

Ka Lono **Hanakahiki**

"News of People Working Together"

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO

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UH Hilo capital improvements transforming campus, boosting economy

by Ken Hupp

When the new College Campus Store opens for business this fall, it will kick-off what could be an extraordinary year of key capital improvements coming on line that will re-shape the UH Hilo's physical landscape. But the activity is also providing a timely boost to the local economy with the value of current projects being managed by the UH Hilo Office of Facilities Planning and Construction and the UH Office of Capital Improvements totaling \$104.6 million.

The most obvious impact is the construction crews who are hired and put to work at the various job sites. But UH Hilo Economics Professor Dr. David Hammes says you need to look below the surface at the indirect activity being generated to understand its true impact.



Rendering of College Campus Store

UH Hilo's College of Business and Economics earns high marks in national assessment

by Chancellor Don Straney



Chancellor Don Straney

Welcome to our new academic year at UH Hilo. The beginning of the school year offers an exciting beginning for all of us. I am delighted to share with you some great news from UH Hilo's College of Business and Economics.

CoBE and the students in the College recently received high scores from the nationwide Collegiate Learning Assessment. The CLA is a national instrument that evaluates students' written responses to assess critical thinking, reasoning, problem solving skills, and their ability to communicate clearly and cogently.

Our student achievements were significantly above the national mean. Thirty-three graduating seniors enrolled in the capstone strategic planning course attained an average overall CLA score of 1,189, which puts our seniors in the 57th percentile of graduating seniors nationwide. Better still, the CoBE's Value-Added Score among the hundreds of institutions that administer the CLA is at the 93rd percentile nationwide!

Faculty at the College attribute this positive outcome to several factors: high quality faculty with terminal degrees who teach and are also active researchers devoted to student learning; small class

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Dignitaries break ground for University Village Phase I.

“These projects in one way or another generate a small amount of new activity spread out over most businesses throughout East Hawai’i from farmer’s markets to retail establishments, which doesn’t seem like much measured on an individual basis,” Hammes said. “But when you add it all up, you’re looking at an increase in excess of 1% in the overall number of people employed on the island, which is a big deal.”

And like most investments, those projects that are putting people to work now will provide a potentially bigger pay-off down the road through enhanced learning and campus operations, as an update on some key initiatives illustrates.

Wentworth Hall’s extensive facelift is expected to wrap up this month following replacement of the storefront glazing and exterior glass doors along with installation of the back-up generator. Spaces formerly occupied by the physical science programs now located in the Science and Technology Building have been renovated to provide modern classrooms, teaching and research labs for the Biology, Marine Science, TCBES and Core Genetics programs, while the existing lecture hall and offices will return to their former uses after being remodeled. New lab and safety stations, enhanced electrical and climate controls, energy-saving lighting, new ceilings and soffits, new doors and card key electronic locks, ADA accessibility upgrades and signage are among the improvements included in the \$3.9 million project.

Also nearing completion at press time is a project to improve the climate control systems at the Performing Arts Center (PAC) and College Hall C. The \$1.95 million project includes replacement of the two exterior chillers to produce cold water for the air conditioning system, removing

and replacing the existing ceilings, air handling units and ductwork and installing a new dehumidifier in the costume storage room. Theatre staff is expected to re-open the building following installation, testing and adjusting of the new equipment.

Among the big ticket items taking shape is the new \$15.9 Student Services Building fronting the PAC entrance. The three-story, 35,000 square-foot structure will provide an addition to the existing building to consolidate Student Services functions in addition to housing the Chancellor’s office and other related administrative functions.

The building’s structure has been fully erected while most of the roofing has been insulated and waterproofed as construction crews prepare to install the standing seam metal roof. They’ve also finished the gauge framing and installed waterproof gypsum board along the exterior surfaces.

Interior work nearing completion includes electrical, plumbing and fire sprinkler installation along with drywall framing and hanging. Other outstanding work includes the installation of HVAC chillers and circulation pumps, stairs and the elevator. The building is scheduled to be completed in December, although change orders could push that timetable into early 2013.

At the University Park of Science and Technology, exterior framing is virtually finished on the \$28 million building that will house the programs and operations of Ka Haka `Ula O Ke`elikolani College of Hawaiian Language. All structural concrete within the building, including the walls, stairs, elevator shaft and the deck between the first and second floors, is complete. Crews have also erected the structural steel and are in the process of installing the roof assembly, which will clear the way for the interior drywall installation.

Inside, workers are framing the interior walls at the entry level as mechanical, electrical and plumbing rough-ins take place throughout the two-story, 37,000 square-foot structure. Construction is tentatively set to wrap up in 2013 with the building opening in time for the fall semester.

The latest construction project is taking shape on the 33-acres along West Kawili Street across from the main campus entrance where ground was broken in June for the \$32 million University Village Phase I student housing. The project will feature approximately 300 student housing units in a 105,000 square-foot complex occupying approximately five acres.

Work crews have already completed the site clearing and grubbing, grading and placement of the building pads and are now proceeding with the foundation and ground floor concrete slab. Under the present timetable, structural framing should be underway by the end of the year. The project has a targeted completion date of 2013.

One of the most important projects taking place is not

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Coordinated by the Office of Development on behalf of the Chancellor's Office, a reunion of former faculty and staff (including a few current ones) was held on campus on July 10. The get-together was preceded by a reception on July 9 for some of the community leaders who served on former chancellor Ed Kormondy's Cornerstone Committee.

Front Row (from left to right): Edgar Torigoe, Ruth Robison, Leslie Lewis, Ed Kormondy, Irene Matsuura, Gail Makuakane-Lundin, and Rick Castberg.

Back Row (from left to right): Lois Toyama, Connie Maples, Pieper Toyama, Ray Okabayashi, Bob Okuda, Linda Damas, Keith Miser, Ann Miser, Dianne Higgins, Barbara Heintz, Sonia Juwik, Ginger Hamilton, Mitzi Hennessey, Henrilene Pickens, Lynn Namihira, Jerry Johnson, Cecilia Mukai, Dan Brown, and Margaret Shiba.

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a big ticket item, but is arguably one of the most important safety enhancements to come along in years. The \$700, 000 Emergency Notification and Synchronized Clock System is a campus-wide network in which every device will display a static "Day, Date and Time" synchronized to the Internet. During an emergency, the static display will turn into a rolling message announcing the nature of the emergency such as "Tsunami Warning," accompanied by a warning strobe and audio announcements originating from the master transmitter located at Campus Security.

Workers began installing transmitters last month and are now mounting display panels and annunciation systems throughout the main campus and University Park. When completed in April 2013, the University will be equipped with a modern, rapid, and secure method of mass notification.

As work on these projects moves toward completion, efforts are underway to advance two other key initiatives that will address existing needs while impacting future growth and retention.

"We'll be back at the legislature next year to renew our request for a building to house the College of Pharmacy," said University Relations Director Gerald De Mello. "We also anticipate more discussion on the private sector-driven University Phase II development to create a campus-related commercial center. These are priority items and we look forward to working with our Big Island House and Senate members along with our community partners to move these initiatives forward." 🗣️

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

CoBE

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sizes that allow personal attention and high levels of interaction; a strong culture of professionalism at the College; and applied learning activities such as internships, consulting for local businesses, and case and business plan competitions.

Our graduates who participated in the CLA are pleased, but not surprised, by the results. Winona Chen (2012) remarks that our "professors have passion for what they teach, they are invested in our success as students and professionals, and they invite us to reach our full potential." Chen is currently interning in an Executive Team Leader position teaching fitness classes and running triathlons.

Shaun McKim (2012), a double major in economics and political science, currently enrolled in Clark University's MBA program on a merit scholarship and says the "rigorous curriculum" and the opportunity to collaborate with professors and present papers at international conferences prepared him for the challenges of graduate school.

Emily Anderson (2012), an accounting graduate, says the courses are designed to emulate what students will encounter in the real work force. "I will be the first to attest to how much employers notice those things," she says. "I am so lucky to have the fortunate problem this summer of having to turn down job offers because I was receiving too many."

We are proud of our students and their performance on the CLA. This is confirmation of their critical thinking, analytical, and communication abilities. These results confirm that we offer a high-quality education and are preparing our graduates well for employment and advanced studies.

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

Donald Q. Stoney

Hats off to...



Mark Panek

Mark Panek, Associate Professor, English, was awarded the Hawai'i Book Publisher Association's Ka Palapala Po'okela Award for Nonfiction for his book, *Big Happiness*. It was also named the Windward Community College "Common Book" for 2012-2013.



Jiren Feng

Jiren Feng, Assistant Professor, Chinese/Japanese, recently published his first single-authored book, *Chinese Architecture and Metaphor: Song Culture in the Yingzao Fashi Building Manual*, published by UH Press in association with Hong Kong University Press as the 4th book of the series entitled, *Spatial Habitus: Making and Meaning of Asia's Architecture*. Publication and review: <http://www.uhpress.hawaii.edu/p-8612-9780824833633.aspx>.



Chris Frueh

Chris Frueh, Professor, Psychology, was senior author on two recently published papers: "Factor structure and convergent validity of the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems in an inpatient setting," *Journal of Psychiatric Practice* 2012; 18:145-158, and "Symptom overlap in posttraumatic stress disorder and major depression," *Psychiatry Research* 2012; 196:267-270.



Jan Ray

Jan Ray, Assistant Professor, Education, is co-author of "The Influence of Local Politics on Educational Decisions," published in the August 2012 edition of *Current Issues in Education*. Additionally, Ray and **Diane Barrett**, Associate Professor, Education, co-presented "Using the 'Do It, Draw It, Write It' Method to Help Preservice Teachers Engage Elementary Math



Makalapua Alencastre

Learners" at the Hawai'i University International Conference on Education in July. Ray also co-presented "Crossing the Cultural Divide: Fusing Indigenous Epistemology with Standards-Based Professional Development for Inservice Teachers."



Tam Vu

Makalapua Alencastre, Assistant Professor, Hawaiian Studies, has been invited to participate in the Dual Language/Immersion Education Researcher Convocation, the "Immersion at the University Level" symposium, and co-present two papers at the Immersion 2012: Bridging Contexts for a Multilingual World, to be held at the University of Minnesota this fall.

Tam Vu, Associate Professor, Economics, **Eric Im**, Professor, Economics, and **David Hammes**, Professor, Economics, had their paper, "Vocational or University Education? A New Look at Their Effects on Economic Growth" accepted for the November 2012 publication of *Economic Letters*, a journal of substantial standing in economics. ☺

Reserve your spot on *UH Hilo Report*

Sign-ups are now being accepted for the 2012-2013 *UH Hilo Report*.

The *UH Hilo Report* is a one-minute feature of the University, highlighting non-commercial topics such as grants, research projects and/or new degrees, expansion plans, outstanding students and/or faculty. The reports are aired multiple times on New West Broadcasting stations, KPUA, KWXX-FM and B97-FM, and are posted on the UH Hilo Web site.

If you are interested in having your program, event or news featured, contact Ken Hupp at hupp@hawaii.edu. ☺

Tenure and Promotion awarded

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

Associate Professor or Equivalent:

Yoshiko Fukushima Associate Professor, Japanese, Award Tenure

Shuguang Li, Associate Professor, Mathematics, Promotion

Seri Luangphinit, Associate Professor, English, Promotion

Rebecca Ostertag, Associate Professor, Biology, Promotion

Karen Pellegrin, Associate Specialist, Pharmacy Practice, Award Tenure and Promotion

Assistant Professor or Equivalent:

Kathleen Commendador, Assistant Professor, Nursing, Award Tenure and Promotion

Thomas DeWitt, Assistant Professor, Marketing, Award Tenure and Promotion

Maria Haws, Assistant Professor, Aquaculture, Promotion

Gene Johnson, Assistant Professor, Accounting, Award Tenure and Promotion

Keiki Kawai`ae`a, Assistant Professor, Hawaiian/Hawaiian Studies, Award Tenure and Promotion

Eileen Lovell, Assistant Professor, Nursing, Award Tenure and Promotion

Steven Lundblad, Assistant Professor, Geology, Award Tenure and Promotion

Fiona McCormack, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, Award Tenure and Promotion

Jonathan Price, Assistant Professor, Geography, Award Tenure and Promotion

Efren Ruiz, Assistant Professor, Mathematics, Award Tenure and Promotion

Brian Wissman, Assistant Professor, Mathematics, Award Tenure and Promotion

Jing Yin, Assistant Professor, Communication, Award Tenure and Promotion

Instructor or Equivalent:

Brian Bays, Librarian II, Award Tenure and Promotion

Todd Shumway, Junior Specialist, Center for Global Educ and Exchange, Award Tenure 

Call for UH Hilo distinguished awards nominations!

by Yu Yok Pearring

UH Hilo's Alumni and Friends Association is seeking nominations for its annual signature event: the Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Service Awards. The deadline for nominations is October 31.

Each year the association grants one or more Distinguished Alumni Awards to individuals based on the nominee's professional accomplishments, and/or service to the community, and/or service to the University. Nominees should have completed at least 50% of his/her educational program at UH Hilo.

The Distinguished Service Award is given to those whose contributions to UH Hilo (financial or service) have benefited the University in numerous and significant ways. Nominees must have demonstrated consistent contributions to the University over a reasonable period of time, and whose contributions have had a positive impact on the students and/or the University.

"UH Hilo benefits from strong community support, and the community benefits from a strong UH Hilo alumni base working hard to make our island and state a better place," said Chancellor Don Straney. "These distinguished awards provide an opportunity for us to celebrate members of our extended 'ohana who show extraordinary commitment to our students, the University, the island community and beyond."

The awards will be presented at UH Hilo's 13th Annual Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards Banquet, to be held at the University's Dining Hall on Friday, February 22nd, 2013.

For more information, a nomination form, and a list of past award recipients, call 974-7643 or go to: www.uhh.hawaii.edu/alumni/. Nomination forms may be sent to: UH Hilo Marketing/Alumni Office, 200 West Kawili Street, Hilo, HI 96720. 

(Editor's note: Yu Yok Pearring is director, marketing/alumni.)

UH Hilo Freshmen Orientation Week was first UH Hilo Zero Waste Event (ZWE)

As new and returning students prepared for fall classes during last month's Orientation Week, a first-time event took place, marking an important chapter in UH Hilo's ongoing effort to promote greater sustainability.

The University's first Zero Waste Event (ZWE) was developed by Recycle Hawai'i's Kristine Kubat and Jordan Silva, Interim Coordinators for Orientation &

Transition Programs Lucas Moe and UH Hilo Sustainability Coordinator Cam Muir as a vehicle for re-establishing an on-campus recycling program.

"Each day, we took up positions at the Campus Center Plaza trash bins to sort through refuse and educate students and their parents about the valuable resources found in our waste stream," Muir said. "The event was a huge success from start to finish as

more than 99% of the waste produced during the breakfast, lunchtime and evening hours was diverted to composting and recycling and away from the landfill.

"Neither the gooey fingers or dumpster diving dampened our enthusiasm as a little effort and imagination enabled us to convert a week's worth of waste into more than 300 gallons of compost, 85 gallons of recycled material and two gallons of trash that was sent to the landfill," he added.

The event underscored the tremendous amount of waste, which UH Hilo generates as an institution and sends to the landfill, while also demonstrating that the vast majority of that waste constitutes a valuable resource. Despite its name, the important point of "Zero-Waste" is not to attain 0% trash, but to reduce the non-divertible waste to the greatest extent possible while recovering the maximum amount of usable resources.

"Instead of packaging our waste we can turn almost all of it into soil and other recycled materials, thereby reducing the need to harvest more trees for paper, mine additional aluminum for cans, or import soil from the continent," Muir explained. "But the key to our success depends on changing our own behavior and educating our students about practices that will lead to a more sustainable future."

The success of UH Hilo's first ZWE was also made possible by the Orientation Week leaders, with special thanks to the 2012 freshman class and their parents for their

enthusiasm, patience and understanding. "A big mahalo also to Roy Kadota of Mr. K's Recycling and Redemption Center for including no. 6 plastic and Styrofoam in the list of materials they accept, and Kristine Kubat who took garbage home to wash so that it could be recycled," Muir noted.

The ZWE is intended to be the first of many initiatives, leading to a Zero Waste Week, a Zero Waste Semester, and ultimately a Zero Waste Campus. ♻️



Chancellor Don Straney congratulates Susan Yugawa (second from left) and her Graphics Team for receiving two awards from the APEX Awards for Publication Excellence over the summer. The APEX Awards for Publication Excellence is an annual competition for publishers, editors, writers and designers who create print, Web, electronic and social media. UH Hilo's two awards were for the "Seeking edVenturers" campaign and the UH Hilo Viewbook, a 20-page publication created by Yugawa to be the signature piece of the "Seeking edVenturers" recruitment campaign. She created this piece from scratch, a new look and image that incorporates many aspects of the strategic plan into a visually stimulating publication. The UH Hilo Graphics Department, led by Yugawa, includes Tanya Ibarra (center), Darin Igawa (right), Kelcie Valbuena and Erynn Tanimoto.

UH Hilo faculty, staff honored with awards at spring commencement

Faculty and staff were honored with prestigious teaching and recognition awards during this year's spring commencement held on May 12.

Dr. Yu Cheng Qin, assistant professor of history, received the Board of Regents Award for Excellence in Teaching. Described as "passionate about history and cultural diversity," Qin is committed to expanding students' horizons by disseminating knowledge and improving understanding of rich and important civilizations. Students praise Qin for his passion and for encouraging critical thinking.

The Frances Davis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, which recognizes a junior faculty member within the UH System, was presented to Dr. Marianne Takamiya, assistant professor of astronomy. An enthusiastic teacher, advisor and student mentor, Takamiya "sets the bar very high in her classes yet manages to instill confidence in her students that enables them to rise to the occasion," a nominator noted.

Also honored was Bridget Awong, general manager, Sodeco Dining Services, who received the Chancellor's Certificate of Recognition. Awong, a leader in sustainability on campus, created "Local First," an initiative that emphasizes the use of locally grown and produced food, which makes up over 60% of all the food served in the UH Hilo dining hall. ♻️

UH Hilo presents year-end awards

UH Hilo honored four employees and a student worker with various awards during its 2012 Awards and Recognition Celebration held at the Campus Center Plaza in May.

Receiving the Excellence in Service Award was Dr. Seri Luangphnith, associate professor, English. The award recognizes a faculty/professional staff member for outstanding service (related to professional skills) to a college or unit, to the University of Hawai'i, to the community, state or nation.

"Seri is a leader on campus, and is THE leader in preparing our University for WASC recertification by integrating assessment, General Education and our strategic plan," said Dr. Todd Belt, associate professor & chair, political science, in presenting the award. "Rarely has the University seen someone as altruistically dedicated and tireless as Seri, and rarely have we enjoyed such potentially transforming results."

The Pulama 'Ike Award, given to an individual who has made significant contributions to developing and promoting the mission and spirit of the University, was presented to Campus Recreation Department Director Tim Moore.

"The Student Life Center was basically just a building when he first arrived on campus, but in the remarkably short time he has been at UH Hilo he has turned a building into one of the main centers of activity on campus," said Robert "Tommy" Hamilton, associate director, campus recreation department and award presenter. "Promoting and developing the mission of the University – to develop outstanding students who will become leaders in the future, and do so with a strong sense of purpose, ethics and community spirit – is at the heart of Tim's work."

Dr. Lorna Tsutsumi, professor, entomology, received the Koichi and Taniyo Taniguchi Award for Excellence and Innovation, which recognizes creativity in teaching, scholarship and artistic production at UH Hilo.

"Two years ago, Dr. Tsutsumi partnered with Chef Alan Wong in creating the 'Adopt a beehive with Alan Wong' program in which donors adopt a hive managed by students," said College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management (CAFNR) Farm Manager and award presenter Richard "Diki" Short. "This program has attracted enough donations to partially develop a bee garden at the UH Hilo farm featuring bee-friendly plants, finance three \$1000 scholarships per year for advanced beekeeping students and pay for expansion of the bee operation. It has also increased public awareness of the plight of bees and their importance to crop production and natural ecosystems."

The Excellence in Building and Grounds Maintenance Award was presented to Gordon Mitchell. Auxiliary Services Director Kolin Kettleson noted Mitchell, who generally works in the Performing Arts area, also takes 1-2 classes a semester.

"Gordon Mitchell truly is UH Hilo," Kettleson said. "He is a student, he supports students/faculty/staff, he shares his

knowledge/time/talents, and has for more than 25 years."

The Student Employee of the Year Award was presented to Ho'oleina Ioane, who serves as a Community Coordinator in the on-campus residence halls and has been promoted to Mentor Coordinator effective next year. Residence Hall Manager and award presenter Justin Leibowitz said Ioane really stood out among the University's nearly 700 student workers. 🍌

UH Hilo joins the Hawai'i Conservation Alliance

UH Hilo is now a member of the Hawai'i Conservation Alliance, a statewide joint partnership between conservation-focused government, education, and non-profit organizations. There are 19 members of the collaborative group working together to manage the biodiversity of Hawai'i's lands and waters. HCA members also include those who work with land and water for social, cultural, and agricultural purposes.

"UH Hilo's efforts in conservation research on important issues such as climate change, endangered and invasive species, and ecosystem management have grown significantly over the last 15 years," said Donald Straney, chancellor at UH Hilo. "Those activities provide a rich learning laboratory for our students and create strong ties with the community and our agency partners."

Jim Beets, professor of marine science, represents UH Hilo on the HCA Steering Committee.

Members of HCA include the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Park Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Geological Survey, Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Bishop Museum, and Kamehameha Schools, among others.

"HCA provides unified leadership and advocacy on conservation issues critical to Hawai'i," says Straney. "UH Hilo focuses on connecting its research and efforts to our island community through its students, faculty and partnerships. We look forward to collaborating with these groups and organizations to address the urgent conservation issues facing our state."

Hawai'i Conservation Alliance on the web: <http://hawaiiconservation.org/>. 🍌

UH Hilo to participate in the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress (WCC) in Jeju, South Korea

UH Hilo will be part of the 40-member Hawai'i delegation led by Lt. Governor Brian Schatz, UH President MRC Greenwood, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs Chair Colette Machado to the 2012 International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress (WCC) in Jeju, South Korea, September 6-15.

Held every four years, WCC is the world's largest conservation symposium. Its purpose is to help member organizations improve their management of the natural environment of human, social and social development. Over 10,000 environmental experts, scientists, and former and incumbent heads of state are expected to attend. The State of Hawai'i has submitted a proposal to be the host site for the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

Delegates include 12-members of Unukupukupu, the traditional hālau hula (hula school) of Hawai'i Community College selected to be the official Hawai'i cultural representatives. Led by kumu hula Dr. Taupōuri Tangarō, UH Hilo Unukupukupu members include Gail Makuakane-Lundin, Chancellor's Office, Misaki Takabayashi, Marine Science, Kainoa Ariola, Kipuka, and students Kahealani Wilcox, and Poliahu Ishibashi-Naboa.

For more information, go to: <http://www.iucn.org/>.

Campus Events

September

- 3 Holiday: Labor Day
- 5 "Local First" at Campus Center Dining Room
- 7 Last day to exercise Credit/No Credit
Last day to submit Auditors Form
Final deadline to apply for Fall 2012 Graduation
- 10 Last day to drop a class online without "W"
Last day to receive 50% refund of tuition for complete withdrawals
No refunds will be issued after this date
- 14 Makali'i sculpture dedication, 10 a.m., main campus front lawn

Ka Lono Hanakahi is published by the Office of University Relations during the academic year for faculty and staff of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. News and submissions are welcome with priority given to current faculty and staff members. Deadlines are on the fifteenth of each month for the following first of the month publication. Contact Alyson Kakugawa-Leong, Director Media Relations, (808) 974-7642 or alyson@hawaii.edu.