Reflections from the 2011 Faculty Retreat

What question, if explored, will enable us to best serve the global and local community?

Global?

How does Hawaii fit into the global economy? What is our unique role of this university in helping the world? How do we want to see Hilo at the global level – UHH to be recognized as an international university – culturally – academically? Image of Hawaii? How do we utilize it? Location? History? How can we teach the world about Hawaii and what it has to offer the global economy? How can we communicate the idea of cultural and resource protection from “mauka to makai” as a pathway towards global sustainability? What is the role of UHH globally? What expertise or knowledge do we have that people around the world are willing to pay for? What global problems could be reasonably addressed by UHH? How can we share the unique knowledge and perspective that we gain by living here with the global community?

How can UHH make meaningful connections/contributions to the Pacific region?

How to effect change without a crisis? How to strengthen our arts and sciences persona? How can we establish mutually healthy beneficial reciprocal sustainable relationships among systems? How can we better support and encourage research by UHH faculty and students? How can we promote sciences on the Island without losing the liberal arts emphasis at the college level?

What 2 way partnerships can serve both UHH & our partners? How can we gain as well as give?

How must our curriculum evolve to meet the ever-changing needs of an increasingly “smaller” planet? How can we best prepare our students to not just survive but thrive in a global community? How can each department focus on to prepare their students for global citizenship? How can we encourage our students to be good global citizens through education and practice? (Think globally and act locally) How can we educate our students so that our graduates are fully capable citizens, able to reason effectively and make informal decisions? How can we best ensure the survival and well-being of our children (and future generations)? How do we model sustainability once it is defined? How can we best utilize our natural resources sustainability to promote self sufficiency without compromising the environment? How can we best protect the earth? How can we all get along? How do we sustain? How do we ensure equal voices by all peoples? How can we better communicate we are more the same than different? How can we sustain ourselves in a time of economic and ecological change? How will we adapt to the crisis that climate change is bringing? How can we model inspired compassion and sustainability? How to make Hawaii Island fully sustainable? How can we think and act holistically? How do we model sustainability as a concept for others to learn from?
How can we address systemic issues (poverty, pollution, social equity, etc.)? What are the main factors leading to inequality in today’s world and how do we best critique these? What strategies would motivate people to practice health promoting activities? How can we serve locally and contribute globally?

How to improve the health of Hawaiians? How best can the loss of indigenous and minority languages be reversed? How can we assist in the development and research of evaluation instruments in the area of indigenous language programs/schools? How should UHH take on the role of Hawaiian Ambassadorship globally? How can we prioritize indigenous relationships with the environment? As scholars, how to have a deep understanding of local issues? With so many different languages spoken around the globe, how can we facilitate universal communication and understanding between local communities?

How do we more effectively link with others in diverse places? What are ways that UHH can provide its successes globally? How can we ensure that each UHH student has an overseas study experience? What benefits can we envision from increased global connectivity?

How can we educate our students so that our graduates are fully capable citizens, able to reason effectively and make informal decisions? How do we live the “good” life? How can the arts be more universally used to promote a better quality of life? How do we help our students envision their role in a global society? How can we make people feel a part of the global community while maintaining their cultural identities? How can we improve quality of life for everyone world wide?

Local?

How can we sustain ourselves in a time of economic and ecological change? How do we create food security on the Island? How can Hawaii become self-sustaining? How will we adapt to the crisis that climate change will bring? How do we sustain? How can we educate to enhance environmental sustainability for future generations? How do we enhance indigenous relationships with the environment? How do we prepare students to sustain and nurture their community? What is sustainability? Sustainability…many, many questions about sustainability!!!

How do we increase enrollment and graduation rates of Hawaiian students? How will we nurture and education the younger generations in the Island? How can we promote local students to become local leaders? How to encourage the students for higher education? How can we better serve the non-traditional and neighbor Island students? How do we expand to the West side? Kailua-Kona is waiting for us! How can Hilo become a college town? How do we build a sense of local community at UHH? How do we build partnerships with the other Island organizations that benefit both the students/grads and the community? How can we bring together the different depts./disciplines to resolve the severe socio-
economic challenges faced by the Hawaii Island community? How do we live the “good” life? What kind of knowledge/education will we need to empower people on the local level? What specific local needs could be addressed by UHH? How can we provide scholarship for local gifted students? What environment do we need to provide to have active learning and encourage creative thinking? What can we do to provide good jobs for local graduates to help them in Hawaii? How can we become better relationship partners with the local community? What is relevant about the university that is valuable to the community? How do we create opportunities for our students and the community?

What strategies would encourage Hilo people to exercise regularly? What are some ways we can improve the health care of the Big Island?