Enrollment at UH Hilo reached a new record by exceeding 4,000 for the first time. The 2010 fall opening enrollment figures released by the University of Hawai‘i System show that UH Hilo enrolled 4,085 students compared to 3,996 a year ago.

“Surpassing 4,000 is noteworthy as a milestone of progress,” said Chancellor Donald Straney. “But the bigger accomplishment is our consistent growth over an extended period of time due to the outstanding work of our faculty, staff and administration. Their efforts have helped UH Hilo become recognized for its high quality academic programs.”

The vast majority of UH Hilo’s students continue to come from Hawai‘i, with the number of resident students totaling 2,852, or 70% of the overall student population. Approximately 23% of students are of Native Hawaiian ancestry. Out-of-state students total 1,233 or 30%.

The total enrollment includes UH Hilo’s international students, which number 319 and represent 36 countries. This year’s figure is up 4% from last year’s enrollment of 306 and accounts for 8% of the overall student body. The largest numbers come from the Federated States of Micronesia (85), Japan (59), South Korea (45) and the Marshall Islands (26).

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

Strategic planning at UH Hilo: who’s listening to the ‘listening tour’?

You may have heard that a ‘listening tour’ is taking place across campus in relation to strategic planning and you may be wondering what it’s all about. Well, the ‘listening tour’ is part of evidence-gathering efforts to seek the views of faculty, staff, students and the broader community about the University. It’s essentially a series of meetings with different groups to gain views on the strengths, weaknesses, challenges, priorities and current goals of UH Hilo. The tour has been designed to compliment the pre-planning survey consultation on ‘What Really Matters at UH Hilo?’ It asks similar questions to those that were asked in the survey but has the benefit of being able to delve a bit deeper into specific issues faced by different groups in a face-to-face setting.

Some 25 plus groups are being met with across and beyond campus and the aim is that every UH Hilo ‘ohana member will be invited to at least one session. All you need to bring with you is yourself (if you can make it) and your opinion on the University. If you can’t make a session or you prefer to give your views in writing, then there is a companion survey which asks the same questions as the tour which you can access at www.surveymonkey.com/listening. Summary notes of all meetings are being placed onto the UH Hilo Strategic Planning web-
UH Hilo’s College of Pharmacy joins UH Manoa to expand biomedical research

Seven faculty members from UH Hilo’s College of Pharmacy will be strengthening a project with UH Manoa that will receive $9 million in federal funding over three years. The project, funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH), allows the collaboration to continue expanding and improving biomedical research in Hawai‘i.

Dr. John M. Pezzuto, dean of the College of Pharmacy, leads the collaborative research program along with UH Manoa faculty members Drs. Eric Holmes and David Haymer of the Department of Cell and Molecular Biology.

“This funding will help invigorate and strengthen biomedical research capacity not only for the College of Pharmacy but for the entire state,” Pezzuto said.

The junior investigators based in the College of Pharmacy have worked with their mentors to develop research proposals in the following areas:

- Dr. Ghee Tan’s project will look for possible applications in drug development to fight malaria. Her laboratory work will optimize the safety and efficacy of potent antimalarial lead compounds through the synthesis of derivatives.
- Dr. Leng Chee Chang will look for ways to reverse the progression of cancerous tumors. Her research will search for inhibitors called Raf kinases from microbial natural products including Streptomyces species and endophytic fungi.
- Dr. Daniela Guendisch’s project will focus on diverse diseases in the central nervous system (CNS). She will synthesize new compounds using natural products as so-called lead compounds and will test them for the ability to interact with nicotinic receptors, which are involved in diverse CNS diseases.
- Dr. Aaron Jacobs’ research will focus on a cellular process called autophagy that is implicated in many disease states, including cancer and neurodegeneration. His project examines the role of the enzyme diacylglycerol kinase iota and monitors its effect in a cancer model.
- Dr. Susan Jarvi will study disease tolerance as evidenced through a recent population explosion of low elevation native Hawaiian bird populations despite high prevalence of Plasmodium infection. Her goal is to characterize and begin to define potentially novel mechanisms involved in tolerance to malaria in this relatively simple, geographically-isolated, natural disease system.
- Dr. Eugene A. Konorev’s project will assess the effects of doxorubicin, an antitumor drug known to cause cardiomyopathy and congestive heart failure. Inhibition of angiogenesis, or new vessel formation, in the heart is believed to contribute to the development of heart failure. Work in his laboratory will examine the mechanisms of inhibition of angiogenesis by doxorubicin.
- Dr. Dianqing Sun’s project aims to discover and develop antibiotics for use in tuberculosis, as well as to find potential drugs to treat malaria. Work in his laboratory will utilize a natural product library approach to discover and develop novel anti-infective agents.

The funding comes from NIH’s National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) project called the IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) program, which began in 2001. At that time, a $6 million grant helped establish The Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network (BRIN) at UH Manoa.
HCRF: tapping into a sea of potential

by Michael Pankowski

It was a defining moment. The Hawai‘i Marine Mammal Response Network’s (HMMRN) reaction had everyone in place and there was a feeling of excitement mixed with anticipation. Dr. Jason Turner remembers taking the call from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA): “There’s a beaked whale alive on the beach in Kihei. Are you ready?” Without hesitation, Turner replied, “Yeah, we’re ready; the tank’s ready.”

That was the Monday morning on August 16 which placed UH Hilo’s Hawai‘i Cetacean Rehabilitation Facility (HCRF) in the global spotlight as it became the care center for an injured Blainville beaked whale found off of Maui. UH Hilo’s HCRF, one of just three university-based cetacean rehabilitation facilities in the country and the only one in the Pacific region, was prepared to offer its services on demand. The valiant efforts by the entire staff to save the life of this whale species few will ever see highlighted the needs and importance of this collaborative effort between UH Hilo and NOAA.

The husband and wife team of Dr. Jason Turner and lecturer Jennifer Turner of the University’s Marine Science Department fill the positions of UH Hilo’s HCRF’s director and assistant director, respectively. Since opening its doors in December 2009 on the grounds of the Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center (PACRC) in Keaukaha, the Turners believe the local community has already felt the benefit of having this facility in their backyard. Assisted by community volunteers, Hawaiian cultural practitioners have been incorporated into UH Hilo’s HCRF’s rescue and rehabilitation programs.

“[Dr. Jason Turner] and I aren’t experts [in traditional relationships between Hawaiians and marine mammals]… [so] for us to understand the view of Hawaiians…has been really eye-opening and very important with our community relationship,” Jennifer Turner noted.

Dr. Jason Turner recalls brainstorming with Roxane, one such practitioner who often brings unique insight to the handling and care of stranded marine mammals. Together they took a NOAA mandate to include the cultural practitioner in strandings and transformed it into a relevant partnership by training one another in their respective protocols and practices. It has essentially become a multi-cultural organization devoted to helping and understanding those beleaguered marine mammals that come to be marooned on Pacific region shores.

Many of the procedures that took place on the injured whale, like the hearing tests and ultrasounds that were performed during its attempted rehabilitation, were marine science firsts for that species. Although this particular battle was lost, the information that was collected and the needs that came to light because of it will prove invaluable for future life-saving encounters.

“A student came up to me the first day of classes and said, ‘I just wanted to let you know that I came here because of [the HCRF],’” Jason Turner said. “UH Hilo’s HCRF is out there, and I think everybody’s starting to really see the value in this.”

(Editor’s note: Michael Pankowski is a student intern with the Office of Media Relations.)

Many helping hands: Members of the Hilo High School Key Club recently initiated a landscape beautification service project at the Imiloa Astronomy Center. Under the guidance of Imiloa’s Carlos Moller, students picked up hala leaves, pulled weeds, and tidied up the garden’s four Rock Islands. The HHS Key Club will continue this service project as a quarterly event.
Hats off to... 

Kirsten Mollegaard, Assistant Professor, English, had her article, “Haunting and History in Louis Sachar’s Holes” published in Western American Literature 45.2 (Summer 2010): 139-61.


John Hamilton, Instructor, Physics & Astronomy, received a scholarship to participate in “Cosmos in the Classroom: A Hands-on Symposium on Teaching Introductory Astronomy” at the Astronomical Society of the Pacific and American Geologic Society Conference held at Colorado University, Boulder, CO. He presented the poster “Combining Outreach and Education with Space Field Test Activities by PISCES” at the conference’s joint symposium, “Earth & Space Science: Making Connections in Education & Public Outreach.”

Philippe Binder, Professor, Physics & Astronomy, co-taught “Information as an integrating concept in science” at the 2010 Summer Academy of the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes (the German academic foundation for gifted students).

Ghee Tan, Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Fred Sebisubi, Postdoctoral Associate, co-wrote “Antimalarial activity of Aspilia pruliseta, a medicinal plant from Uganda,” published in Planta Medica, one of the leading international journals in the field of medicinal plants and natural products. They also had their review chapter, “Natural Products with Promising Antimalarial Activity,” published in Natural Products, an online encyclopedia.

Mok Chong, Assistant Professor, Pharmacy Practice, presented his work on “Clinical Outcomes of a Diabetes Self-Management Education program for patients with diabetes mellitus in the Micronesian community in Hawai‘i” at the 10th Asian Conference on Clinical Pharmacy meeting held in Singapore.

Aaron Jacobs, Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, had his paper on “Systems analysis of protein modification and cellular responses induced by electrophile stress” published in Accounts of Chemical Research. He also gave an invited talk at the Fall 2010 National Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Boston, MA.

Karen Pellegrin, Director, Strategic Planning, CoP, was appointed Research Affiliate/Associate Psychologist in the Department of Cell and Molecular Biology, John A. Burns School of Medicine at UH Manoa.

Patsy Iwasaki, Lecturer, Communication and English, served on the panel, “Reflections on 125 Years of Japanese Immigration,” at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai‘i in Honolulu in August. She discussed her new graphic novel, Hamakua Hero: A True Plantation Story, a biography about Katsu Goto’s life and the Japanese-Hawai‘i immigrant experience when he arrived in Honoka‘a in 1885.

Shawon Rahman, Assistant Professor, Computer Science, co-wrote a paper, “The Ethical Dilemma of the USA Government Wiretapping,” which will be published in this month’s International Journal of Managing Information Technology.

Kevin Hopkins, Director, Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center, received a Hero of Agriculture, Food and Environment Award at the 2010 Hawai‘i Agriculture Conference: Celebrating Change held last month on O‘ahu. Hopkins was honored in the Government, Non-Profit, or Individual Supporter of Agriculture, Food or the Environment category for his work in establishing the PACRC and initiating the new sturgeon industry in Hawai‘i.
Kilohana’s tutor training program certified by international organization

Kilohana: The Academic Success Center opened its doors in spring 2010 as the newest academic support program on campus, created to support all UH Hilo students in their pursuit of academic achievement. Peer tutoring is the heart of Kilohana, but the new program had no formal training program in place.

“It was really my first priority when I arrived,” said Amelia Shapiro, director of academic support. “We had a tutor training series before we even had a physical space!” After a six-month evaluation process, the College Reading and Learning Association’s (CRLA) International Tutor Training Program Certification (ITPC) was awarded to Kilohana in May 2010.

The ITPC is endorsed by the Council of Learning Assistance and Developmental Education Associations, National College Learning Center Association, the Association for the Tutoring Profession, Commission XVI of the American College Personnel Association, and other related organizations. Their guidelines are considered by many involved in academic support to be the gold standard of peer and professional tutor training.

CRLA does not certify individual tutors; rather, it verifies that tutor-training programs meet established standards for content, quality, and duration. So far, over 40 tutors have participated in Kilohana’s training program, and many of them will complete the final requirements to earn certification this semester.

According to Shapiro, “the goal is to teach tutors that their primary job is to help students become more independent learners, not just give quick answers to homework questions.”

“I’m so pleased to be able to offer this certification to any tutor who completes the training and contact hours,” she added. “The training prepares students to be effective tutors, which is important, but the certification is something tutors can include on graduate school applications and resumes, and they appreciate that added value.”

The 10-hour training covers the tutors’ role and responsibilities, ethical tutoring, managing a tutoring session (including setting goals & planning), handling challenging situations, and more.

For more information, contact Shapiro at amelia.shapiro@hawaii.edu.

Pharmacy’s Class of 2014 to take oath of profession

Ninety pharmacy students from the class of 2014 will recite the “Oath of a Pharmacist” in front of their peers, professors, community and families at the College of Pharmacy White Coat Ceremony on Sunday, October 17. The event, which is free and open to the public (subject to seating availability), begins at 2 p.m. in the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center.

The ceremony is a rite of passage for students entering their first year in the professional program to affirm their commitment to professionalism, respect, integrity and caring. The class of 2014 is the College’s fourth class of students.

In addition to UH Hilo Chancellor Donald Straney and College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto, the students will be addressed by Senator Daniel Inouye’s Chief-of-Staff Pat DeLeon, Mayor Billy Kenoi and Representative Jerry Chang.

The American Pharmacist’s Association states that the presentation of the white coat to new students represents their passage into the pharmacy profession with all the opportunities and responsibilities associated with professionalism. Such ceremonies have become a tradition at many schools of pharmacy, medicine and other health care professionals throughout the country.

7th annual alumni golf tournament is Oct 23!

The UH Hilo Alumni & Friends Association hosts its 7th Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, October 23, at the Waikoloa Kings Course in Waikoloa and is open to anyone who possesses an established handicap. Tee off is 8 am.

The tournament fee of $175 includes merchandise, green fees, cart, mulligans, lunch and snacks along with a variety of prizes.

Last year’s tournament raised over $11,000 for UH Hilo’s scholarship fund.

Those interested in participating as a golfer or sponsor should call x47643, x47501, or visit www.hilo.hawaii.edu/alumni/golf.

Abbie Fisher (L) is congratulated by Amelia Shapiro as the first person to earn certification from Kilohana.
Campus Center helps to sustain a hydrated campus

by Michael Pankowski

The trailblazers at Campus Center have a new way for students, faculty and staff to quench their thirst while remaining conscious of the environment.

The state-of-the-art Hydration Station was recently installed in the lobby of Campus Center’s Lava Landing and is one of the first of its kind to be put into use in the State of Hawai‘i.

“This filtered water dispensing unit refills reusable water bottles,” explained Campus Center Director Ellen Kusano. “It uses a touch-free filling cavity to help maintain clean surfaces, and several components including the dispensing nozzle are treated with antimicrobial compounds to inhibit the spread of mold and mildew.”

Anyone can take advantage of this technology while the lobby is open (Monday 8 am – 4:30 pm; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8 am – 7 pm; and Wednesday 8 am to 10 pm. Hours are subject to change).

Contact Campus Center at x47499 with any questions.

Tenure and Promotion awarded

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

**Tenure and Promotion:**
- Dawna Coutant, Assistant Professor, Psychology
- Kimberly Furumo, Assistant Professor, Management Information Systems
- Patrick Hart, Assistant Professor, Biology
- April Housman, Assistant Professor, Hawaiian Studies
- Kerri Inglis, Assistant Professor, History
- Hiapokeikikane Perreira, Assistant Professor, Hawaiian Studies
- Elizabeth Stacy, Assistant Professor, Biology
- Misaki Takabayashi, Assistant Professor, Marine Science
- Jason Turner, Assistant Professor, Marine Science

**Tenure:**
- Luoluo Hong, Associate Professor, Pharmacy Practice
- Lynn Morrison, Associate Professor, Anthropology
- Cheryl Ramos, Associate Professor, Psychology
- Errol Yudko, Associate Professor, Psychology
- Richard Morris, Librarian II, Library

**Promotion:**
- Roberta Barra, Assistant Professor, Accounting
- Kelly Burke, Associate Professor, Management Information Systems
- Thomas Curtis, Associate Professor, Sociology
- Andrew Grabar, Associate Professor, Art
- Kenneth Hon, Associate Professor, Geology
- Cecilia Mukai, Associate Professor, Nursing
- Yoshiko Okuyama, Assistant Professor, Japanese
- Adam Pack, Assistant Professor, Psychology
- Norman Stahl, Associate Specialist, Career Center
- Enbao Wang, Associate Professor, Political Science

Pharmacy and Athletics featured on October’s telecast

October’s Focus on UH Hilo highlights the College of Pharmacy and Intercollegiate Athletics. The show airs Wednesday evening during the instructional year from 8:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Channel 55.

The October 6th program includes College of Pharmacy Dean Dr. John Pezzuto and Dr. Karen Pellegrin, director of distance education and strategic planning. Topics include the upcoming White Coat Ceremony, awarding of the first doctorate of pharmacy degrees next spring, an accreditation update, and its role in the recent $16 million health information technology grant.

Dexter Irvin, director of intercollegiate athletics, appears on the October 20th program and will update various initiatives, including facilities, new faces among the UH Hilo coaches and the marketing of Vulcan Athletic merchandise.

Anyone interested in participating in future programs should contact UH Hilo’s marketing and alumni office at x47501 or x47643.
Get ready for an exciting new shopping experience at UH Hilo!

Planning has been underway for several years for UH Hilo’s new College Campus Store. And in March 2012, this $5,000,000 project, funded through University of Hawai‘i revenue bonds with no State General or CIP funds, will be much more than a new bookstore.

The College Campus Store, with a spring 2011 projected start date, incorporates concepts derived from a 2009 Focus Group that consisted of students, faculty, staff, and community members. The new Store “understands the needs of students, staff, and community members” by offering amenities that make people feel welcome and comfortable. Besides the offering of course textbooks, materials, and school supplies, other new merchandise such as Vulcan logo clothing, gifts, and accessories will be available as well as sundry items, snacks, computers, and computer accessories.

The store layout will be configured with an area for concessions and coffee, comfortable furniture for students to relax, study, work, or “talk story” with friends, computers with free Internet access, and big screen televisions that will provide University news, merchandise offerings, and public information. One merchandise display will be dedicated to products developed, labeled, and marketed by students in UH business classes from UH Hilo, as well as other UH System campuses.

“We are excited for this new store; not only is it a place for students to buy books, but it will be a welcoming place to shop, eat, drink coffee, study, hang out and just enjoy,” noted Dr. Debra Fitzsimons, vice chancellor for administrative affairs.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Dr. Luoluo Hong also anticipates the completion of the new College Campus Store.

“The opening of this new bookstore really supports UH Hilo’s efforts to create a more lively and inviting sense of community for our students. We need more places that add to the feeling of being a ‘college town’ and this is a great next step in that effort,” said Hong.

The new College Campus Store will feature ultra modern wood and metal displays that can be easily rearranged to meet the needs of the ever-changing environment that is retail: circular wood and metal information and check-out booths; efficient energy lighting in canopy and wire mesh ceiling material, and a concrete floor of earth tone colors to showcase the different sections of products.

“UH Hilo’s new College Campus Store will not only serve the students of UH Hilo and Hawai‘i Community College, this state-of-the-art facility will serve the Hilo community-at-large and be a popular destination spot for visitors as well as the general public,” said Fitzsimons.

Student workshop series focuses on student success

The Ho‘okele Series of Student Development Workshops offers students information about successfully navigating life at UH Hilo in a casual, interactive format. Topics in this semester’s series include advising, campus policies, study strategies, career planning, personal development and more.

The series is a collaboration among the Advising Center, Kilohana: The Academic Success Center, and New Student Programs, with additional programming provided by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Career Development Services, National Student Exchange & the Center for Global Education.

In addition to simplifying the student experience, there are institutional benefits to the partnership.

“By planning workshops together, participating units avoid duplication of material and conflicting schedules,” said Amelia Shapiro, director of academic support. “They also are able to create a master calendar and send it to accepted students as part of their new student information packet.

“The planning committee welcomes suggestions for additional topics for future semesters, and plans to transition from a semester- to a year-long calendar, and hopes to expand the series to include other campus programs or units,” Shapiro added.

For this semester’s schedule, visit http://www.hilo.hawaii.edu/kilohana/hookele.php. For topic recommendations or other information, contact Amelia Shapiro at ameliaas@hawaii.edu, Kainoa Ariola at kariola@hawaiil.edu, Karla Hayashi at karlah@hawaii.edu, or Myhraliza Aala at maala@hawaii.edu.
Campus Events

October

1  Priority deadline to apply for spring 2011 graduation
6  Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55
15 Last day to withdraw from courses with “W”
17 College of Pharmacy White Coat Ceremony, 2 p.m., PAC
20  Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55
21  Patrick Ball, Modern-Day Bard, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission
29 Last day to submit approved Summer 2011 Curriculum documents to Registrar