

Subject: This Week at UH West O’ahu - Week of Feb. 1, 2021
From: UHWO Communications Department <uhwocomm@hawaii.edu>
To: uhwo-all-l@lists.hawaii.edu
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Attachments: Give your aloha..pdf

A BULLETIN FOR UH WEST O’AHU FACULTY AND STAFF
This Week at UH West O’ahu
Week of Feb. 1, 2021

Bulletin No. 36 from Chancellor Maenette Benham

**E ala! E alu! E kuilima!
Awaken! Come together! Join hands!**

***Statement of Gratitude:**

***“We must find time to stop and thank the people
who make a difference in our lives.” ~ John F. Kennedy***

*Wishing you all a wonderfully abundant February 2021!!
Chancellor Maenette Benham*

Update on our Campus Work Groups

Our [Pueo Planning Process webpage](#) has been updated and now provides information on our [Work Groups](#). We have archived our campus forums as well as the work of the [Task Force](#).



Here is an overview of each of the Work Groups that also includes their tasks and membership.

Business Model and Mindset

Purpose: To develop a renewed budget model and mindset.
Explanation: Given that much of the cost of higher education is fixed—particularly in personnel, operations—when a reduction in state funding occurs an institution like UHWO must develop a Business Model and operational mindset that ensures its financial solvency and ability to be partially self-sustaining. This group will revisit and renew the current Business Model articulated in the campus’ Strategic Action Plan (2018) through thoughtful, intentional conversations that will help UHWO pivot from high dependency on state coffers to a status that blends existing funding with solid revenue generation.
Group members: Walter Kahumoku (facilitator), Ed Keaunui (facilitator), Camonia Graham-Tutt, Suzy Johnson (student),

Frank Kudo, Adrian Lee, Leslie Lopez, Leslie Rush, Linda Saiki, Keith Sakuda, and Eli Tsukuyama.

Student Recruitment & Student Retention

Purposes: (1) To strengthen recruitment of current student populations as well as targeting new student populations. (2) To increase retention by providing programs for new markets and providing new approaches to improve wellbeing.

Explanation: By bolstering access to current and “new” student markets through digital tools and other strategies, UHWO will seek to increase the number of traditional freshmen as well as non-traditional learners to our programs. A second and equally important part of this group’s work will be to recommend retention efforts that combine the expertise of Student Affairs and Academics to increase student success. Initiatives will look to improve student time management, career possibilities, financial literacy, engagement, wellbeing as well as academic expertise and career readiness.

Group members: Jan Javinar (facilitator), Reed Young (facilitator), Loea Akiona, Sarah Chase, Michelle Cohen, Ken Inouye, Lelemia Irvine, Holly Itoga, Laurie James, Dylan Keaweehu, Loke Kenolio, Nalo “Shu” Lago (student), Katie Landgraf, Caton Liang (student), Veny Liu, Joe Mareko, Nicholas Mitchell, Leslie Opulauoho, James Oshiro, Ryan Perreira, Kealohi Perry, and Lynette Williamson.

Student Learning

Purpose: To build and strengthen mission and post-pandemic critical academic programs by balancing costs, enrollment patterns, student interests, diverse delivery platforms, industry trends, and innovation.

Explanation: To generate a set of robust investment initiatives this group will first be introduced to an in-depth analysis of the costs associated with personnel and academic programming. This will provide a more accurate/data-based understanding of workload, instructional costs, enrollment patterns, programs that generate revenues and programs that don’t, identification of mission critical programs, and the efficacy of different delivery platforms. Other key data points include operational costs, student interest, current and future job markets and industry trends, successful and innovative programs employed at other campuses, and others. Such data will form the foundation for a revised academic plan.

Group members: Jeff Moniz (facilitator), Mary Heller (facilitator), Ka’iulani Akamine, Kauai Baumhofer, Rebecca Cariono-Augustine, Matt Chapman, Michael Furuto, Sharla Hanaoka, Michael Hayes, Louis Herman, Cathy Ikeda, Michiko Joseph, Stephanie Kamai, Kristina Lu, Jon Magnussen, Therese Nakadomari, Christine Park (student), Princess Soares, Robyn Tasaka, Kaylee Torres (student), Rouel Velasco, and Marnelli Ulep.

Campus Efficiencies

Purpose: Strategize to build a more strategic workforce to maximize our skill and talent base is focused where it can have the greatest impact in the near and long-term.

Explanation: The focus is to generate efficiency recommendations that will increase effective, efficient operations across the campus—Academics, Administration, and Student Affairs.

Group members: Kevin Ishida (facilitator), Katherine Aumer, Sheri Ching, Michelle Ferguson, Lori Foo, Daphne Fox (student), Kelly Fujino, Brient Hutchinson (student), Kay Nagata, Donna Shaver, Lisa Spencer, Nancy Nakasone, and Esther Widiasih.

Should you have any questions or would like to engage in the discussions of any of the work groups, please contact the facilitators of the group.

Update on our USDOE CARES II funding (2021-2022):

We have just updated our CARES Funding webpage. Should you want to learn more about this funding source please go to our [CARES Act Grant Funds page](#).

University of Hawai’i COVID-19 resources

Remember to visit the [UH West O’ahu COVID-19 page](#) and [University of Hawai’i System COVID-19 site](#) for information and updates regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

COPING THROUGH COVID

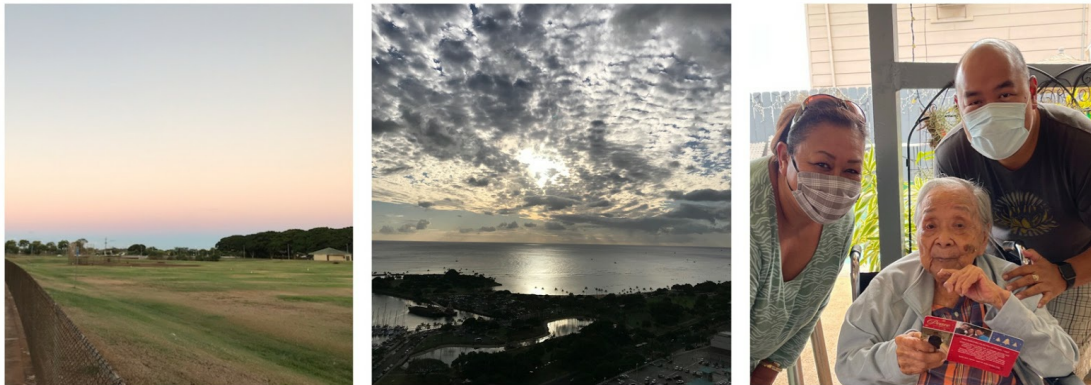
How are you maintaining your mental, physical, and emotional well-being while practicing social distancing? We’d like to hear about your coping mechanisms or personal stories of how you are managing as we navigate these challenging times. Have unique tips to share? Fun activities? Email uhwocomm@hawaii.edu to submit your survival strategies.

Here's a submission from Leslie Opulauoho, UH West O'ahu – CARE Returning Students Coordinator, who shares her thoughts on compassion, gratitude, and hope:

It feels like this last year has been a topsy-turvy roller coaster with ups, downs, sideways and overturns, and as a result we've all needed to be open, flexible, and pivot to manage the ebbs and flows of the changing landscape. While being aware of these challenges I have also found it's important to focus on the "wonder" of life and when given the choice between being right or being kind, it's important to choose kindness. With so much negativity (i.e., global pandemic, insurrection, financial loss, and fear) swirling about, I try to make a conscious decision daily to remember the humanity that we all share.

Since COVID altered our daily interactions with life, I have tried to adopt my 105-year-old Popo's daily planning tip. She always said, "Do one thing for yourself, do one thing for your home, and do one thing for the universe." The one thing for myself has included finding time for meditation, walking (with a mask) in the neighborhood, sitting in the yard and observing the sky, or taking a nap on the weekend. The one thing for my home has included changing light bulbs, re-caulking the tub, and cleaning out the spare "junk" drawer in the kitchen. The one thing for the universe has been sharing an aspiration for the world, "May you be happy, may you be healthy, and may you have a peaceful heart."

These may seem like lofty ideals, but these help to ground me and remind me that there is still goodness, decency, and humanity in the world. Family, friends, and UH West O'ahu colleagues demonstrate daily that these ideals are real. I am blessed and filled with gratitude for the grace, compassion, and love I see and experience all around me. Thank you for this very precious gift.



Photos from left: morning multi-colored sky in Kapolei, clouds and sunset above Ala Moana Beach Park, and Leslie and her brother Kaiwi visiting with their 105-year-old Popo Helen Tam to safely celebrate 2021. Photos courtesy of Leslie Opulauoho

COVID-19 vaccination update

The University of Hawai'i has offered to assist with vaccinating our community in accord with the State of Hawai'i priorities. The Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) has initially focused on the highest priority population such as first responders, long-term care facility residents and staff, direct health care personnel and those over 75 years of age. Vaccine supplies have not met expectations and the supply chain remains uncertain and unpredictable, which presents additional challenges to DOH planning.

Some UH personnel and volunteers have been assisting with DOH vaccinations at UH locations around the islands and UH conducted one day of vaccination for 600 of our health care personnel and volunteers.

To date, there is no firm plan for a UH-specific vaccination program. Thank you to those of you who completed the survey that was sent out earlier this month. The information provided can be used either for a future UH-specific vaccination program or in collaboration with the DOH when they determine that they are ready to administer vaccinations to the UH community. In the meantime, anyone who has the opportunity to be vaccinated as directed by DOH should. More information is available at <https://hawaiiicovid19.com/vaccine/>.

‘COVID-19 Telework’ reminder

If you were approved for telework, please remember to complete your online leave with the new “COVID-19 Telework” code; please do so every month by the 10th. Note that you do not have to redo your telework forms every month. Also, if you are working a hybrid schedule, input only your telework days in the system. For paid sick and vacation leave, please request as usual. If you have any questions, email janice.sunouchi@hawaii.edu.

Light pole replacement work at Admin and Health Sciences Building today, Feb. 1

Light pole replacement work is scheduled for today, Feb. 1, in the area of the Administration and Health Sciences Building loading area and trash enclosure. Work is expected to start about 7:30 a.m. and will be completed by the end of the day.

Please avoid this area during the project work period and heed signs, cones, or barricades that will be in place as the work entails use of equipment. If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact the project manager at 689-2543. Thank you.

The Foundations of Hawai‘i Cinema continues through Feb. 3

The Sundance Film Festival, in collaboration with UH West O‘ahu’s ‘Ulu‘ulu Archive, is hosting “The Foundations of Hawai‘i Cinema,” a conversation with some of Hawai‘i’s pioneers in filmmaking. The panel discussion will center on the impact of their early works and intricacies surrounding cultural protocol and use of archival work. The free program will be available to view online through Feb. 3.

‘Ulu‘ulu’s Heather Giugni will be moderating the talk with guest speakers Victoria Keith, Joan Lander of Nā Maka o ka ‘Āina, Matt Yamashita, Leah Kihara of the Kamehameha Schools, and ‘Ulu‘ulu head archivist Janel Quirante. The program was created in partnership with the Honolulu Museum of Art and Pacific Islanders in Communication. For more information, visit the [Sundance Film Festival](#) website.

Bookstore construction activities changed to Monday, Feb. 8

Construction activities for the UH West O‘ahu Bookstore project will impact entry into the campus loop road west of the roundabout on Monday, Feb. 8, from 5 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Entry into the parking lot and any delivery vehicles will be rerouted through the entry near Tokai University. It is advisable that deliveries for that date be rescheduled, if possible. Concrete trucks will be staged north of the Campus Center and pedestrian access will also be impacted. Please note that the roundabout will remain open for vehicular traffic.

All persons in the vicinity of this project are advised to respect all construction barricades and all posted safety/detour signs. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the UH West O‘ahu project manager at 689-2546.

Send valentines to kūpuna via special library project by Feb. 9

Valentine’s Day is just around the corner and here’s a wonderful opportunity to show some special seniors lots of love. The [James & Abigail Campbell Library](#) has partnered with ‘Ilima at Leihano senior living community in Kapolei to send valentines to its kūpuna, many of whom are still in isolation due to COVID-19. UH West O‘ahu students, faculty, staff, and their ‘ohana (including keiki!) are encouraged to participate in the project, “Aloha i nā kūpuna,” and write letters/postcards or draw pictures for the kūpuna at ‘Ilima at Leihano.

The deadline for the valentines is Tuesday, Feb. 9. Drop-off locations are on campus at the library or [Nāulu Center](#). Those who can’t make it to campus can mail their valentines to:

Aloha i nā kūpuna
c/o UHWO Library
91-1001 Farrington Highway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Project organizers will then deliver all valentines received to ‘Ilima at Leihano for Valentine’s Day distribution.

Volunteers needed for food distribution events — service learning opportunities for students

Distributing food to our families, especially now during the pandemic, has been an important aspect of how to care for our beloved community. Volunteers are needed at upcoming food distribution events — service learning opportunities for students supported by the UH West O‘ahu Sustainability Committee. The distributions will take place 6:30 to 11 a.m. on the following Saturdays, Feb. 13 and 20, March 13 and 20, April 10 and 17, May 8 and 15, and June 12 and 19, in the Kapolei and ‘Ewa communities. For more information, including what you need to do to participate safely, email manulani@hawaii.edu. Please see and share the attached flyer.

Island Savings Plan 457(b) counseling sessions

Are you interested in additional retirement savings? Are you already enrolled in the 457(b) plan but have questions or would like to review your account?

The University of Hawai‘i offers a 457(b) plan, known as the “Island Savings Plan” currently administered by Prudential Retirement. Participation in the 457(b) is completely voluntary. Contributions are payroll deducted and made before taxes are withheld, thus enabling you to build a retirement nest egg and save on tax withholdings at the same time.

Kevin Malmud is the manager for the plan and conducts workshops for UH on a recurring basis. If you would like to schedule an individual counseling session with him to review your Island Savings/State of Hawaii Deferred Compensation account, or obtain information about enrolling in the plan, please click on the following link: [Make An Appointment](#)

You may also meet with any of the other Island Savings Plan counselors who serve O‘ahu and neighbor islands via: [Island Savings Plan Counselors](#)

Additional information about the plan is available by visiting the plan’s website at: [Island Savings Plan Prepare with Pru](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Miki Sugikawa at mikihs@hawaii.edu or Erika Hall at uyehall@hawaii.edu.

Kualaka‘i (East Kapolei) Station update

A view of Kualaka‘i (East Kapolei) rail station. Image courtesy of Nan, Inc.:



Distance Learning Tip of the Week – Snap Camera Filters for Zoom

Need to grab attention or convey a humorous message on camera? Download [Snap Camera](#) to your computer and use a fun or fabulous filter for your next Zoom presentation or quick video. Snap Camera creates a virtual webcam on your device. When open, it augments the input of a standard webcam with the selected lens. Once installed, click the camera

lens icon to open Snap Camera. Try filters and click the star button to assemble your favorites. In Zoom, select Snap Camera within the Start Video settings.

UH West O'ahu in the News

Civil Beat (Jan. 27): "[Hawai'i's Food System is Broken. Now is the Time to Fix it.](#)" Albie Miles, assistant professor of Sustainable Community Food Systems at UH West O'ahu, was quoted in the online article, which highlights how the pandemic has exposed a critical need for Hawai'i to resolve the many challenges keeping the islands — with our fertile lands and ideal climate — from growing much more of our own food.

STEMTalks: Questions for a Mathematician! (Jan. 27): "[Get to Know Kamuela.](#)" Kamuela Yong, associate professor of Mathematics at UH West O'ahu, was featured in AAAS STEMTalks, an interview series aiming to inspire youth by connecting them to real-life scientists and showcasing the incredible diversity of STEM careers. Yong was also featured in [MEET a Mathematician!](#), a collection of video interviews with mathematicians. Yong's interview was posted in October on YouTube.

The deadline to include your item in the next This Week is Thursday night. Please submit your item using the Communication Department's [Communications Request Form](#).

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**Mahalo
WCCF, Word
of Life West
O'ahu, and
'Ewa Lions
Club!**



**Locations:
Kapolei +
'Ewa**



**Time
6:30 am-11:00 am**

Dates:
Saturdays
Feb 13/20
March 13/20
April 10/17
May 8/15
June 12/19



Eō UH West O'ahu 'ohana!

**GIVE
YOUR
ALOHA.**

**FOOD
DISTRIBUTION
VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

This is a SERVICE LEARNING opportunity for students. The Sustainability Committee is working with our beloved community to provide volunteers. For more information please contact manulani@hawaii.edu

**PLEASE CONTACT : AUNTY PATTY
KAHANAMOKU TERUYA
DIRECTOR, WAI'ANAE COAST
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (WCCF)**

pattyteruya@gmail.com