



## R.I.P.?

Over the past few months during multiple meetings, we've been told one thing or another by KapCC staff, faculty, and administration. It was all based around one idea: the Kapi'o shutting down.

In Feb. our advisor, Mitchell Dwyer, informed us that his new supervisor, Dennis Kawaharada, decided that he had a new direction for the Kapi'o. Kawaharada's plan was for Kapi'o to cease to exist as we know it. Kawaharada met with us on March 4 to further elaborate on his new plan.

Kawaharada informed us that the Kapi'o news was going to turn into a student life website to publish outstanding student work. All the content was going to be generated from students in classes such as English or Journalism. He and the professors would be determining what was considered exceptional and would then publish those pieces.

If students wanted something published that wasn't produced in classrooms, Kawaharada would determine if it was newsworthy then publish it, giving the student a gift card for their submission.

This meant that the Kapi'o would no longer be a student-run student publication. Students on this campus would no longer have their own voice because they would be told what to write and how to do it.

The current staff was also informed that they would be laid off because there was no longer any use for them. Kawaharada said that he might keep one of us because someone needed to upload the content to the website, but we were no longer needed to create content for publications since it would all be generated from classrooms.

We were upset with this new direction, but since Kawaharada was our new supervisor, we felt that his word was final. At no point in his decision making process did he ask us or any other student for our input.

Thinking this decision was final, we updated our facebook account : "With heavy hearts, we are sad to announce that the Kapi'o News has met its end.

"On May 16 this student run campus publication will be departing Kapi'olani Community College forever. This decision was made by the school administration who wanted to move Kapi'o in a new direction.

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Voices of Kapi'o Past: Read what previous Kapi'o staff members have to say about the Kapi'o's suspected demise.



### Online Exclusive

Profile: Nanette Tavares brings sunshine to our campus, inspiring students one flower at a time.



Vol. 10, No. 11

Kapiolani Community College

April 4, 1979

**By Catherine Toth, 2008 to 2012**

LAST FULL-TIME ADVISER, APRIL 22, 2014

When I heard the news about the student publications program at Kapiolani Community College going in a new direction — meaning, it wouldn't be solely student-run anymore — I was shocked. When I was there a few years ago as faculty advisor — the last full-time advisor and journalism instructor at KCC — we had a robust program with more than a dozen students on staff, working on a daily newspaper, an interactive website, social media, a yearly magazine and several journals. It seemed, at the time, this was a growing program with opportunities in everything from writing to graphic design to video production.

I have long felt student publications at KCC wasn't just about producing journals or a newspaper.

When I heard the news about the student publications program at Kapiolani Community College

It was about giving students the opportunity to gain work experience and create friendships that will go well beyond their time at KCC.

I have had the privilege of working with some of the best and brightest students I've ever met in my 10 years of teaching at the college level. I was always impressed by their commitment to the program, their loyalty to each other, and their drive to reach their own professional goals, many of which were outside the realm of journalism. It was some of the best years of my professional career, working with these students, and I'm disappointed and sad to see this chapter close.

Moving forward, though, I hope the college continues to value student work and writing and offer opportunities for them to grow as writers, designers, photographers and citizens of the world with this new change.

**By Remington Taum, 2009 to 2013**

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, APRIL 21, 2014

The Kapi'ō News has served the Kapi'olani Community College Campus as a voice for students. But it's been more than a voice, it's been a welcoming environment and a home that has brought students, faculty and staff together.

We, the staffers, created a little family. This job has not only provided a flexible work schedule, a way for starving students to make money, and make friends, but presented the opportunity get to know just about everyone on campus.

Working at the Kapi'ō has taught us to build and maintain relationships, be confident and engage fellow students on campus to speak up, submit stories and to investigate on and off-campus news. I am sad to see the Kapi'ō go. The Kapi'ō was such a great outlet for students to express themselves. I can't say that enough. It was a privilege to end my college years as the editor in chief in Fall 2013.

Hopefully the Kapi'ō will live on as more than just a memory or an "era."

Farewell Kapi'ō News! Mahalo for your glorious life and workforce lessons.

The Kapi'ō News has served the Kapi'olani Community College Campus as a voice for students.

**By Joie Nishimoto, 2009 to 2013**

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, APRIL 16, 2014

I firmly believe that a student newspaper is important for any college campus to have, so I am saddened to hear that Kapi'ō News is dissolving and heading into a direction that does not require students to act as watchdogs for the KapCC campus.

Without Kapi'ō, I wouldn't have gained the skills or confidence needed to effectively prepare me for the journalism program at UH Manoa and life after graduation. I also met a lot of wonderful people through Kapi'ō, and I won't forget all the late nights spent with our little family putting a newspaper together, whether it was weekly or monthly.

Thank you to everyone who supported Kapi'ō, the advisers and mentors we've had in the past five years: Catherine Toth, Kim Baxter, Bart Asato, Keith Kashiwada, Valentino Valdez, Mitchell Dwyer.

I firmly believe that a student newspaper is important for any college campus to have, so I am saddened to hear that Kapi'ō News is dissolving and heading

**By Trevor LaTorre-Couch, 2010 to 2011**

COPY EDITOR, APRIL 3, 2014

After hearing that the Kapio would no longer be in print, I wanted to reflect on the learning experiences I had as a KCC student while on staff and to share my opinion on the closing of the newspaper.

I was the copy editor from spring 2010 to spring 2011—three semesters. Professor Kim Baxter took a chance hiring me: I had dropped out of Pearl City High School at 9th grade, and save for the Fall semester of 2009, I had little experience. However, she believed in my writing capabilities. And under her direction, I learned basic composition, AP style, and most importantly close attention to syntax and detail. Professor Baxter groomed me to be a copy editor and writer. Now, while copy editors do write, their most important role on news staffs is to edit content for syntax, grammar, style, and accuracy. These were all things that coming to Kapio I had no idea how to do. On the mauka side of Lama Library, she would sit next to me and we would go line by line of every article every week. I learned to pick up on minute discrepancies in a writer's voice, in the dates and places of feature articles, in words misspelled sometimes by a single letter. Most of the time, I found mistakes come print day and I was embarrassed (I would be surprised if, later on, I did not find at least a split infinitive in this piece). But the embarrassment encouraged me to learn from my mistakes, to improve, and to have greater trust in my abilities. It was this process that I took with me to Stonehill College in Easton, MA as an English major.

Kim and the Kapio staff provided me the tools to complete my undergraduate degree, finishing with a Moreau Honors Scholar designation. I found the time spent at the Kapio to be far more beneficial in tangible learning outcomes than John Milton's "Paradise Lost" or James Joyce's "Dubliners." While the texts I studied grew my vocabulary and helped shape my voice, while they taught me Deconstruction and Post-Modernism, the quality of my work relied on the ability to



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Kapiolani Community College

December 2, 1986

communicate complex ideas in concise, precise, and error-free prose—all the skills provided to me by Kim and the Kapio. So, what did I do with it outside of school?

I'm a writer for a software company in the heart of Silicon Valley, CA. I develop deep-dive guides and support materials for both developers and end-users. My career depends on my ability to effectively communicate software processes and capabilities through writing. So in a sense, I never really left the Kapio. I'm still doing what I was doing in the spring of 2010. In my personal time, I write short stories. I have submitted work to the Stanford University Wallace Stegner Fellowship, Tin House Magazine, and the Western Humanities Review, as well as other highly competitive literary journals.

As the KCC Administration finalizes its decision, if it has not already, I would like it to consider that I did not graduate from KCC with an Associate's Degree. Short of the skills I learned at the Kapio and in class, there is nothing I hang above my nightstand that reflects my time there. It is disappointing that Chancellor Leon Richards would replace a student-run learning environment with an academic journal, showcasing only polished submissions. Can't a compromise be found? For example, a dedicated section within the Kapio that features students' work. Every writer knows that the end product—the piece the reader has access to—is only a small portion of writing. It is the world-building and the cutting away, or as has been credited to countless authors, "to kill your darlings," that make up the bulk of what writing is. And without a weekly publication chock-full of errors to provide the staff necessary embarrassment and encouragement, it would not surprise me if the overall quality and vigor of KCC's student news and general writing slowly slipped to the sinistral end of the bell curve.

I hope that students find other avenues to make the writing mistakes I did, to learn to identify and correct these, and to feel at the end of it that they have gotten something out of their writing. That's really all that matters.

Aloha, Kapio. You will be missed.



Vol. 26 No. 3

Kapiolani Community College

September 15, 1992

# Voices of Kapi'ō past

When Kapi'ō announced its closure on facebook, we asked former Kapi'ō members to share their thoughts about this issue. The date next to their name represents when they were on the Kapi'ō staff. The last title they held is below it along with the date they submitted their reflections. Their pieces were not altered in any way by the current Kapi'ō staff.

## By Paula Bender, 1992 to 1993

APRIL 17, 2014

and became an editorial assistant at The Honolulu Advertiser. It was there that I was encouraged to pursue my love of journalism. In 1991 I got my feet wet at Kapiolani Community College where I worked on Kapiō and learned so much from our advisor Wini Au.

It wasn't just newspaper mechanics that Winnie taught. She took my rough drafts and taught me how to polish my work. She taught us how to write in inverted pyramid style, to quote sources accurately, and to cite references with precision. She expected us to go out on stories, meet with newsmakers, and write our articles within deadline.

For my first 10 years of living in Hawaii, I was in the U.S. Air Force, worked for Kaiser Permanente as a computer operator,

But, I, too, was a rough draft. I was slow to trust others, had my share of insecurities, and had a thin skin when it came to edits. She told me my stories were wonderful, and she showed me through her edits how to make them more enjoyable. Wini's bent and pained fingers grasped the Apple mouse as she edited my precious thoughts and words, rearranging them into a more sensible and entertaining flow. She taught me that edits are professional, not personal. I have worked with many editors since Wini, and a few of them could have learned from her gentle example.

You can shut down a little community college newsroom to make budget, but you will never quiet the urge to find out what is happening and to share that news. A college newsroom is that anchor from where students can break a story, investigate questionable activities, and expose the good and bad on campus. It is where they will get professional guidance and insight. Who will tell these stories now?



Kapiolani Community College

February 4, 1981  
Vol. 12 No.3

## By Treena Shapiro, 1993 to 1994

CO-EDITOR, APRIL 18, 2014

was follow in my father's footsteps. That changed at KCC when my English professor Shel Hershinow discovered I was a birthday hostess at Chuck E. Cheese. Appalled at what he saw as a waste of talent, he insisted I give KCC's student newspaper a try.

As one of Kapiō's editors, under the guidance of Winnie Au, I learned to write news and features, to edit and to do layout—back in the days when wax machines and pica poles were still relevant.

But the biggest difference Kapiō made was in my self-confidence. Winnie taught me that I had a right to know public information, and so did our readership. I went from a student who was reluctant to raise her hand in class to interviewing our administrators and faculty. I even got to cover speeches by Ray Bradbury and George McGovern while still at KCC.

I've been working in journalism for 15 years now and I'm still shy sometimes -- and occasionally starstruck. But thanks to Kapiō, and Shel and Winnie, I've learned that my father's profession wasn't something to rebel against, but rather that revealing truths is something to embrace.

Kapiō will always hold a special place in my heart and it will be missed.

## By Lyle Amine, 2011 to 2012

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER, APRIL 22, 2014

and former Kapiō Photographer. I would like to express my deep concern that The Kapiō is shutting down and only will be used to promote special things or to showcase students' work. It is a nice idea but for using students fees to publish certain things and not letting the students express their voice and ideas for stories and to showcase the photos that represent our wonderful campus. As a former Student Congress Vice Chair I know that student engagement and participation are not great. But once you start taking opportunities away from the students you start to hurt student engagement.

When I was working at The Kapiō it was a wonderful experience. It lead me to have the opportunity to intern with several magazine publications and media groups here in Hawaii.

My name is Lyle Amine I am a former Kapiolani Community College student, Vice chair of student congress,

TUESDAY October 28, 1997



### INSIDE

Before buying textbooks at the bookstore look into other alternatives. Page 2

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www.kapio.net

08.30.10

## Timeline of events:

**Tuesday, March 4 : Meeting with Dennis Kawaharada.** The staff was informed that the Kapi'ō will be replaced by features of outstanding students. This content would come from students in classes. All content would ultimately be curated by faculty and staff.

**Thursday, April 3: Kapi'ō announced its closure on facebook.**

**Monday, April 14: Meeting with Kawaharada.** A new plan was established stating that Kapi'ō would be temporarily shut down until Kawaharada found students from Journalism classes, that were going to be established in the fall 2014 semester, who he deemed proficient enough to be an editor for the Kapiō. Content would still be determined by faculty and staff members.

**Thursday, April 29: Meeting with Chancellor Leon Richards and Vice Chancellor Mona Lee** to discuss Kapiō's situation. Kawaharada was absent. The meeting ends with two conclusive statements on the table: Kapiō will always be a student-run newspaper, and volunteers for a new Board of Student Publications are needed.

**Thursday, May 1: Hawaii Public Radio** reporter Molly Solomon publishes an audio interview that includes statements from Chayne Toyama and Mona Lee, as well as Gerald Kato, journalism professor at UH, Catherine Toth, former Kapi'ō advisor, and Robert Lopez, LA Times. Lopez's statements came from an earlier interview.

**Interview by Molly Solomon:**  
<http://hpr2.org/post/it-final-deadline-kapi-o-news>

**Interview with Robert Lopez:**  
<http://hpr2.org/post/insurance-coverage-autism-treatments-neon-dreams-closing-kapio-maui-choral-arts>



Chayne Toyama **Editor in Chief**  
Hanul Seo **Copy Editor**  
Devin Takahashi **Staff Writer / Photographer**  
Bryce Delmar **Staff Writer**  
Suhan Yi **Staff Writer**  
Mitchell K. Dwyer **Advisor**

Kapi'ō is a publication of the Board of Student Publications (BoSP) at Kapi'olani Community College, an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution. Funding is provided by student fees. Circulation is 2,000. This publication reflects the opinions and views of the editors and writers who are solely responsible for content, and not necessarily those of Kapi'olani Community College, its faculty, or its staff. All submissions are welcomed. Editors reserve the right to edit for length and content. Publication of any submission is not guaranteed.

**Kapi'ō is online.**

check out <http://kapioweb.kapiolani.hawaii.edu> for all the stuff that didn't fit, plus new content (almost) daily!

R.I.P.?:

Continued from page 1

"In the future, the Kapi'olani is turning into a place to post outstanding student work, and other events as deemed important by the school. This way a writing/editing staff is no longer needed. All decisions are going to be made by KapCC faculty and staff - therefore we will no longer be a student publication.

"We are currently putting together a farewell issue to be distributed the week of April 28. We would like to share the thoughts of our readers and Kapi'olani alumni about the matter in it. If you are interested in being quoted, please respond to this post.

"Thank you all for being wonderful readers of the Kapi'olani News."

After that simple status update was posted, the community responded with outrage. The media also became interested in our issue. Various media sources contacted the administration to find

out their side of the story.

Dennis asked to meet with Chayne Toyama, Kapi'olani's current editor-in-chief, to discuss his plans again because he felt that we didn't understand what he was intending to do.

That meeting was held on April 14 and Dennis talked about his new plan. He revised his original plan by stating that he wanted to temporarily shut down the Kapi'olani and implement Journalism classes in the fall 2014 semester to correlate with content. Once students in those special Journalism classes were deemed proficient enough, he would then hire them to reopen the Kapi'olani. Once they were hired, he would ultimately be their boss and still determine what was going to be posted. In a normal newsroom, that is the editor-in-chief's job. This still meant that the Kapi'olani would no longer be student run.

At this point KapCC Chancellor Leon Richards got involved. The Kapi'olani had a meeting on April 29 with him, Mona Lee, Vice Chancellor for

Student Affairs, Tyla Smith, editor-in-chief for LCC's Ka Mana'olani, and Stan Au, husband to Wini Au, who is a former Kapi'olani advisor.

"Let me start off the bat by at least emphatically stating that Kapi'olani will continue as a newspaper," Richards said. "It is not being stomped out."

Richards explained that the newspaper represents the school and it should represent it excellently. To get to that place, courses would be offered that would help students learn how to write for publications.

Richards also stated that Kawaharada was not the Kapi'olani's supervisor. He was supposed to be responsible for the direction of student publications. Since Kawaharada was not the Kapi'olani supervisor, Richards said that we should not have listened to Kawaharada and should have spoken directly to Richards when the issue of the Kapi'olani closure was brought up.

The biggest point from that meeting was that at

the end of the semester, the Kapi'olani staff would be laid off. In the mean time a Board of Student Publications (BoSP) was to be established because only the board can determine if and how the Kapi'olani will continue to run.

The campus hasn't had a BoSP since 2011. This was due to students not being interested in being on the board, not due to the Kapi'olani advisor failing to recruit a board.

When the Kapi'olani asked Richards what would happen if the BoSP wasn't established, he failed to answer and simply stated that there will be a board.

Moving forward, all the Kapi'olani needs to survive is four students, and three faculty or staff members to create the BoSP. The fate of the Kapi'olani and student voices are in the hands of the campus now. If you know any student interested in serving on the BoSP, please contact Mitchell Dwyer at mkdwyer@hawaii.edu.

By Hanul Seo

COPY EDITOR

My name is Hanul Seo, last copy editor of Kapi'olani News. When I first started writing for this paper, I had no idea I would end up in a real-life zombie movie.

"Ghhrrraahhrr," said the newspaper that wouldn't die.

For about a month or so, conflicting reports and visions for its future had kept it in an agonizing limbo bereft of any real closure. Parts of it had begun to go missing. Furniture, employees, and deadlines all dropped off one by one, leaving behind a barely functional husk plodding through the mires of bureaucracy.

In the movies, humanity brings these disasters, monsters, and epidemics upon itself most of the

time, and they are often larger-than-life reflections of mundane issues that face people, blown way out of proportion. We face a similar problem. In our case, although we might be sorely tempted to point fingers (index or otherwise), I believe the blame should not be piled upon one side or even shared equally in this case. Instead, we should just keep our minds open to the possibility of change, even though it might not be what we want for ourselves or others.

A newspaper is going out of print and its staff is being laid off. Stuff like this happens all the time. I urge all parties to remain pragmatic and unattached in their negotiations. What I have to say next is for the various people involved in these negotiations.

Avoid melodrama. This is a job. There are other jobs. Your primary antagonists aren't eldritch abominations, and they have not come forth

from the bowels of the earth to persecute the chosen few. Although they could be a bit (actually, a lot) more transparent, they do have some valid points to make. The larger picture indicates that this kind of change is quite prevalent. When a certain way of doing things or a certain institution becomes obsolete, you adapt so that you do not become likewise. For the sake of your sanity, please choose the path of least resistance and let things go gentle into that good night.

Avoid redundancy. I know you in particular like redundancy, but please: avoid redundancy. Life is already "a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury." Most of us are content with telling the tale just once.

Avoid making promises you can't keep and ideals that you can't live up to. When any of us meet or discuss things, we often end up choking on a dense cloud of abstractions that prevents

us from moving forward. The devil, however, is in the details, and many times the details do not come into full view until they are being implemented. If you have different definitions of "student-run" or "journalism," or if you worry about engagement, you may have to change your strategy in the moment in response to things you could not have foreseen. Don't worry about things you can't predict.

Conclusive statements from last meeting:

Kapi'olani will always be a student run publication.

We're bringing back the Board of Student Publications and volunteers are needed.

Sounds like a good starting point, no?

By Suhan Yi

STAFF WRITER

Disclaimer: I want to state this article was written during the context that the administration will take over and have the final say in the decisions made in Kapi'olani. In the meeting with the Chancellor, he promised us no such thing will happen...Which directly contradicts what Dennis Kawaharada, told Kapi'olani.

He's supervisor of the Student Publications in Kapi'olani Community College who explicitly told our editor that the content will be determined by faculty and pretty much the opposite of what the chancellor has promised us in the most recent meeting.

Why does his statement contradict with the chancellor's? We have no idea.

Thank You Kapi'olani Community College For Shutting Us Down!

As you readers have found out, this is our last paper because we're getting axed. As a newcomer to Kapi'olani, I was absolutely elated to find out one of the things that made Kapi'olani Community College unique was getting the boot. I mean, the entire organization only existed for 32 years and served as the voice for the students who wanted it heard, but we're getting replaced with a totally rad new one.

Now, you might be thinking: "Wait, no students have given their input on this; neither was there any announcement given to the students beforehand!"

However, you have made a totally dumb assumption that KapCC actually cares about any student input. Shame on you.

Now you're possibly wondering: "What is taking over Kapi'olani?"

Good question! We'll be taken over by the

faculty and staff in order to publish some "outstanding" student writings & important events. Before you ask why in the world something like that would need to replace a student-run newspaper when there are several alternatives to consider, I say to you once more: shame on you. We could work together by collaborating instead of being replaced outright, we could simply function as separate entities but use the same delivery system, and so on, so on. But all these require KapCC to actually listen to the students' voices and care! Do you think they have the time for that? If they did, they wouldn't have axed us.

I am not angry with KapCC for doing this; in fact I praise their boldness. You would think college was meant to prepare students for future work endeavors and give them the chance to improve their resume when applying for jobs or universities. But not KapCC! Not only did these brave men and women decide to plant their feet firmly down against those beliefs, but they also stomped the op-

portunities of future students who wish to advance their academic careers by experiencing what journalism is like. While I may be able to put, "having journalism background," when I apply for law school as many successful figures in history have, incoming students won't. Too bad.

So thank you Kapi'olani Community College for making this bold decision. I'm glad such an important student-run organization like this, which gave a voice to students, can be ended on a whim without student input! For students who wish to have their voices heard in the future, we recommend an alternative: go see our student government. Simply go to our former office, ring the bell, and wait for somebody to tend to you until you die of old age.

By Devin Takahashi

PHOTOGRAPHER/STAFF WRITER

As the Kapi'olani comes to an end, I wanted to reflect on my experience working for this newspaper. Working for this newspaper has been nothing short of awesome.

Having great co-workers to work with and a cool advisor makes the environment I'm in comfortable and friendly. As we worked with each other, there seemed to be no stress or tension for the most part. All of us got along as if we were friends. We got stories done when we could so that it did not seem like such a rush (except for printed issues). Some of the stories were not about KapCC, but some of the cool events happening around the island.

Being in Kapi'olani, I wanted a chance to write some stories that would intrigue the college students that read our paper. This experience has truly been a privilege. Combining my love for photography with journalism, I've begun to enjoy going out and finding all that happens on and off of the KapCC campus.

Maybe someday the Kapi'olani or some sort of student publication will rise and give voice to students again but for now, I bid all my coworkers and Kapi'olani adieu.

By Bryce Delmar

STAFF WRITER

I dropped the newspaper in the blue recycling bin instead of the green trashcan because it's the right thing to do.

I picked it up off the rack because I saw a cute girl in the coffee shop with one and wanted to have something to break the ice. After her boyfriend sat down with her though the only thing I wanted to do with it was crunch it in my hand and throw it on the ground. Not wanting to make a scene, I decided to open it. Why the hell not?

I didn't have much else to lose. On the inside I found mostly words and a

couple pictures, the pictures of course I looked at first. One was of a man shaking hands with a woman with a pearly smile and a plastic nose.

Further down the page was an advertisement for one of those colleges you see on TV. The picture was of a group of kids sitting in the grass all smiling the same kind of smile as the woman above. The Caucasian girl was beaming across at the African American guy who was sneering at the Asian girl who was looking kind of pathetically toward the Indian guy leaning comfortably on the shoulder of the second Caucasian guy with a sort of a Hispanic tinge. Nothing strange here I guess, just a motley bunch of college kids hanging out with their ethnically appropriate friends.

Having little luck with the pictures I decided to try my luck with some of the print.

"Sue your doctor the easy way," was streaked across the next page, and "Gorge yourself into good health," on the next.

With an audible yawn and drooping eyelids, I reached the farthest reaches of the page. There in the corner was stamped in bold font "Please recycle - It's the right thing to do."