Regents approve College of Business/Economics and new master of science degree

Two major initiatives at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo have been given the green light by the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents. During its October meeting at UH Hilo and Hawai‘i Community College, the Board approved establishment of the College of Business and Economics and a master of science degree in Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental Sciences (TCBES).

“This is a big day for UH Hilo,” said Chancellor Rose Tseng. “Approval of these two proposals will move us a big step closer to positioning ourselves as the State’s leader in small business entrepreneurship while enhancing our credentials as a great institution for the study of natural sciences and applied research. I want to thank the Board of Regents for approving these initiatives, and all the faculty who worked so hard to develop them.”

The College will be officially established in January 2004. All programs, faculty and budget will be transferred from the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), where the business school is currently located.

Dr. Marcia Sakai, professor of tourism/economics and director of the School of Business, said the reorganization will establish a more autonomous academic and administrative structure, pro-
Achieving separate status as a college will facilitate student recruitment, and make it easier for us to attract well-qualified faculty when we have vacancies to fill.”

The Master of Science in TCBES program will provide recent baccalaureate graduates and those currently working in conservation biology and environmental science with graduate training to prepare them for careers as conservation and environmental scientists and managers. At the same time, students will gain a foundation for doctoral studies in a variety of theoretical and applied disciplines.

Dr. Don Price, associate professor of biology and co-project director of EPSCoR, said the Island of Hawai‘i’s extraordinary biological and physical complexity combined with the State’s distinction as the endangered species capital of the United States makes the program a natural fit.

“The Island of Hawai‘i constitutes the majority of the land area in the State of Hawai‘i and encompasses one of the most biologically diverse regions of the world,” Price said. “There may be no other place that exhibits a comparable array of climate zones and eco-types in the same land area, and that makes the Island of Hawai‘i an ideal setting for advanced research and education.”

Possible areas of concentration include: coastal zone and terrestrial land management and assessment; environmental physiology; planning and quantitative analysis; genetics and population dynamics; physical and chemical environmental analysis; population ecology and evolution; and restoration ecology.

Beyond the obvious educational opportunity, Price believes the program will fill an important need. Although it is well established that the most successful conservation efforts involve the active participation of the local community, there is a serious shortage of local students involved in scientific research and environmental careers in general.

“Extensive tracts of public land and coastal habitat in Hawai‘i have been and are proposed to be set aside as critical habitat and it is important that trained personnel are available to manage these fragile ecosystems,” Price said. “Additionally, the knowledge students gain through this master’s program can be applied throughout the Pacific region and to other ecosystems in the US and the world.”

The program will be a multi-disciplinary initiative with the participation of faculty from Anthropology, Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Geology, Marine Science, and the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management (CAFNRM), and with affiliated personnel in federal, state and non-government agencies on the Island.

Through the National Science Foundation’s EPSCoR program, up to nine new faculty will be hired in Biology, Geography, Marine Science and CAFNR M who will participate in the program.

“The approval of MS in TCBES is an important milestone in the fulfillment of UH Hilo’s mission to offer selective graduate programs where we have strong expertise and that meet the needs of the community,” Lu said. “We anticipate that this program will lead to vibrant research programs in biological and environmental sciences and increase UH Hilo’s
The U.S. Department of Education has awarded UH Hilo a grant of $2,175,984 over three years under the Native Hawaiian Education Act Program. The grant funds a natural and environmental science “pathway” program for Native Hawaiian students entering high school this academic year.

The program, which started October 1 and is administered through Na Pua No’eau, the UH Hilo’s Center for Gifted and Talented Native Hawaiian Children, will help to build a connection with high schools throughout the state. It will also reinforce educational efforts instituted through current UH Hilo programs such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)/Keaholoa Program, Upward Bound and other programs at the University.

“It builds upon the work we’ve been doing for the past 13 years,” said Na Pua No’eau Director Dr. David K. Sing. “Currently the monies we have from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and other sources help to raise the educational and career aspirations of Hawaiian students.

This particular grant will focus on Hawaiian students who are interested in the sciences. We’re developing a ‘pathway’ that consists of program activities to increase students’ interest and preparedness to go on to college and eventually work in a career related to managing Hawai’i’s natural resources,” Sing added.

“Currently at UH Hilo, we’re finding that many of our Hawaiian students who have an interest in some of these areas are not adequately prepared in the areas of math and science. Thus, the new grant will work with potential students in the early high school years and make sure that we start to provide them with the prerequisite course work.

“This particular grant will provide us resources on all the islands to start working with students who demonstrate interest and potential,” Sing explained. “The project will work with a cohort group of students over three years starting with the summer prior to the students entering the ninth grade.

The grant provides $647,435 the first year, $724,158 the second year and $804,391 in the third year. The Na Pua No’eau sites at UH Manoa, Kaua‘i Community College, Maui Community College, Lana‘i School, Moloka‘i Education Center and the UH West Hawai‘i are part of the project and will implement activities for the students in their geographic region.

For more information, contact Sing at x30829 or x47678.

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competitive edge for extramural grants and contracts in these disciplines.”

Implementation is tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2004 with 20 qualified students, but that timetable could move to July if plans to offer a five-week intensive summer course are approved by the appropriate faculty body.

Dr. William Mautz, chair and associate professor of biology, says the University may begin reaping the benefits of the program even sooner.

“In anticipation of this program, a number of UH Hilo faculty have been writing research grant proposals,” Mautz said. “Those proposals include requests to fund graduate student research positions.”

Price envisions TCBES becoming one of the select graduate programs that will help attract and retain top-notch faculty. He also believes the program will have a significant, positive impact on undergraduate education.

“The increased research and graduate students on campus will allow our undergraduate students even greater access to research experience, where hands-on experience is vital,” Price said. “Now we will have undergraduate students involved with graduate students and faculty, along with greater collaboration with agencies on the Island.”

Students will have two tracks to choose from. They can either complete coursework and a research based thesis under the supervision of their faculty advisor, or complete coursework and an internship with a partner government or non-government agency, which will serve as valuable affiliate faculty.

“The new master’s degree in Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental Science illustrates the remarkable growth of science programs at UH Hilo,” Hora said. “This program now joins the Masters in Education, Masters in Hawaiian Languages, and the new Masters in Counseling Psychology and China-U.S. Relations programs as the fifth post-graduate program at UH Hilo.”

(Editor’s note: Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)
Regent holds audience with UH Hilo community

by Ken Hupp

With the majority of the University of Hawai‘i system located on O‘ahu, Big Islanders don’t often see members of the Board of Regents. But that may soon change if East Hawai‘i Regent Ted Hong has anything to say about it.

Hong made the most of the Regent’s October meeting in Hilo by holding question and answer sessions at UH Hilo and Hawai‘i Community College.

“I think it’s important as a regent to understand what’s happening with regard to the students, faculty and administration experience,” Hong said. “Unless you understand that, you can’t relate to what’s going on at the university level and what their concerns are.”

During a two-hour open discussion with faculty, staff and students at UH Hilo, Hong fielded questions on a wide variety of issues, including separation of the two campuses, funding and physical facilities.

“This is the first time we’ve ever had a Board member sit down around the table and listen to us,” said Dr. David Miller, professor of English and University of Hawai‘i Professional Assembly representative. We appreciate you being here.”

Auxiliary Services Officer Kolin Kettleson expressed concern over what he called unfinished business from the separation of UH Hilo and HawCC. Auxiliary Services performs a wide range of services, including cleaning, maintenance, parking, mail and transportation, and Kettleson wondered whether there would ever be a change in the status quo of a shared campus and the facilities responsibilities UH Hilo oversees.

“Facilities expansion has not been accompanied by an expansion in facilities support,” Kettleson said. “Ultimately, it comes out of UH Hilo’s operating budget because whether they give us the positions or not, we still got to clean the campuses. Those are the consequences of our resource allocation.”

University Relations Director Gerald De Mello said it was unfortunate that one campus had to bleed off the other.

“If you look at the utility costs, security, operations and maintenance, then add in items like student services, you are probably looking at a figure in excess of three million dollars,” De Mello said. “And dollars spent on utilities, security, maintenance and operations is money that is not being used

Regent Ted Hong poses questions to the group.

for instruction.”

Hong said it’s no secret that the two campuses fail to receive the resources they need. He suggested that part of the problem stemmed from conflicting signals about the UH administration’s position on the separation issue, which he hoped to clarify by bringing the matter before the Board.

“I think it is important to get the administration to make a commitment one way or another on the record,” Hong said. “Once a decision is made we’ll figure out how to make the best of the situation, but first we need to know what the decision is going to be. “If we are going to treat the two campuses separately, then let’s do so by giving them the resources they need and make sure everybody gets their fare share.”

Hong also heard calls for improved physical facilities. Emily Hutchinson, a member of the Vulcan women’s volleyball team and president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, described UH Hilo’s existing fitness facilities as “substandard.” Hutchinson, who visited fitness facilities, high schools, and rehabilitation centers in the East Hawai‘i area, presented Hong with pictures of the different facilities to illustrate her point.

“The state of UH Hilo’s fitness facilities is becoming a liability,” Hutchinson said. “Rust on weights flakes off and gets into your eyes. As an athlete and a student, I am embarrassed by these facilities.”

Hutchinson said the time has come to push hard for the University’s Student Life and Special Events Center with its fitness facility, which Vice Chancellor of Administrative Affairs Dr. John Whittaker identified as the number one priority in UH Hilo’s capital budget.

Dr. Charles Simmons, associate professor of chemistry, sought support for new science facilities. Simmons called the existing situation “deplorable.”

“We need a new science building pronto,” Simmons said, in reference to the Science and Technology Building proposal UH Hilo is pursuing at the state legislature. “I wish this was the number one priority.”

Paul Mendoza, a member of the Student Activities Council, echoed Simmons’ sentiments, saying the science department lacks adequate funding for equipment and supplies.

“The quality and quantity of equipment and supplies at my high school in California were better than what we have

Regent Ted Hong - continued on page 10.
**UH Hilo Summer Internship Program focuses participants’ sights on science and environmental research**

*by Sharon Ziegler-Chong*

This past summer 25 undergraduates explored science research, natural resources management and environmental education careers through a combined internship effort of four UH Hilo programs in collaboration with projects, agencies and organizations statewide.

Partnering in the 10-week program were the University of Hawai‘i Hawaiian Internship Program (UH-HIP) and the National Science Foundation supported programs: Keaholoa STEM; Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU); and Undergraduate Mentoring in Environmental Biology (UMEB). Throughout the summer program each intern worked with a host mentor on his/her individual project. The program included a week-long orientation, instruction on report writing, statistical analysis and presentation techniques, and final presentations and reports.

Field trips offered interns the opportunity to experience Waipio Valley with the Edith Kanakaole Foundation, Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge, Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park, rainforest restoration efforts with Ku Ohia Laka and connect with scientists and researchers at the Hawai‘i Conservation Conference in Honolulu. Guest lecturers from the environmental community gave presentations on invasive species in Hawai‘i (Greg Santos), the role of environmental activism (Nelson Ho), environmental ethics (Casey Jarman) and ecosystem ecology (Peter Vitousek). Na Pua No’eau’s Dr. David Sing helped give interns a “sense of place” through discussing Hawaiian values and their use as tools for succeeding in their projects and studies, such as koho‘ia (finding one’s destiny), ‘ohana (family), ho‘omau (perseverance) and aloha for each other and their community.

The overall program focused on giving students with little research or science background the opportunity to gain more experience. In addition, the summer activities also presented opportunities for researchers from different organizations to do collaborative research via interns’ projects.

Researchers from USDA Forest Service, USGS BRD Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center and UH Hilo worked together to mentor three interns working on different but related aspects of forest ecology. Stanford University and USGS BRD researchers collaboratively hosted a REU intern to work with a team of researchers on the impact of feral pigs on the rainforest. UH Hilo researcher Dr. Cam Muir worked with researchers at the Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology and UH Hilo Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center to mentor a REU intern researching the population structure of black lip pearl oysters. UH-HIP intern, Ray McGuirre, worked with UHM’s College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and the Hawai‘i Agriculture Research Center in studies relating to the ecology of koa. Kamehameha Schools provided support for interns working with environmental education efforts of the Youth Conservation Corps and Imi Pono no ka ‘Aina.

More information on and links to each program can be found on <www2.hawaii.edu/~uhintern>. A similar collaborative program effort is planned for 2004.

(Editor’s note: Sharon Ziegler-Chong is with the Pacific Aquaculture & Coastal Resources Center.)
Hats off to...

Raina Ivanova, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, was acknowledged as an Honorary Member of the Geometry Society “Boyan Petkanchin” of the Union of Bulgarian Mathematicians at the VIth International Conference on Geometry and Applications held in Varna, Bulgaria in September. Ivanova also gave a lecture and participated in the award ceremony.

Kathy McNally, Director of Athletics, was named chair of the university systems Commission on the Status of Women selected to represent NCAA Division II institutions at the NCAA Strategic Planning and Leadership Summit held in Dallas, TX in September. She was also selected by the Pacific West Conference as its representative on an NCAA travel grant to attend the annual National Association of Collegiate Women Athletic Administrators in Austin, TX last month.

Yoshiko Okuyama, Assistant Professor of Japanese, received her Competent Toastmasters (CTM) award from the Toastmasters International after completing the first Communication and Leadership Program manual. She is now working on the Advanced Communication and Leadership Program.

Thomas Pinhey, Assistant Professor of Sociology, and Sara Millman, Chair of Sociology, recently had their paper “Asian-Pacific Adolescent Sexual Orientation and Suicide Risks in Guam” accepted in the American Journal of Public Health. An earlier version of the paper was presented at the 2003 annual meeting of the Southwestern Sociological Association held in San Antonio, TX.

Jon Cauley, Professor of Economics, had his paper “On Accurately and Optimally Integrating the Balanced Paycheck with the Balanced Scorecard” accepted for presentation at the National Business and Economic Society’s Fifth Annual Conference in Kona. The paper is co-authored with Steve Landry.

Seri Luangphinith, Assistant Professor of English, will have her article “Tropical Fevers: ‘Madness’ and Colonialism in Pacific Literature” appear in January in the spring edition of The Contemporary Pacific.

Terrance Jalbert, Associate Professor of Finance, recently had “Benchmarking the Accounting and Finance Functions of Hong Kong Listed Firms” published in the Journal of Business and Economics Research. The paper is co-authored with Steve Landry and Wai Yee Canri Chan.

Wayne Miyamoto, Professor of Art, received a grant from the Hawai’i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts in support of “Year-One, 2005 Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition,” to be presented in spring 2005. The exhibition is a two-year project funded in two year-long grants. Additionally, he presented work in the 2003 Artist’s of Hawai’i Exhibition at the Honolulu Academy of the Arts over the summer.

Jean Ippolito, Assistant Professor of Art, had her paper on “Japan’s Pioneering Contributions to Today’s International Art and Technology Movement” accepted for the Hawai`i International Conference on Arts and Humanities in Honolulu, January 2004.

John Scott, Associate Professor of Biology, is the featured scientist in the fall 2003 issue of the Biological Electron Microscope Facility newsletter. The article showcased the detailed images of the nervous system of living nematodes that he has obtained using sophisticated fluorescence microscopy and confocal imaging. The BEMF news-
Andrew Grabar, Associate Professor of Art, received a Fulbright Scholar Award to lecture and research at Tribhuvan University Fine Arts Campus in Kathmandu, Nepal for seven months beginning in January 2004.

Michael Bitter, Assistant Professor of History, presented a paper on “Anglo-Russian Relations in the 1730s: The Mission of George, Lord Forbes, to the Court of Anna Ivanovna” at the International Conference on Anglo-Russian Relations, 1553-2003, organized by the Study Group on Eighteenth Century Russia at Cambridge University, and held at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, UK in August. The conference marked the 450th anniversary of Anglo-Russian relations.

Patti Urso, Assistant Professor of Nursing, had her abstract on “Match the best smoking cessation intervention to your patient” published in Medline. She also received a $2,000 grant from the Hawai‘i Community Foundation to attend the 2003 National Conference on Tobacco Or Health, to be held in Boston, MA next month.

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national championship team at USC. She was also a collegiate track athlete and basketball player both at USC and UCLA. Before that, she was also a prep standout at Punahou School in Honolulu. Her coach for the Buffanblu, ironically, was former UH Hilo Coach Sharon Peterson, who during her tenure, led the Vulcans to five NAIA national championships and two AIAW titles. Morgan says that both the University and the Hilo community have been receptive in the short time she has been back in the islands.

“People have made me feel really welcome and the team has been fun to work with,” she explained. “I can’t say it’s not tricky like any new job, but being in a place like Hawai‘i and being able to do what I love is what’s important.”

McNally said that Morgan’s “networking and recruiting” skills are going to be vital in her quest to turn the Vulcan fortunes around. Morgan said that the recruiting net will have to widen to include more international players if UH Hilo is to compete with the likes of BYU-Hawai‘i and Hawai‘i Pacific University, with both schools having won multiple NCAA Division II titles and playing consistently at a national powerhouse level.

“As long as HPU and BYU continue to recruit the way they do we will have to give the age difference and experience difference (of international players) on our team,” she said. “We are in Hawai‘i and there are student-athletes out there who would like to have that experience to come here. If they don’t have the chance to play at Division I in the islands, perhaps they would look at playing at a very, very high level Division II program, even if they are getting Division I offers on the mainland. But a lot of that comes down to the homework that I do, the exposure I give the school.

“What it really comes down to, I think is more finances and philosophy more than anything else,” Morgan added. “If the school and the community decide they want to be competitive at the level that BYU-Hawai‘i and HPU are, I think that we are not at a disadvantage. I could do my job and come up with consistent teams that could compete for a championship.”

Even though the team Morgan inherited is not on a par talent-wise with BYU-H or HPU, Morgan said that she likes the character of her senior-heavy squad.

“I wish that I had these players longer,” she said. “I feel there’s so much more that could be done with them. Sharon did a great job with them. But they continue to improve and to see that, you never want to let them go. They’re a very hardworking group that has done everything I have asked them to do.”

When not in her office at UH Hilo’s Athletics Complex, Morgan can often be found down on Hilo’s bayfront running, walking and sometimes fishing.

“I just love being outside,” she said. “And Hilo Bay is beautiful.”

(Editor’s note: John Burnett is a public information officer.)
**Fishing Tales icon showcased in Library fund raiser**

*by John Burnett*

Big Island angler Mike Sakamoto, host of TV’s *Fishing Tales*, will be the headliner as the Edwin H. Mookini Library and Graphic Services holds its first fundraising event, *A Night in the Stacks 2003: Fishing for Friends with Mike Sakamoto*. The event is Friday, November 21 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Library. Sakamoto will be promoting his new book, *Hawai’i’s Mike Sakamoto Presents 101 Fishing Tips*, about which Honolulu Advertiser book reviewer Wanda Adams called “the real insider’s stuff.”

“We will have copies of the book for purchase here and he will sign them for no charge,” said Library Director Dr. Linda Marie Golian-Lui. “A percentage of each sale will go to help the Library Foundation Account. Mike will also be doing a demonstration of a poke recipe from one of his previous cookbooks as well as talking about his books and TV show, which is now seen nationally on the Outdoor Channel.”

The event is free and open to all UH Hilo and Hawai’i Community College faculty, staff and students, but a $25 donation is suggested. Reservations are required. Call Myrtle Hara at x47568 by Friday, November 14.

“All donations are 100 percent tax-deductible,” Golian-Lui said. “Anybody who gives $25 or more will have the opportunity to ‘adopt a book.’ You get to choose a bookplate to honor either a loved one or a special occasion.

“Every dollar raised is going straight toward purchasing additional library material. This will help a good library become a great library.” There will also be Library tours, an art exhibit, hula demonstration and light classical and jazz music provided by students.

In addition, the occasion will also be used to inaugurate a special library borrowing card for alumni of UH Hilo and HawCC.

“It is going to be a special community borrowing card that is only good for the Mookini Library,” Golian-Lui explained. “But instead of the regular $60 a year fee, it will only be $35 a year if they are current dues paying members of either school’s alumni association.”

For additional information on this event, please call x33132.

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**Bums On Seats to open in studio setting in Theatre**

*by Larry Joseph*

What happens when you have a classroom of talented, advanced acting students and the show you planned is in litigation and you’re told you can’t produce it? Gulp! Why, you make a tally of the talents the students have to offer, then read, read, read! In no time flat, it’s possible to find a play that will build their sense of timing, help them to create interesting characters, and allow them to end up with a show that’s a romp through “insider” theatre jokes.

Such is the case with *Bums on Seats*, the play that will open at the UH Hilo Theatre on November 14th, with a two-weekend run. Originally, the Acting Troupe at UH Hilo had planned to undertake *Tony and Tina’s Wedding*, a modern-day offering that calls for audience participation. When notice was given of the show’s unavailability, it was time to find a lively substitute. Twenty-three plays later, Michael Snelgrove’s uproarious adult comedy, *Bums on Seats* rose to the challenge.

Under the direction of UH Hilo Drama Professor Jackie Pualani Johnson, Bums on Seats will boast a 16-member cast that will tickle your funny bone. Each actor in the double-cast performance will create two characters each, presenting challenges to the actors and designers that range from physical representation to costume cleverness.

In a tatty provincial theatre, a new play, “Fecund,” is being staged. *Bums on Seats* introduces us to everyone involved in the production. In a series of hilarious scenes, linked by a chorus of usherettes, we meet the stage manager (with a blinding hangover), the leading actors (ranging from the pretentious through the bitter to the plain incompetent), the new Marketing Assistant (who used to work for British Rail), the lecherous, unscrupulous author, and others. In the second act, set in the auditorium, attention focuses on the audience, an equally mixed and unharmonious group. Chaos breaks out ultimately, just as Aaron Zoffany the Third, the theatre’s major sponsor, arrives for a visit.

Funny, satirical and technically inventive, *Bums on Seats* is a treat for theatre fans from start to finish! Reservations must be made for the 75-seat studio setting by calling x47310, or via the Web site: http://performingarts.net/Theatre. Performances are scheduled for November 14, 15, 21, and 22 at 7:30 p.m. and November 16 at 4:00 p.m. Tickets are $10.00 general, $8.00 faculty/staff/seniors and $3.00 for UH Hilo/ HawCC students.

(Editor’s note: Larry Joseph is Theatre manager.)
Change imminent for annual Thanksgiving tournament

by Kelly Leong

The 12-year run for the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo’s Annual Thanksgiving NCAA Division I basketball tournament — the Big Island Invitational Basketball Tournament — comes to an end this month as rising costs and stagnant finances have become the sign of the times for college athletics.

“It’s a no-brainer that the tournament needs to go because of the cost,” UH Hilo Athletic Director Kathy McNally said. “The whole philosophy has changed. If we would get our new multi-purpose facility, I would think that we would actually try to recruit a sponsor. I think it would be something positive we could offer. But it’s just beyond our realm at this stage.

“It’s too much work for a department this size,” she added.

An annual event since the 1992-93 season, the tournament has not been the revenue generator it was anticipated to be.

Former Athletic Director Bill Trumbo saw the “Hawai‘i Exemption” as a potential source of department income. Games played by Division I schools participating in exempted tournaments outside the contingent 48 states would not count against the program’s ceiling. This rule was created to aid in geographically-challenged programs scheduling.

UH Hilo went on to sponsor three tournaments — the Big Island Invitational and the Hilo Holiday Shootout as well as the Kona Women’s Classic — which were among just a handful of tournaments that included the Maui Classic, the Rainbow Classic and the Great Alaska Shootout.

“I think it was a good thing when it was created,” McNally said. “The overall ambience and distinction of being able to bring over teams because of the exemption was really something to go after.

“Because of the number of exempt events everywhere, it’s gotten out of hand.”

As budgets became tighter and corporate sponsorships gained prominence in collegiate athletics, tournaments began popping up seeking the “exemption” rule. Both Hawai‘i Pacific University and Brigham Young University-Hawai‘i developed tournaments upon membership in the NCAA while the University of Alaska-Fairbanks began the Top of the World Classic. The pre-season-NIT as well as the Coaches Against Cancer tournaments joined the scene.

By the mid-’90s, the NCAA began to scrutinize and regulate exempt tournaments. Requirements were being made of host institutions to provide a graduated scale of financial support over a four-year period which provided guarantees to cover 25 percent, 50 percent, 75 percent and eventually 100 percent of a participants’ costs. These costs included air and ground transportation, accommodations and per diem for an 18-team travel party. In addition, educational and cultural opportunities were part of the requirement.

With tournament costs soaring into six figures, the eight-team field BIIBT was trimmed to a four-team Hilo Shootout last year.

“Sometimes we bit off more than we could chew with the teams that came out in hopes of other things,” Vulcan Basketball Coach Jeff Law said.

“I like to win every game so I’m looking at how we can go about winning.

“The new philosophy is ‘let’s not get top 20 teams but decent teams that want to come to Hilo and enjoy the experience — as opposed to the bigger teams coming out and complaining.’ We’ve gone with smaller teams and that’s worked out. But with the Division I teams, our budget just gets sucked up.”

This year’s tournament includes Quinnipiac University, Rider University and Dartmouth University in the three-day round-robin, hel November 28-30 in the Afook-Chinen Civic Auditorium.

“We’re still paying $60,000-$80,000 annually, according to the teams,” McNally said. “It’s just too much. Plus staffing and everything else that it requires. We’ve cut it back and it’s still a strain on the department.”

The Vulcans will continue to have a Thanksgiving Tournament that will continue to provide quality competition, but not the same financial burden.

“What we’re going to try to do is make it a good Division II tournament where we don’t have to give a huge guarantee,” Law said. “Then when the ball gets tossed up in all three games we have a chance of winning all three games.”

The Vulcans already hosts December’s Coconut Coast Classic, which features Division II and III as well as NAIA teams. While teams of the CCC are not offered guarantees, participants in next year’s Hilo Shootout will receive some help.

“If we can get three teams to play here for the cost of one of our road trips, it would be a plus,” McNally said. “Plus the games would be at home in front of our fans.”

NOTE: The first event to carry the BIIBT title actually occurred during the 1990-91 season as UH Hilo and Chaminade were joined by the University of Iowa in the Afook-Chinen Civic Auditorium. UH Hilo was not a member of the NCAA at that time so Chaminade’s membership was used as the basis for the exemption.

The Vulcans gained their membership during the 1994-95 season and became sole host of the BIIBT.

Chaminade, BYU-Hawai‘i and Hawai‘i Pacific University will be sponsoring Division I events. Each is receiving non-university assistance for their tournament. Each has different financial agreements with different co-sponsors.

(Editors note: Kelly Leong is sports information director.)
Philosophy and Service Learning highlight November Focus on UH Hilo

Philosophy and Service Learning will be among the featured topics of discussion this month on Focus on UH Hilo. The program, hosted by Chancellor Rose Tseng, airs Wednesday evenings from 8:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Channel 55.

UH Hilo Philosophy Professor Dr. Larry Heintz will be joined by Hawai‘i Community College Philosophy Instructor Daniel Peterson for a discussion of their respective programs. Heintz and Peterson will appear on the November 5th show.

Service Learning/Orientation Coordinator Timothy Kane, Marketing and Alumni Director Yu Yok Pearring and Career Services Director Norman Stahl will discuss their various programs on the November 19th show.

Focus on UH Hilo highlights UH Hilo programs, up and coming developments and the University’s partnerships with various community organizations.

Mo’ Betta Regattah!

The University Canoe Club and UH Hilo Housing Office’s “Mo’ Betta Regattah” was held on Sunday, October 26, 2003 under clear skies at Hilo Bayfront. Approximately 50 faculty, staff, students and community members learned that outrigger paddling can test your sense of humor! A pule (prayer) opened the event (top) and mixed crews were subjected to such races as blindfold paddling, no-paddles paddling, chinese fire-drill and backwards paddling. The competition ended with a one-paddle-two-paddle race (bottom photo) in which Assistant Professor of Art Jean Ippolito in seat two (second from left) is shown concentrating on keeping her student crew focused. HawCC Librarian Ellen Okuma (far right) looks to steer her canoe while keeping a straight face. It was a fun day for which also included beach volleyball, food, drink and ice-shave provided by the Housing Office and Sodexo. All faculty and staff are invited to paddle with the University Canoe Club on Thursday and Friday afternoons a 4:30 pm and Sundays at 2:00 pm.

Regent Ted Hong

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here,” Mendoza said.

Hong said he believes the problems encountered by students, faculty and staff are symptomatic of the need for the Regents to become more familiar with the needs of the UH Hilo campus.

The system approach seems to be “out of sight, out of mind,” Hong said. “Whether it’s the student athletics, sciences or anything else, nobody here seems to be getting their fair share. But unless we tell them what we need, they’ll conclude everything is just fine.”

Program funding and review issues were also discussed. Education Professor Dr. Nina Buchanan said new programs are continuously proposed in part because they attract new funding. But she said little is being done to scrutinize existing programs so that more resources can be directed toward growth programs and away from those in decline.

“We need to do a better job of scrutinizing and supporting existing programs before we go out and fund new initiatives,” Buchanan said. “Some of our programs are dying, but not for lack of students or quality, but because they get the same allocation, while others are in decline and lack student interest, yet continue to receive the historical amount of support and funding.”

Hong said the Regents would be taking a closer look at duplication in the system among programs at the various campuses and hopes to make some proposals early next year. He also plans to propose that his colleagues hold separate meetings at UH Hilo and HawCC next year, instead of one East Hawai‘i meeting divided between the two campuses.

For his part, Hong says he plans to continue meeting with his constituents outside of formal Board and committee meetings.

“It’s my intention to make sure I do so at least once a month so that the students, faculty and administration know they can communicate to someone on the Board of Regents.”
Accreditation update

by Dr. April Komenaka

UH Hilo is well into what is scheduled to be its last year of review for reaccreditation. We will submit a report on our effectiveness as an educational institution to WASC in December 2003, and a site team from the commission will follow up with an intensive visit to campus in March 2004. The commission is mandated by the U.S. Department of Education to ensure that universities, private and public, meet standards of effectiveness and to hold these institutions accountable for meeting those standards.

If WASC finds our level of educational effectiveness to be good to excellent, they will reaffirm accreditation for between seven and ten years, with or without scheduled interim check-up visits. If WASC finds that we have not corrected or are not actively addressing the deficiencies identified in our own self study and confirmed in WASC’s 2003 report, we might find ourselves with a “reaffirmation with Notice of Concern.” Such a notice puts the institution on a two-year time table for compliance with WASC standards.

UH Hilo is in generally good shape. A prime concern for universities and their accrediting commissions has always been ensuring academic freedom. UH Hilo’s position on this point has always been one of our strengths. And we’ve made some important advances in the past three years, all addressing long-felt needs. The accreditation effort has simply added impetus, and in some cases, deadlines, for such changes as a more meaningful program review process, formulation of policies on the responsibilities of Congress, on faculty hiring. The institutional self study helped the Strategic Plan Review committee to formulate goals and objectives that would promote student learning and curricular development. For the first time, faculty are responsible, through the Congress, for developing criteria and procedures for the initiation and approval of new academic programs. In large part because of the institutional self-review, UH Hilo established an Institutional Research office, the director of which has been making data and research strategies available to administration, staff, and faculty.

What remains to be done by March 2004? Essentially, we need to keep doing what we are already doing, and to bring some activities to conclusion. The list is short but challenging—and most important, they are already strengthening our educational effectiveness. The faculty Congress continues to be a prime agent in moving the campus forward.

First, a process must be in place to ensure that all academic programs have assessable learning goals. The General Education categories will need to be defined in terms of assessable hallmarks against which courses can be measured. Second, we need a process of ensuring the quality of course syllabi. The Congress committees on Assessment Support and General Education are working on these. Congress committees on Academic Policy and Budget and Planning are cooperating with the administration, striving to improve the campus budget practices, improving transparency and level of faculty participation. Other matters of concern to WASC bear less directly on educational effectiveness and are being addressed: the administrative structure of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the governance structure of UH Hilo.

In late November, a draft of the UH Hilo educational effectiveness report will be posted at the accreditation Web site for review by the campus community. The Accreditation Steering Committee is compiling and composing the report with input for the various campus constituencies.

Previous reports to and by WASC as well as links to an enormous amount of institutional data and many important documents is in the institutional Web portfolio at the accreditation Web site: http://www.uhh.hawaii.edu/~accred.

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

### November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><em>Focus on UH Hilo</em>, 8 p.m., Channel 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Vulcan basketball vs. Yonsei Univ (exhibition), 7:15 p.m., New Gym, Admission</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>“I” removal deadline: instructor to Registrar’s Office</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Last day to apply for credit-by-exam for fall</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Holiday: Veterans’ Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>14, 15, 21, 22</td>
<td><em>Bums on Seats</em>, 7:30 p.m., Theatre, Admission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Vulcan volleyball vs. Chaminade University, 7:15 p.m., New Gym, Admission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td><em>Bums on Seats</em>, 4 p.m., Theatre, Admission</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td><em>Focus on UH Hilo</em>, 8 p.m., Channel 55</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Last day to submit credit-by-exam results to Registrar’s Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Holiday: Thanksgiving Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Non-instructional day</td>
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<tr>
<td>28-30</td>
<td>Vulcan basketball in Holiday Shootout, Civic Auditorium, Admission</td>
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