

# **UH Hilo Special Visit Update**

**October 14, 2009**

The following actions have been taken by various UH Hilo constituencies since the July 2009 special visit report to WASC.

## **New Senate Charters and College Structures**

The faculty senate of the College of Business and Economics has revised its charter in response to new campus processes. Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke 'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language has a written charter that describes the roles and responsibilities of its long-standing faculty senate and makes them consistent with new campus processes. The College of Pharmacy does not have a senate, but adheres to defined shared governance policies and procedures. The faculty senate of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) did not function in 2008-2009 and is indefinitely suspended; in September 2009, CAS faculty voted to create a college curriculum review committee and an academic policy committee. The faculty senate of the Edwin H. Mookini Library is revising its draft charter for final approval. Documents relating to the governance arrangements in all degree-granting colleges are on file in the site team room, and college governance representatives will meet with the site team at 2 pm October 14.

## **New Curriculum Review and Academic Policy Processes**

The new curriculum review process is being launched. The Faculty Congress has established the campus-wide curriculum review committee (CCRC) and appointed a chair. The CCRC comprises representatives from each degree-granting college and the graduate council; the University Registrar is an ex officio non-voting member. The committee will convene for the first time in mid-October, ready to accept proposals that have been approved by college deans and the graduate council. For inclusion in the Fall 2010 catalog, the target date for proposals to be submitted to the CCRC is November 1; from the CCRC to the VCAA, December 1; and from the VCAA to the Office of the Registrar, January 31. The review cycle for the Fall 2011 catalog begins in Spring 2010 and runs through January 31, 2011. The new academic policy process also is being launched. It has been accepted in principle by the Faculty Congress, subject to further discussion over implementation.

The processes are evolving as the campus addresses implementation issues. The UH system's online curriculum review system Curriculum Central has been adapted to UH Hilo's new process, and training has begun; proposers can choose between it and the traditional paper forms. The VCAA's Academic Council will propose a set of criteria that will separate college-specific curricular changes from those that require review by the CCRC. The Congress has accepted responsibility for reviewing the efficacy of the new processes before December 31, 2010.

The site team will meet with the Shared Governance Task Force, which developed both new processes, at 1 pm October 14, and with the Faculty Congress executive committee at 3 pm.

## **Ph.D. Program in Hawaiian and Indigenous Language and Culture Revitalization**

By May 2009, Ph.D. faculty had successfully worked with external reviewers from other doctoral programs, with the Dean of UH Manoa's Graduate Division, with WASC assessment

experts, and with the UH Hilo VCAA and Graduate council to ensure that its policies and procedures are consistent with best practice in graduate programs.

In August 2009, the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC) awarded cultural accreditation to Ka Haka Ula for its achievements in preserving and promoting Native Hawaiian culture and language.

### **General Education and Student Learning Assessment**

At its September 27, 2009 meeting, the Faculty Congress voted to postpone implementation of the new GE program until Fall 2011. However, the major elements are defined, and a preview of the new program will be included in the Fall 2010 catalog. Implementation issues that remain: a complete list of GE courses must be certified; articulation issues must be worked out with other System campuses; new Banner coding of GE courses must be created; advising strategies for new and transfer students must be designed; faculty training must be developed; and a sound assessment plan must be devised.

UH Hilo will send a team to WASC's level II Assessment Retreat in San Jose October 22-24. Team members are three faculty—the Congress GE Committee chair, the Congress Assessment Committee chair, and a GE Committee member with considerable assessment experience—and the VCAA. The team's objective is to lay the foundations for an assessment plan for the new General Education program.

The Congress General Education and Assessment Committees will meet with the site team at 2 pm October 14.

### **Diversity Efforts**

With of the most diverse student populations in the United States, UH Hilo also compares very well with other US institutions in terms of the ethnic diversity of administration, faculty, and staff. Such diversity continues to increase as enrollment hovers at 4,000. The Chancellor's cabinet has re-emphasized the campus commitment to increasing diversity.

The new EEO/AA director, who joined UH Hilo in May 2009, is adding to the diversification process new resources to be offered to the campus and to search committees. She has consulted with the UH System General Counsel on UH Hilo's 2008 draft diversification plan; the Counsel has concluded that the plan would not withstand review by the federal courts. The director will help develop a new campus plan.

The director's October 2009 report on UH Hilo's diversification efforts since Spring 2008 gives details on these efforts and on the institutionalization of Keaholoa STEM and Kīpuka initiatives. Her report as well as materials from Keaholoa and Kīpuka are on file in the site team room.

### **Long-Range Planning and Enrollment Management**

Campus-wide planning processes have been ongoing and will be discussed by the vice chancellors at their 4 pm October 14 meeting with the team. Over the summer the Enrollment Management Implementation Team (EMIT) completed work on an Enrollment Checkpoint Schedule together with a "Life-Cycle Management Chart for Predicting Student Enrollment." This life-cycle chart was used to make early decisions (July 6) regarding low-enrolled upper-division classes. Instructional personnel were reassigned to new sections of

lower-level, high-demand classes, particularly in English and the Social Sciences. This planning cycle has been extended with the development of two-year course schedules.

UH Hilo is preparing to develop a new Strategic Plan, which will take effect in AY11. The Long-Range Budget Planning Committee and EMIT have involved many levels of the campus community and prepared us well for this undertaking. The new plan will follow the UH System's 2008-2015 addition to the System Strategic Plan; this extension establishes ten key performance measures for the 10-campus System. The Chancellor will present a "report card" on UH Hilo's response to these performance measures at the Oct. 15 meeting of the UH Board of Regents in Honolulu.