New era for popular arts and science programs

by Ken Hupp

The future looks brighter than ever for UH Hilo’s Astronomy and Performing Arts programs, as a result of actions taken by the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents (BOR).

The Regents, during their final meeting for 2002, approved the granting of established status for the Bachelor of Science degree in Astronomy, establishment of a Bachelor of Arts degree in Performing Arts, and approval of the UH Hilo Strategic Plan.

“The development and implementation of these new programs and initiatives represents UH Hilo’s commitment to responding to the changing needs of our community,” said Dr. Christopher Lu, vice chancellor for academic affairs. “We can all take great pride in the untiring efforts of our faculty, whose tremendous energy and devotion made this possible.”

Hawai‘i’s only undergraduate program in astronomy was initially approved in 1997, and recently completed its mandatory five-year probationary period. The program, which began with a single astronomy major, has grown to 54, with enrollment jumping by 17 students this past year alone. The UH Hilo program is currently tied with UCLA and Penn State as the fourth largest undergraduate astronomy program in the country.

“We are all terrifically gratified at the vote of confidence shown by the UH Hilo administration and the BOR in our undergraduate astronomy program,” said Physics/Astronomy Chair Dr. Bill Heacox. “Hopefully this vote of confidence will be reflected in a level of support that is appropriate for the only program in the State that trains Hawai‘i residents for careers in astronomy and jobs on Mauna Kea.”

The Bachelor in Performing Arts degree replaces the former music major, which becomes one of three tracks under the new program, along with theatre and a new dance major. The theatre track will include components in technical theatre, and drama, which was previously offered under the liberal studies umbrella. The BA in Performing Arts will be offered to students beginning this spring.
The program is structured to provide students with a well-rounded education in performing arts. Although they can declare a major in any of the three tracks, they will be required to take support courses from the other two areas.

“We’re very excited about this new major, which fills a unique niche as the only one of its kind in Hawai‘i, and one of just a few in the entire country,” said Dr. Richard Lee, associate professor of music and performing arts chair. “I’m especially pleased that this program will include a dance component, because those have been some of our most popular classes.”

Formal approval of the strategic plan allows the University to move forward on the implementation of its long-term goals and objectives. The UH Hilo document was one of several approved by the Regents, which also gave the green light to the plans from UH Manoa, UH West O‘ahu, and the UH Community Colleges. Each unit was required to develop strategic plans spanning the time frame from 2002-2010 in accordance with the goals and strategies of the system strategic plan.

Librarian Helen Rogers, who chaired the Strategic Plan Review Committee, was pleased that the plan had received the Regents’ stamp of approval. Rogers said the committee worked very hard to synthesize the aspirations of the many people on and off campus who answered surveys and participated in planning forums, and provided input in other ways.

“It’s great to have the results of everyone’s effort validated at that level,” Rogers said. “UH Hilo can now implement the plan knowing that we’re aligned with systemwide priorities and that we have the consent of the Board of Regents.”

(Editors note: Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)

---

Co-discoverer of the AIDS virus to speak at UH Hilo

Dr. Jay Levy presents a lecture on “The Social and Economic Impact of HIV/AIDS: Can Science Find the Solution?” in UH Hilo’s UCB 101 on Wednesday, February 19 at 3 p.m. The lecture is free and open to the public and is part of the UH Distinguished Lecture Series.

Levy is currently an AIDS and cancer researcher and an educator at the University of California, School of Medicine at San Francisco (UCSF). He is presently professor in the Department of Medicine and research associate in the Cancer Research Institute. He is head of the Laboratory of Tumor and AIDS Virus Research at UCSF where he established a laboratory for the study of tumor viruses. He was also a staff associate at the National Cancer Institute, where he conducted research on DNA and RNA cancer viruses.

During the last 18 years, Levy and his researchers have dedicated their efforts to the studies of AIDS. In 1983, he co-discovered the AIDS virus now called HIV. He pioneered heat treatment studies that demonstrated how to inactivate HIV in clotting factor preparations. This approach, for which he received the Murray Theilani Award from the National Hemophilia Foundation, has protected many hemophiliacs from HIV infection. He was the first to report the presence of HIV in the brain and linked it to neurological disease. His laboratory is currently pursuing approaches to use this response in therapy. Moreover, he is presently conducting studies directed at the development to an AIDS vaccine.

Levy is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and was given the Award of Distinction by the American Foundation for Aids Research. He received the Distinguished Alumnus Award along with an honorary decree in science from Wesleyan University. In 1998, he was chosen by the San Francisco Examiner as one of the ten most influential people in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Levy is the editor-in-chief of the highly cited journal, AIDS. He has published over 400 scientific articles and reviews, and is the author and editor of 13 books dealing with viruses and immunology. Among these are his acclaimed four volume series “The Retroviridae,” and his seminal, sole-authored book, “HIV and the Pathogenesis of AIDS,” now in its second edition and translated in Chinese.

Levy graduated from Wesleyan University, and was awarded Fulbright and French Government fellowships to conduct research in Paris, France. He earned his M.D. in 1965 from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University and was an intern and resident at the University of Pennsylvania.
UH implements systemwide tobacco products policy

In an effort to improve the working and learning environment of the university and protect faculty, staff, students, and visitors from secondhand smoke exposure, the University of Hawai‘i announced the implementation of a tobacco products policy effective immediately that not only prohibits smoking in various outdoor areas, but also prohibits the sale of tobacco products on campuses, the sponsorship of campus events or organizations by tobacco companies, and calls for cessation guidance to be provided to individuals who wish to quit their smoking habit.

The policy was created by a university-wide coalition of faculty, staff, and students, and affects all 10 campuses of the University of Hawai‘i system.

“Hawai‘i is one of the healthiest places on Earth and as a state we have been extremely forward thinking in our commitment to public health,” said UH President Evan S. Dobelle. “Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and I am proud that UH is taking an important step toward ensuring the health and safety of the entire community.”

The previous university policy prohibited smoking in common workplaces or areas where smoke could drift or be carried to other occupied spaces, all interior areas open to the public, including service counters, reception or waiting areas, lobbies, and restrooms, classrooms, conference and meeting rooms, and enclosed auditoriums, dining rooms and cafeterias, and laboratories and other high hazard areas.

In addition to these areas, the revised policy now prohibits smoking in:

- All interior space owned, rented, or leased by the university;
- In building courtyards, breezeways, and terraces, on exterior stairways and access ramps, and outdoor dining patios, terraces, and lanais;
- Within 20 feet of building entrances, exits, air intake ducts, vents, and windows of buildings that are not air-conditioned;
- Within 50 feet of designated pick-up and drop-off points for campus and public bus transportation;
- Within the gates of the university’s outdoor sports and performing arts stadiums and arenas, including walkways, corridors, and seating areas; and,
- Any area that has been designated by the person having control of the area as a non-smoking area and marked with a no smoking sign.

The “voluntary” policy will rely on the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of smokers and nonsmokers as it will not be enforced through disciplinary measures. However, other university policies and state laws and rules may be applicable.

The new policy also includes provisions not stated in the previous policy, which include the prohibition of advertising and sales of tobacco products on university campuses, the distribution of samples of tobacco products or coupons redeemable for tobacco products on university campuses, and the sponsorship of campus events or campus organizations by tobacco industry or tobacco promoting organizations.

In addition, all university residences, both faculty and student, will become 80 percent smoke-free by the start of the 2003-2004 academic year. By the start of the 2004-2005 academic year, all university residences will be completely smoke-free. Currently, in dorms on the UH Manoa campus, smoking is only prohibited in common areas such as lanais, lounges, interior courtyards, building front entrance areas, etc., of halls not designated as substance-free halls.

Most importantly, the policy also calls for on-site tobacco product cessation guidance to be made available to assist and encourage individuals who wish to quit. It also allows for supervisors to authorize employees who wish to avail themselves of such on-campus programs to do so without any loss in pay.

The Center for Substance Abuse at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa is leading the cessation program, which will include developing cessation guidance opportunities and training volunteers at all campuses. Some of the services that will be provided include individual counseling, nicotine replacement therapy, group counseling, and even referrals to off-campus clinic programs. At UH Manoa, there will be no charge for students to participate in the cessation program. A fee of $10 will be applicable for staff and faculty, while a fee for nicotine replacement options can be determined on a case-by-case basis depending on health insurance.

The Office of the Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer is responsible for policy implementation and compliance in collaboration with the heads of all UH campuses. Each campus administrator has designated an office that will handle inquiries and complaints regarding the policy.

Initiated and created by the UH Community Partnership for Health and Fresh Air, a coalition of UH faculty, staff, students, and supporters, the policy is supported by and has been implemented with the assistance and guidance of the State Department of Health’s Tobacco Prevention and Education Program and the Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai‘i.

For more information about campus contacts, cessation programs, or the policy itself, visit www.hawaii.edu/smokingspolicy.
Native Hawaiian astronomer joins Mauna Kea Astronomy Education Center

Dr. Paul Coleman, associate astronomer at the University of Hawai‘i Institute for Astronomy (IfA), has joined the team of researchers of the Mauna Kea Astronomy Education Center (MKAEC), announced Project Director George Jacob. Coleman will serve as a research planner for astronomy content and aid in the interpretive planning process.

The first and only Native Hawaiian astronomer at IfA, Coleman returned to Hawai‘i last year after spending four years as a tenure track professor at the University of Puerto Rico.

“Since returning home, I have become more involved in Native Hawaiian issues and am trying to play catch-up with cultural concerns,” Coleman said. “I am hoping to increase Native Hawaiian involvement in our first-rate astronomy effort here in Hawai‘i, at all levels.”

Coleman, a 1973 graduate of St. Louis High School in Honolulu, earned his B.S. in physics from the University of Notre Dame in 1977. He also attended the University of Pittsburgh, where he earned a masters in physics in 1980 and a Ph.D. in astrophysics in 1985.

He began his post-doctorate work in 1985 at Virginia Tech where he spent a year as a visiting assistant professor. He also worked as a postdoctoral research associate while at the Kapteyn Astronomical Institute in the Netherlands from 1986 – 1994. He spent the next two years as an assistant professor at New Mexico Tech, and a year at Yale in the departments of astronomy and mathematics, before moving on to the University of Puerto Rico.

“I have a wide variety of research interests, and have observed with many telescopes around the world and in many wavebands,” Coleman said. “I am primarily interested in the large-scale structure of the universe and also in active galactic nuclei across the electromagnetic spectrum.”

Officials at UH Hilo and the IfA said they were pleased with the arrangement, which they view as a win-win situation.

“I am delighted that Dr. Coleman will be part of this $28 million world-class education center being planned for the UH Hilo campus,” said Jacob.

Dr. Rolf-Peter Kudritzki, director for the IfA and interim vice chancellor for academic research, echoed Jacob’s sentiments. Kudritzki said IfA is committed to support the development of the Mauna Kea Astronomy Education Center in every way possible.

“Paul Coleman is the ideal choice to provide ideas and information related to the astronomy content and to build a bridge between the science and the cultural aspects of the Center,” Kudritzki said.

Spotlight
Continued from page 1

program. “People with the knack, the disposition and the skills to assist the rest of us in our efforts to manage, change and solve problems are worth their weight in gold.”

Dr. Keith Miser, vice chancellor for student affairs, went a step further by stating, “we must find more ways to recognize our faculty and staff for their efforts in helping solve problems and resolving disputes.” Miser, who nominated Kusano and Nagata, said the pair exemplifies the many natural problem solvers at UH Hilo, who he described as “skilled leaders.”

“They are good listeners, creative problem solvers, good communicators and most of all, they are willing to spend the time to help individuals with problems,” Miser said. “Miles and Ellen will help us address the ideal of advancing good communication and dispute resolution at UH Hilo.”

In addition to honoring the recipients with a luncheon and certificates, the program seeks to discover how the honorees support a climate of cooperation, consensus building and community through their works. To that end, each of the recipients was asked to share their skills, experience, and successes in problem solving with others.

Kusano thanked those who brought problems through her door for providing the opportunity to sharpen her problem solving skills and gain important experience. Her advice is to commit to solving problems, then look for ways to reach a solution.

“Be as concerned with the other person’s satisfaction as you are with your own, be respectful of opposing views, think critically, and don’t hold on to a position just because it’s your own,” Kusano said. “Check your pride and ego at the door, and listen for feelings, not just words.”

Nagata says the problem and solution are the property of the disputants, and sees his role in the problem solving process as that of a facilitator. He employs a systematic approach that begins by asking the respective parties to identify the problem and the solution they would like to see come about.

“This sets the groundwork for the options you can pursue,” Nagata said. “If either or both of the parties are demanding something unreasonable, you have to tell them early on so that you can get them to focus on realistic solutions. Hopefully, that will produce a win-win situation for everyone concerned.” Organizers believe the program has tremendous potential. Stephen Williford, alternative dispute resolution coordinator, hopes it will be the start of something big — a shift in culture of dispute resolution on campus.

“We will be encouraging others to do as our natural problem solvers do, and be a force for good when it comes to things gone bad,” Williford said.
Hats off to...

Hirokuni Masuda, Assistant Professor of Japanese, has been elected to serve on the nomination committee of the Society for Pidgin & Creole Linguistics.

Judith Gersting, Chair of Computer Science, is the PI on a National Science Foundation grant under the Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics Scholarships (CSEMS) program. The $203,000 grant will provide scholarship support for 15 computer science students for four years who are academically qualified and financially needy.

Tim Eakins, Athletic Trainer, was selected as a facilitator for the NCAA Division II Student – Athlete Leadership Action Academy. The Action Academies are designed to enhance the institutional environment for student-athletes by promoting the Division II student – athlete experience. The facilitator training was held last month at the NCAA national office in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Michael West, Associate Professor of Astronomy, and co-authors recently had two research papers accepted for publication. “A Point Source Excess in Abell 1185: Intergalactic Globular Clusters,” based on Hubble Space Telescope observations, will appear in Astronomical Journal, and “Extraordinary Diffuse Light in Hickson Compact Group 90,” based on observations with the orbiting Chandra X-ray Observatory, will appear in Astrophysical Journal.

West also co-authored a paper entitled “Galaxy Recycling in the Centaurus Cluster” that was presented at the 201st meeting of the American Astronomical Society held last month in Seattle.


Susan Brown, Professor of Psychology, and her students Roanne LeBrun, Jackie Yamasaki, and Deborah Ishii-Thoene recently published a paper in the journal Behaviour entitled “Indirect Competition between a Resident Unisexual and an Invading Bisexual Gecko.”

Wayne Miyamoto, Professor of Art, is participating in the Boston Printmakers 2003 North American Print Biennial Exhibition. Exhibition juror Clifford Ackley, the Carl and Ruth Shapiro Curator of Prints, Drawing, and Photographs at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, selected Miyamoto’s work for an Exhibition Award sponsored by Praga Industries in Toronto, Canada.

Ka Lono Hanakahi is published by the Office of University Relations on the first of the month during the academic year for the 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 University Publications, College Hall 9; (808) 974-7642 or email alyson@hawaii.edu.
Finally, some respect for RAs

by John Burnett

They have been called everything from “party poopers” to “noise nazis.” There is no question that being a Resident Assistant in University Housing is a thankless job, but it is also an important job that requires the students who fill it to be hall monitors, confidantes, social workers, custodians and, on occasion, security guards and police.

The demands of the job demand a special person to take it on, according to Resident Manager Kelly Bair, who along with two other RMs, supervises a student staff of 14 RAs and four Senior RAs at UH Hilo Housing.

“RAs have their plates pretty much full all the time,” Bair said. “They go to school full-time and they work 20 hours in Housing a week — and that’s in addition to the live-in work they do, as well. Because they live in the residence halls with the students, they’re kind of on-call all the time. It’s a tough job.”

Wednesday, February 19 is International Residence Hall Staff Appreciation Day, a day to say “thank you” to some dedicated people who don’t hear those magic words nearly often enough.

“We’re going to put something together with Sodexho and throw them a catered dinner-banquet,” Bair said. “I’m trying to get some people to come, such as Chancellor Tseng. I’m trying to get President Dobelle to write them a letter of acknowledgment for the work that they do. I’m trying to make this a little more special than what we’ve done in the past.

“But we’re still in the planning stages on what we’re going to do. Our RAs’ schedules are tight and this is a Wednesday evening, a really bad day of the week to pull something off for everybody. We’re trying to work this around the RAs’ schedules so they’re not all stressed out and frantic. It should be a time for them to relax and enjoy themselves.”

From being a sympathetic ear to distraught student at sometimes ungodly hours, to snaking out toilet and shower drains to informing sometimes inconsiderate partiers that their noise is making it impossible for others to study or sleep, being a RA is a stressful job that requires the problem solving skills of a logician and the tact of a diplomat.

“A good RA would be a student that has a genuine interest in helping others,” Bair explained. “They need to have a good handle on balancing their lives, because this job can have them all over the place. Even though they have days off, if a student needs help or they want to sit and cry in their room, they go to the RAs.

“There are times that an RA may think he or she is going to have a day off, but so many times the staff are left spending time with someone who’s having a really bad day. That’s why the genuine interest in helping students is important, because if you’re not compassionate enough, there’s no point in being in the job. And that’s what we’re here for.”

Resident Advisors on campus are: Amber Goodloe, Baccalaureate “Loli” Ma‘o, Sharla Shibata, Jason Hyde and Robin Lyon, Hale Kehau; Ryan Calma, Jason Fukiyama, Anna Chase, Malia Keli‘ikoa, Jennifer Rickard and Brad Bowman, Hale ‘Ikena; Elizabeth “Lisa” Mwai, Somer Hall, Mario Mendonca and Jian “Ken” Guan, Hale Kauanoe; Victoria “Tori” Lono and James Green, Hale Kanilehua.

Senior Resident Advisors are Kae‘a Pahulu, Serette Kaminski, Ke‘ala Davis and Kristin Britton.

“We have a great student staff here at UH Hilo and it makes my job and the job of all of the professional staff in Housing so much easier and more pleasant to face,” Bair said. “So many of the students who come forward to be RAs are natural born leaders. They’ve already become leaders in their own social circles. It’s always nice to tap into those kinds of people and have them help us shape Housing the way we want it to be, which is a fun and relaxed place that’s conducive to studying.”

(Editor’s note: John Burnett is a public information officer.)

Ho‘ulu Pila Chamber Orchestra set for Feb. 16

by Larry Joseph

The UH Hilo Theatre and the Hawai‘i Concert Society present a concert by Ho‘ulu Pila Chamber Orchestra on Sunday, February 16 at 2 pm. This new Hawai‘i chamber orchestra, whose name means “To inspire music,” has members selected from among the finest musicians on the Big Island as well as from elsewhere in the State. Under maestro Ken Staton, the orchestra specializes in orchestral settings of Hawaiian music, but also perform works by Mozart, Dvorak, and Johann Strauss, Jr.

Tickets, priced at $15 general, $10 youth and UH Hilo/HawCC faculty/staff and free to UH Hilo/HawCC students, are available school days at the Theatre’s café or online at http://performingarts.net/Theatre.

For further information, call the Theatre office at x47310.
Join UH Hilo’s fight against heart disease

by Ashley Brewer

The 6th Annual Hawai‘i Heart Walk and Health Fair will be held on Saturday, February 8. The walk will begin and end at the Edith Kanaka’ole Tennis Stadium with a choice of a 2.8-mile walk or a 6.8-mile route. The walk begins at 8 a.m.; registration begins at 6:30 a.m. The Health Fair will be held from 7-11 a.m.

To sign up for the walk or to obtain more information, please contact your respective team captain. The team captains are: Alyson Kakugawa-Leong (x47642) and Kelly Leong (x47606), Chancellor’s Office, University Relations and the Athletic Department; Ellen Kusano (x47499), Student Affairs; Susan Yugawa (x47571), Library/Media, Sodexo and the Bookstore; Alton Okinaka (x47370), Social Sciences Division; Cam Muir (x47601), the Natural Sciences Division; April Komenaka (x38858), School of Business, Tech & Distance Learning and CCECS; Claire Isemoto (x47404), Administrative Affairs; Na’ilima Gaison (x47475), CHL, CAFNRM, Upward Bound and Na Pua No‘eau; and Walter Dudoit (x30667), MKAEC, OMKM, SBDC and RCUH.

The Hawai‘i Heart Walk is sponsored by the American Heart Association and is free to all, although participants are encouraged to collect donations for the walk. The proceeds will be used to fight heart disease and stroke. The Health Fair will include free blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose screenings, and healthy food samples along with games for the keikis.

Let’s all get involved and join in to help fight heart disease and stroke here in Hawai‘i!

(Editor’s note: Ashley Brewer is a student assistant in the Office of University Relations.)

Cities on Volcanoes 3 conference scheduled for July

by Judith Fox-Goldstein

UH Hilo will host the prestigious international “Cities on Volcanoes 3” conference this coming July. Prior conferences have been held in Naples, Italy and Auckland, New Zealand. With a focus on natural hazards, the delegates will gather to discuss the impacts of volcanic activity on society.

A multidisciplinary focus has been planned to bring together academicians, policy makers, planners, psychologists, sociologists, economists and emergency workers — all of whom share common interests, but historically, have limited interactions with other.

The goal of the conference is to develop collaborative work in emergency management, urban and rural planning, education, volcanology, sociology and psychology.

The planning committee, chaired by UH Manoa’s Bruce Houghton, has been diligently working with the UH-CCECS Conference Center this past year to coordinate the logistics for the conference. Anticipating a delegation of international representatives from over 20 countries, UH Hilo stands ready to welcome over 400 delegates.

According to Judith Fox-Goldstein, “The planning for the conference has been extraordinary! The collaborative efforts of many institutions and agencies are coming together in support of this vital research.”

In addition to UH Hilo’s Dr. Ken Hon, Darcy Bevens, Dr. Thom Curtis and Don Thomas, planning committee members include representatives from UH Manoa, the Center for the Study of Active Volcanoes, United States Geological Survey, Pacific Disaster Center, Hawai‘i Institute of Geophysics and Planetology, Hawai‘i Volcano National Park, Geohazards Consultants, the Hawai‘i State Civil Defense Division and Mayor Harry Kim.

For more information or registration, please contact Fox-Goldstein at x47555 or visit http://www.uhh.hawaii.edu/~cov3/.

(Editor’s note: Judith Fox-Goldstein is conference center director.)
Accreditation update

by Dr. April Komenaka

On January 10, UH Hilo launched the educational effectiveness stage of its institutional review for reaccreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) with the University’s first-ever all-faculty meeting on teaching.

Over 80 faculty from all three colleges turned out for the event, held in the University’s largest multimedia classroom, UCB 100. More all-faculty meetings are scheduled for the semester, each one addressing high-priority teaching and learning issues.

Highlights of the meeting include:

- Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Chris Lu opened the event, pointing out that WASC’s primary concern is that institutions do a good job of teaching their students, and that student achievements are properly documented. The accreditation process benefits an institution in many ways, VCAA Lu emphasized, in particular refocusing energy and resources on teaching and learning. Later in the meeting, participants learned about WASC’s expectations: 46 of the 48 WASC criteria for accreditation review relate directly or indirectly to teaching and learning. Authentic student work and informative syllabi are the primary forms of evidence of student learning and program effectiveness.

- Six student panelists told faculty in vivid detail about the many ways in which their professors had inspired them to do their best and enabled them to master complex concepts and complete challenging tasks. Students valued in particular the personal connections, encouragement, and personal passion for learning that they had observed in their best teachers.

- Director of Institutional Research Lynne Stamoulis reported on the results of the National Survey of Student Engagement, focusing on those areas in which UH Hilo students rated their learning experiences significantly less challenging or engaging than students at other institutions. A complete report on NSSE can be found at the IRO website: http://www.uhh.hawaii.edu/~iro.

- Participants divided into breakout groups to share their own strategies for setting high levels of academic challenge, establishing productive student-faculty relationships, engaging students in active learning, and reaching out to freshmen. Group discussions were lively and fruitful, each group generating a list of practical strategies for effective teaching.

At the close of the meeting, each participant was asked to commit to taking one, two, or three specific actions to improve student learning in his or her own classes, and to write these down on an index card. The cards were collected, and the strategies have been compiled and organized and are now posted on the UH Hilo Teaching Resources Web page: http://www.uhh.hawaii.edu/~teaching.

Chancellor Rose Tseng, emphasizing the centrality of teaching at UH Hilo, spoke briefly and stayed through much of the meeting, lending official support to the event. She hosted an informal reception following the meeting.

The next teaching meetings will be held on February 6 and 7 to accommodate the largest number of faculty. Students will again serve as advisors. Faculty groups will work on such themes as developing effective and informative syllabi, on ways of engaging students in large lecture classes, promoting active learning in the classroom, and embedding assessment in teaching.

The teaching meetings are sponsored by the UH Hilo Accreditation Steering Committee and the offices of the Chancellor and the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs.

(Editor’s note: Dr. April Komenaka is co-chair, UH Hilo Self-Study Steering Committee.)

Catalog galleys due February 21

The deadline for the correction of galleys for the 2003-2004 Catalog is Friday, February 21, 2003. Galleys are currently with the respective deans and directors.

The catalogs are expected to arrive by July 2.

Please call Alyson Kakugawa-Leong at x47642 or email alyson@hawaii.edu with any questions.
CSAV and Geology Department Celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Pu’u O’o

by Darcy Bevens

On January 4th, the Hawai’i Volcanoes National Park and the U.S. Geological Survey’s Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (HVO) opened its doors to the public, waiving the Park entrance fee and letting locals and visitors alike enjoy behind-the-scenes tours and demonstrations at HVO.

UH Hilo’s Center for the Study of Active Volcanoes (CSAV), which maintains a cooperative research and public outreach program with HVO, was invited to set up a volcanic hazards awareness display as part of HVO’s Open House activities. The exhibit, titled “Where’s the Lava Going to Go,” included demonstrations with model volcanoes — one with baking soda and vinegar eruptions for the youngsters, and a plastic raised-relief model of the Big Island for everyone. Molasses “lava flows” were placed at various locations on the rift zones of the Big Island’s active volcanoes for the latter model, demonstrating how topography influences the path a lava flow will take. Most visitors were interested in the status of Mauna Loa, and discussions revolved around USGS maps showing lava flow ages, as well as new computer-based developments at HVO for deducing the path a lava flow would take based on its point of origin on the rift zone.

Don Thomas, director of CSAV, was also at HVO presenting information on his NSF-funded drilling research project. At a site near the Hilo airport, scientists have drilled down to over 10,000 feet through Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea lavas, bringing up core samples from almost the entire hole. The rock samples have provided new insights into the evolution of the Hawaiian Islands, and down-hole water tests are ongoing. The site will be re-occupied and the hole extended, bringing up even deeper core samples in the near future.

Dr. Ken Hon, chair of the Geology Department,

was also on hand to assist with HVO’s Hawaiian rocks and minerals display. The UH Hilo petrographic microscope was used to show visitors what a thin section of rock looks like under polarizing lenses, and there were many discussions about Hawaiian geology.

Visiting professor Bennetta Schmidt was in charge of one of the more popular exhibits: letting kids try on the specialized field gear that volcanologists wear when working around molten lava. As a result of her work with the Geology Department, she was able to recount many first-hand experiences with lava flows.

It was estimated by the National Park that more than 4,000 visitors toured HVO during the Open House and learned about the active volcanoes of our home island.

(Editor’s note: Darcy Bevens is an educational specialist with CSAV.)
University Classroom Building dedicated

Members of the Board of Regents, President Dobelle, Chancellor Tseng, and other UH officials were on hand last month to dedicate UH Hilo’s new $19 million University Classroom Building, a state-of-the-art facility housing the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Social Sciences Division, Education, History, Nursing, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology departments.
Lily Cai Chinese Dance Company showcased Feb. 8

by Larry Joseph

The UH Hilo Theatre presents a concert of dance by the Lily Cai Chinese Dance Company on Saturday, February 8 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, priced at $20 general, $18 senior, $15 youth/faculty/staff, and $5 UH Hilo/HawCC students are available school days at the Theatre’s café or online at http://performingarts.net/Theatre.

Elegant, sensual and captivating, the Lily Cai Chinese Dance Company melds ancient Chinese forms with modern dance in an artistic and inventive marriage of styles. The Company bridges the continuum from past to contemporary - from spectacular court dances of Chinese dynasties to contemporary works fusing classical Chinese and ballet, complemented by dazzling costumes, original music, and multi-media designs. Established in 1988 by Lily Cai, the company performs and tours extensively throughout California and the United States, appearing at performing arts venues, festivals, university theaters, schools, community centers and special events.

In 1994, the Company opened the Grateful Dead’s concert celebrating the Year of the Dog at the Oakland Coliseum, and in 1995 performed for United Nations’ 50th Anniversary Celebration in San Francisco. In 1996, the Company received two coveted awards for Outstanding Achievement in Choreography and Company Performance Awards from Isadora Duncan Dance Awards Committee for their collaborative performance with Oakland’s Dimensions Dance Theater entitled Common Ground. That same year, the Company also premiered Chinese Myths Cantata, a successful collaboration with The Women’s Philharmonic and Chanticleer.

Through Cai’s increasingly contemporary and artistically intimate works such as Candelas (1997) with lit candles, Southern Girl (1998) with the Alexander String Quartet, Detours: Common Ground II (1999) with Dimensions Dance Theater, and Strings Calligraphy (2000) with the New Century Chamber Orchestra, the Company performs concerts that highlight Cai’s signature technique and the professional artistry of each dancer.

Touring nationally, the Company offers two distinctive programs: Dynasties and Beyond and Dance Calligraphy (with live music). Throughout the 2003 season, the Company will introduce new works, including Bamboo Girls, Silk Cascades and Jade Warriors.

A native of Shanghai and former principal dancer with the Shanghai Opera House, Cai is a prominent member of the Bay Area’s dance community. Since arriving to California in 1983, she has choreographed dozens of new works and expanded traditional Chinese dance forms into contemporary choreographic and theatrical settings. Founder and Artistic Director of the Lily Cai Chinese Dance Company and co-founder of Chinese Cultural Productions, Cai’s strengths as a choreographer derive mainly from her ability to combine and integrate Chinese traditional, folk and classical dance with Western ballet aesthetics and American modern dance.

(Editor’s note: Larry Joseph is Theatre manager.)
Campus Events

February

1-24  Photos by Jim Kelly, open every day, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Volcano Art Center

3  “Women in the World,” a National Symposium on Women’s Studies, 9:30 a.m. – noon, 2-4 p.m., CC 306-307

4  Vulcan basketball vs. Hawai‘i Pacific University, 7:15 p.m., Civic, Admission

8  Vulcan softball vs. Alumni, Noon, UH Hilo Field
   Lily Cai Dance Company, 7:30 p.m., Theatre, Admission

15, 16  Vulcan tennis vs. Hawai‘i Pacific University, 8 a.m., UH Hilo Courts

16  Ho‘ulu Pila Chamber Orchestra, 2 p.m., Theatre, Admission

17  Holiday: Presidents’ Day

18, 19  Vulcan softball vs. Simon Fraser University, 1 p.m., UH Hilo Field

19  Jay Levy, UH Distinguished Lecture Series, 3 p.m., UCB 101

21, 22  Vulcan basketball vs. BYU-Hawai‘i, 8 p.m., Civic, Admission

22  Vulcan tennis vs. Chaminade University, 1 p.m., UH Hilo Courts

22, 23  Vulcan softball vs. Chaminade University, Noon, UH Hilo Field

23  Vulcan tennis vs. Chaminade University, 10 a.m., UH Hilo Courts

28  Vulcan tennis vs. BYU-Hawai‘i, 1 p.m., UH Hilo Courts