3.5 GPA, and despite the challenges she must continually overcome, is on track to graduate with a GPA of 3.0. She spent three years with Professor Stephanie Dodge researching domestic violence issues in addition to volunteering at the UH Hilo Women’s Center since 2003, and performed in the 2009 Vagina Monologues.

Active in campus affairs, Walters served two years as president of the UH Hilo Chapter of Psi-Chi National Honor Society for Psychology. She held various offices with the Psychology Club over a three-year period, including president, vice president and secretary. Walters also served as president of Freedom Equality Movement to promote equality for all and is a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success.

Her commencement address will challenge the graduating class to use the power of their education to change the world.

Walters plans to return to the classroom this fall to pursue a masters degree in counseling psychology or a Ph.D. in clinical psychology. She hopes to eventually open a wellness center to help women who have suffered similar traumatic events by providing training and teaching new skills they can use to help them rebuild and enrich their lives.

For more information on Commencement, contact Judith Fox-Goldstein at x47555 or email commence@hawaii.edu. For special accommodations, contact Susan Shirachi at x30816 (V) or x33334 (TTY). Requests should be made at least 10 business days prior to the event.

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

WASC
Continued from page 1

gram-integrity issues. Meeting regularly and collegially, the task force has produced a comprehensive curricular review process and a comprehensive academic policy process that have been circulated to the University community for input, both online and at two University forums. These policies are posted on the accreditation Web page at http://www.uhh.hawaii.edu/uhh/accreditation.

By the time this article appears, the new processes will have been submitted to the Chancellor for her review and approval. Implementation details, such as timelines, tracking procedures, and notification and posting processes, will be worked out by the administration and faculty leadership over the summer. College governance entities will be revising their charters and bylaws in accordance with the new processes.

Meanwhile, doctoral program faculty in Ka Haka ‘Ula Okelikolani College of Hawaiian Language have been addressing each of the commission’s concerns, consulting with Drs. Akira and Fumiko Yamamoto of the Linguistics Department at the University of Kansas, Dr. Peter Garrod, dean of the Graduate Division at UH Manoa, and Dr. Linda Johnsrud, UH System vice president for planning and policy. Three faculty of the college have attended assessment workshops sponsored by the commission to develop an assessment plan for the doctoral and other degree programs. The Graduate Council also has worked closely with Ka Haka ‘Ula and contributed actively to this process.

In short, it’s clear that by mid-May 2009 the collaborative efforts of UH Hilo faculty and administrators will align the institution with Commission standards and prepare us to welcome the site visit team in October.

(Editor’s note: Dr. April K. Seazzola is accreditation liaison officer.)
“Advocacy: Unheard Voices in Healthcare” set for May 21-22

The UH Hilo Baccalaureate Nursing Program is hosting the 2009 Pulama I Ke Ola Healthcare Conference May 21-22 on campus. The theme of this year’s event is “Advocacy: Unheard Voices in Healthcare,” with the focus on current healthcare challenges facing our island communities.

The keynote speaker is Mark Clanton, MD, MPH, chief staff medical officer at the American Cancer Society High Plains Division and the Hawaiʻi Pacific Corporation. During his 2½-year tenure at the National Cancer Institute, Clanton led the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities and the Office of Science Planning and Assessment. He will cover issues of healthcare and advocacy and possible solutions to the deepening crises in healthcare.

The conference format offers distinct pathways for healthcare professionals and youth considering a career in the healthcare industry. High school students have a unique opportunity to gain experience by exposure to current healthcare issues and opportunities to interact with healthcare professionals. There will be speakers from a number of disciplines, including medicine, nursing, social work, pharmacy and psychology.

Call x31661 or email lauramr@hawaii.edu for registration information, or log on to: www.uhh.hawaii.edu/depts/nursing/pulama. For additional conference information, email Dr. Cecilia Mukai at cmukai@hawaii.edu.

New Sciences and Technology Building taking shape

The new Sciences and Technology Building at the former site of the Beaumont Experimental Station on Lanikaula Street is making great progress. Contractor Isemoto Contracting Company, Ltd. has completed the site excavation and back fill up to the sub-grade and is presently installing onsite utilities, including gas, water, fire line, drainage, sewer, electrical and data from the UH infrastructure utility grid.

The four-story building will house the main lecture hall, data, electrical and mechanical rooms, classrooms and faculty offices on the ground floor. Physics and Astronomy labs and faculty offices will occupy the second floor, with Chemistry labs and faculty offices residing on the third floor. The partial fourth floor will house a mechanical room.

Construction began in March 2009 and is expected to take 21 months, followed by the addition of furniture and equipment. The building is expected to be open in time for the 2011 fall semester.
Hats off to...

Kathleen Commendador, Assistant Professor, Nursing, presented her paper, “The Relationship Between Female Adolescent Self-esteem, Decision-making, and Contraceptive Behavior,” at the Asian American Pacific Islander Nurses’ Association Conference, held in March on O’ahu.

Jeanie Flood, Assistant Professor, Nursing, presented her co-authored paper, “Healthcare and Social Service Provider Descriptions of Pacific Islander Mother’s Breastfeeding Patterns,” at the Asian American Pacific Islander Nurses’ Association Conference, held in March on O’ahu, which was also accepted for publication in the Journal of Midwifery and Women’s Health. Her co-authored paper on “Developing a Tool to Evaluate Rigor in Qualitative Breastfeeding Literature” has been accepted for presentation in June at the Hong Kong Nursing Forum in Hong Kong.

Harald Barkhoff, Associate Professor, Kinesiology and Exercise Sciences, and Taupouri Tangaro, HawCC, had their manuscript, “Teaching Sport Psychology in Hawai’i,” accepted for publication in Teaching Psychology Around the World, Vol. 2.

John Hamilton, Instructor, Physics and Astronomy, received a travel award to attend the annual 2009 Physics Teacher Educator Coalition conference in Pittsburgh, PA in March. He also presented “Creating a Better Learning Environment for Physics Majors,” representing co-authors Robert Fox and Christian Andersen.

Bryan Kim, Professor, Psychology, wrote the chapter “Acculturation and Enculturation of Asian Americans: A Primer,” which was published in Asian American Psychology: Current Perspectives. The book is published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc.

Wayne Miyamoto, Professor, Art, presented a series of lectures on works on paper as a visiting artist at the Manhattan Graphics Center in New York City, the Print Council of New Jersey in Branchburg, NJ, and at Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ in March. He also participated in “Print Types,” a national exhibition at Park University, Parkville, MO.

Robert Fox, Professor, Physics and Astronomy, co-authored “Lunar Surface Equipment Testing and Demonstrations at the PISCES Lunar Analog Facilities,” which was accepted for presentation at the International Symposium on Space Technology and Science in Tsukuba, Japan in July. Co-authors are Dan Bland, Robert Carlson, John Hamilton, and Frank Schowengerdt.

Helen Wong Smith, Librarian, has been invited to speak at the national conference of the Medical Library Association this month in Waikiki. The Federal Libraries Section of MLA’s theme is “Fusing Cultures and Diversity Awareness in Library Collections.”

Jing Yin, Assistant Professor, Communication, published an article on “Negotiating the Center: Toward an Asiacentric Feminist Communication Theory” in the Journal of Multicultural Discourses (Vol. 4, No. 1, pp. 75-88).
Todd Belt, Associate Professor, Political Science, had his co-authored book, *We Interrupt this NewsCast: How to Improve Local News and Win Ratings, Too*, translated into Russian for use in journalism schools in Russia through an agreement between Cambridge University Press and Internews Network.

Kerry Inglis, Assistant Professor, History, has been selected to participate in the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar for College and University Professors, “Disease in the Middle Ages,” to be held in London this summer.

Chris Frueh, Professor, Psychology, is the co-author of “Exposure-based cognitive behavioral treatment of PTSD in adults with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder: A pilot study,” which appeared in *Journal of Anxiety Disorders* 2009; 23:665-675.

Larry Rogers, Professor, Japanese, had his translation of the Kinoshita Junji play, “A Japanese Called Otto,” accepted for publication by MerwinaAsia as part of *Patriots and Traitors: Sorge and Ozaki – A Japanese Cultural Casebook*, a collection of writings on the Sorge spy ring operating in Tokyo just before the outbreak of WWII. Additionally, one of his earlier short story translations, “The Prostitute,” by Hayama Yoshiki, will be reprinted in an anthology of Japanese proletarian literature to be published later this year by the University of Chicago Press.

William Concepcion, Counselor, Counseling Center, is the first author of the paper, “Debunking the Model Minority Myth: Examining the Impact of Racism and Prejudice Against Asian Americans,” which was accepted for presentation at the Hawai‘i International Conference on Social Sciences, to be held next month on O‘ahu.

Phil Castille, Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, presented a paper, “‘Breathless into the Water’: William Cowper’s Repudiation of Captain Cook,” last month at the annual meeting of the American Culture Association, held in New Orleans, LA.

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**Legislative/capital projects to close out spring Focus on UH Hilo**

Focus on UH Hilo wraps up its spring schedule of programs with a discussion of legislative initiatives and capital improvements. The show is hosted by Chancellor Rose Tseng and airs live Wednesday evening during the instructional year from 8:00 –8:30 p.m. on Channel 55.

Gerald De Mello, director of university relations, appears on the May 6th program to discuss how various UH Hilo initiatives fared at the 2009 legislature and provide an update on key capital improvement projects.

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.
Solar panel project marks first step in big energy savings at UH Hilo

by Ken Hupp

UH Hilo has turned on the first in a series of PV (solar) panels designed to promote energy efficiency through greater use of renewable sources. The solar panels are located on the building that houses the Kipuka Native Hawaiian Student Center, in the area known as “Redwood City.”

The project was the inspiration of Gail Makuakane-Lundin, director, Kipuka and a founding member of the Sustainability Committee. Makuakane-Lundin secured funding for the project in a Title III Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions renovation grant obtained from the U.S. Department of Education in FY 2005-2006. She said much can be learned from the practices of Native Hawaiians and their kinship with the environment.

“Our ancestors had a special harmonious relationship with the environment that provides a working model for meeting the challenges of a growing population and limited resources,” Makuakane-Lundin said. “They understood that the resources you preserve today through, smart, sustainable practices will insure that future generations enjoy a comparable quality of life.”

The panels were purchased some time ago, but the project was delayed while legalities of the interconnectivity agreement between the University and Hawai‘i Electric Light Company (HELCO) were worked out.

The panels generate approximately 10.15 kilowatts of energy, resulting in a total savings of 11,195 kilowatt hours (KWH). Dr. Debra Fitzsimons, vice chancellor for administrative affairs, said the achievement might seem small by itself, but is significant in the bigger picture.

“We’re currently working on several different strategies to obtain funding for a large-scale, campuswide solar panel project that has the potential to generate up to 600 kilowatts,” Fitzsimons said. “What makes this project so important is that it provides us with the prototype interconnectivity agreement that will facilitate the installation of additional PV panels in the near future.”

The Kipuka solar panel project is just one of the energy savings/sustainability initiatives UH Hilo has undertaken during the past year.

The effort to make “UH Hilo Go Green” is being coordinated by the Energy Savings/Sustainability Committee, which is currently seeking volunteers for various events and initiatives. If interested in volunteering, please contact Fitzsimons at debra.fitzsimons@hawaii.edu.

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.
Belt presents UH Hilo conference on Bush

Dr. Todd Belt, associate professor of political science, is collaborating with the UH Hilo Conference Center to present “Evaluating the George W. Bush Presidency,” July 29-31.

Belt says that Bush’s tenure in office brought about vast changes in the institution of the presidency. He said that conference discussions will include a wide range of topics, including war powers, terrorism policy, civil liberties, judicial politics, economics, media relations and foreign policy.

Judith Fox-Goldstein, conference center director, said she was delighted to have the opportunity to work with Belt and likened the organization of the conference to “creating a dream team.”

“Bringing conferences of this nature to UH Hilo continues to set the precedent for UH Hilo as a desirable destination and venue for world-class conferences and meetings,” she added.

The keynote speaker is Michael A. Genovese, a professor of political science at Loyola-Marymount University and an author of 16 books, including The American Presidency, The Presidency and the Challenges of Democracy and the Power of the American Presidency. Genovese, a political pundit of choice among national and local Los Angeles media outlets, has been recognized as a Fellow Commoner at the Queen’s College of Oxford University.

For more information, visit http://uhh.conferencecenter.com/bush.html or call x47555.

Vern and Cathi Yamanaka, president and vice president of Yamanaka Enterprises Inc., established an endowed scholarship to benefit students at UH Hilo. Several additional members of the Yamanaka family have pledged to support the fund with contributions as well. The fund will benefit undergraduates in any field at UH Hilo. Students must have a 3.0 GPA or higher, financial need will be a criterion and preference will be given to students who graduated from the Big Island.
Campus Events

May

1  Graduate thesis/dissertation to Library & Office of the Registrar deadline

5, 6  Spring 2009 Great Leaps Dance Concert, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission

6  LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION
Last day to completely withdraw with a “W”

Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55

9  Come to the Islands UH Orchestra and Chorus Concert, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission

10  Come to the Islands UH Orchestra and Chorus Concert, 2 p.m., PAC, Admission

11-15  Final examinations

15  Last day to submit Change of Major form Office of the Registrar

16  UH Hilo Spring Commencement, 9 a.m., Edith Kanaka’ole Tennis Stadium
Final grades due in MyUH portal at noon

21, 22  2009 Pulama I Ke Ola Healthcare Conference, UH Hilo campus