

THE HOOT

student newspaper

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I – WEST O'AHU

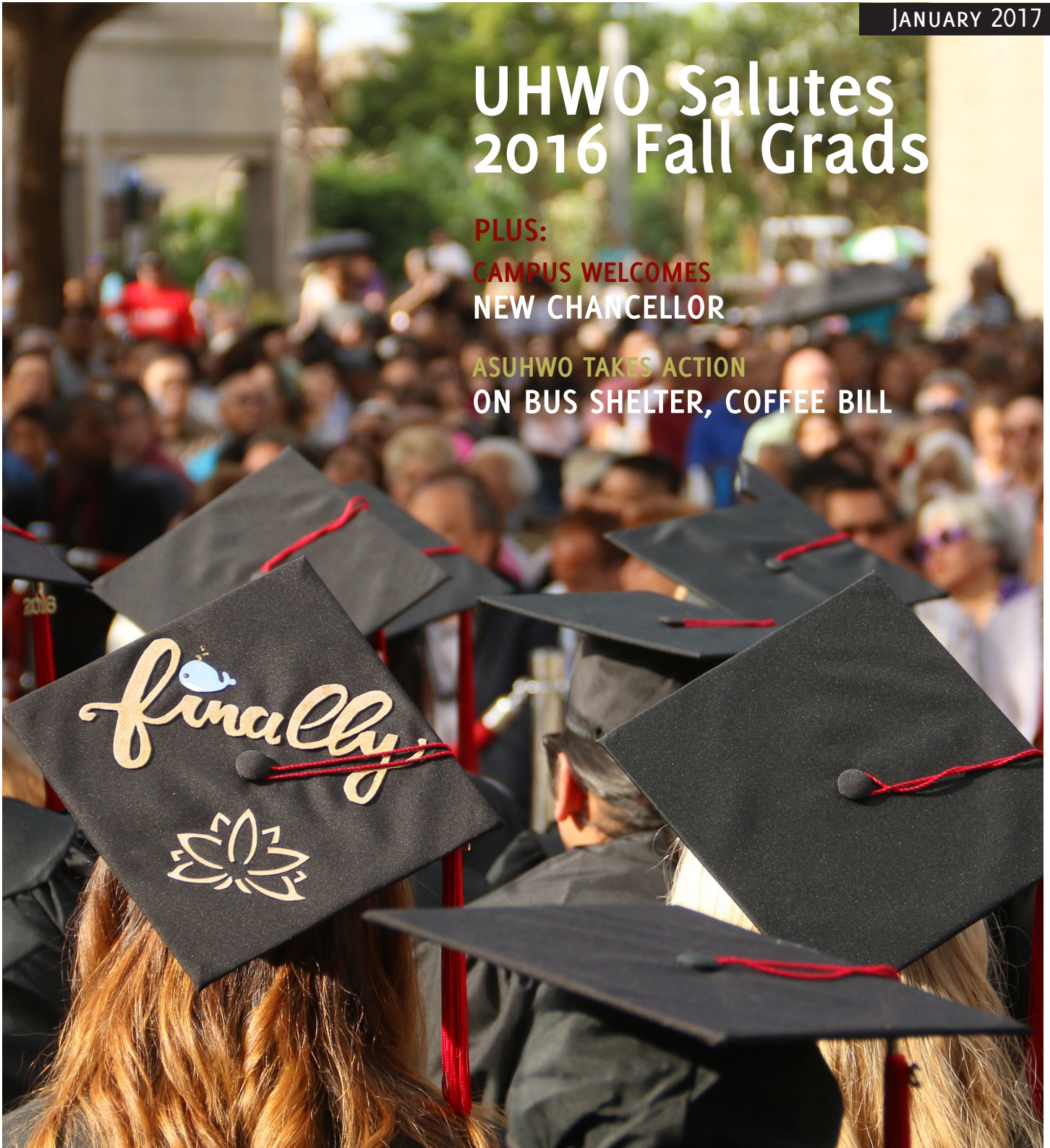
JANUARY 2017

UHWO Salutes 2016 Fall Grads

PLUS:

CAMPUS WELCOMES
NEW CHANCELLOR

ASUHWO TAKES ACTION
ON BUS SHELTER, COFFEE BILL



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Librarians: The Unsung Heroes

On behalf of all the non-traditional students and those with disabilities, I want to sincerely thank all UHWO librarians and all that you have done for me. Words cannot express how I truly feel and the comfort you brought me. You have inspired me to grow when my leaves were, scarce; brought me hope when I was feeling down; showed me peace during my own personal war; acknowledged who I was as an individual when nobody cared; alleviated the pressure when things got hard; showed me grace and refinement when I was disfavored; brought me spirit when there was no soul; and showed me the wisdom of self-importance.

These are the unsung heroes of my life that should somehow be compensated for all that they do. I'd like to thank each and every one of them for making my life a special one. From the bottom of my heart, thank you, sincerely.

Roy Keli'i Kamana
(Fall 2016, PUBA)

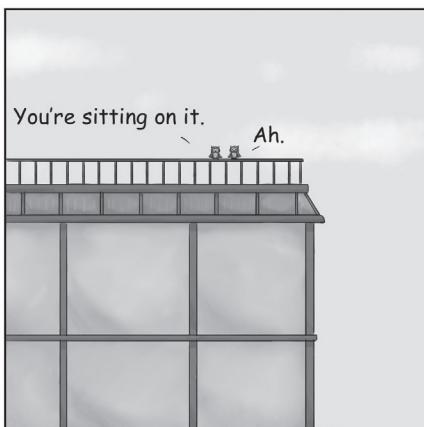
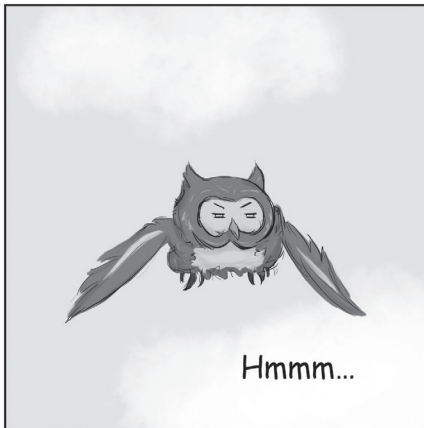
L is for liberating and listening to me
I is for the inspiration you bring
B is for bringing me hope
R is for retrieving the information that I needed
A is for alleviating the pressure
R is for respecting what i had to share
I is for initiating other options
A is for your attentiveness and patience
N is for neglecting what you are doing to help
S is for sincerely bringing closure to my day

How to Submit a Letter to the Editor

Letters should be exclusive to *The Hoot* and be 150 to 250 words. All submissions must include the writer's name and contact information for verification and, if a UHWO student or faculty member, identification information. We do not publish open letters or third-party letters.

The Hoot reserves the right to edit and shorten letters for space. Letters should be sent to uhwohoot@gmail.com

Finding Home



By Cherrie Mae Balao

EDITOR'S NOTE



Fake news was a hallmark of 2016 and an explanation for why trust in the media is at an all-time low. We live in an unreality where clickbait headlines can be made real if enough people see it and believe it. We live in a time where making and sharing fake news can be profitable. We all share the blame for the monster we have created, the monster that we still feed today.

Our consumption of news and media has accelerated. It's so easy to read a headline, share and move on to the next one. Facebook and Twitter are notorious for this; they have become an unregulated battleground for clicks and shares. The more clickbait and provocative the headline, the more clicks the article generates—and this is where the money is made, in ad revenue. The “news” doesn't need to get the story right, it doesn't have to be unbiased and it doesn't even need traditional sources. “Sources say” and “People are tweeting” have given these “journalists” creative freedom to spin a story however they like.

Fake news was a hallmark of 2016 and an explanation for why trust in the media is at an all-time low. We live in an unreality

But what are the consequences? Innocent people have received death threats, the elections have been influenced, stocks have been influenced, news outlets have lost credibility as a result of covering fake news and opinions have been validated by the biases that fake news perpetuates.

Obama didn't try to ban the Pledge of Allegiance in all the schools in America. Pope Francis and Denzel Washington didn't endorse Trump. An FBI agent wasn't found dead in his apartment because he had something to do with Hillary's email leaks. And that lady that won the lottery didn't poop on her boss's desk.

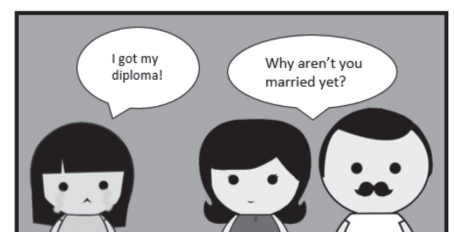
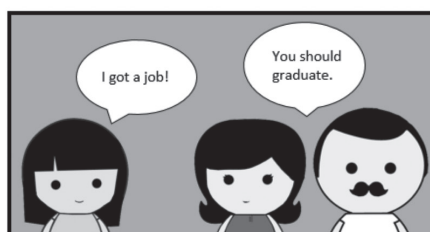
We can all be a little more skeptical. We can all block that one friend that shares this nonsense—or call him/her out (I love Facebook drama). There is a reason why our teachers have always told us to only use websites with .org or .edu as sources.

AUSTIN WANDASAN

Setting It Straight

The Hoot incorrectly reported in the December issue that University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu lands have been designated as a sanctuary to the Pueo, an endangered species of Hawaiian owls. Also, information about the results of a study of UHWO grounds was incorrectly attributed to VCA Kevin Ishida. We regret the errors.

College and Parents



By Jessica Yee

Student Fees Add Up

UHWO levies \$120 per semester for extra benefits

BY EMMA JORDAN

Although all University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu students are required to pay fees every semester, most don't know where that money goes toward. UHWO says the fees are implemented to allow for the best possible college experience for students.

Here's a breakdown of the \$120 in student fees that are assessed each semester, and what services you can take advantage of on campus:

- **Student Publication Fee, \$9:** Allows The Hoot student newspaper staff to continue delivering quality school news, culture, and voices to you.

- **Campus Center Program Fee, \$6:** Includes funding for the Pueo Leadership program and recreational sports program, providing both student leadership and fun sporting events on campus.

- **Campus Center Operations Fee, \$22:** Operations include the student lounge, the loft, and providing student IDs.

- **Student Activity Program Fee, \$14:** This fee is used to enhance campus life.

Registered clubs, university departments and other programs utilize this fee to improve students' experience at UHWO.

- **Student Government Fee, \$5:** The Associated Students of UH West O'ahu (ASUHWO) provides students a platform to have their voices heard. Promotes student participation in their own education and community activities.

- **Student Health Fee, \$30:** The fee goes toward annual flu shots as well as having a nurse available for students.

- **Student Technology Fee, \$8:** The student technology fee goes toward IT resources such as computers, printers and scanners in the UH West O'ahu library. The IT service center is next to the library reference desk and provides IT support for students.

- **Student Transportation Fee, \$26:** Providing students with the Pueo Express. This service allows students

transportation between UHWO, Leeward Community College, the Waipahu Transit Center and the Kapolei Transit Center. The Pueo Express runs Monday through Thursday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and on Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.



BY EMMA JORDAN

Are you paying too much for your Amazon Prime membership?

When I began using Amazon Prime I used it solely for purchasing my textbooks, usually \$20 to \$100 cheaper than what I found in bookstores. This was great for a while, I saved quite a bit and got crazy-fast shipping, but I wondered if Prime was really worth the steep \$99 membership fee. As I began looking into suspending my account, I noticed a reduced Student Membership for only \$49.

Who doesn't like a deal?

I switched over immediately.

So what did I do with my extra \$50 a year? I spent it on other Amazon products like Audible, Amazon Video and others (so much for saving money).

Here's what a yearly membership to Amazon Student gets you: Prime student benefits include Prime Video with hundreds of Amazon original movies and series; free two-day shipping; Prime music; earn Amazon credit (refer a friend and get \$10 Amazon credit); discounted textbooks; and donate to charity by using Amazon Smile to donate to your choice of a charity by shopping on Amazon.

My newest obsession is Audible by Amazon and its new Channels feature, which is still in Beta testing. My current favorite is "Criminal," which, according to the website, is a "podcast about crime. Stories of people who've done wrong, been wronged, or gotten caught somewhere in the middle." Check out the site at thisiscriminal.com/

Interested in listening to lectures at some of the most elite institutions in the country? Audible features "The Great Courses" channel. Sign up to request two free audio book downloads at tinyurl.com/jlx2gfu

To apply for a free six-month trial of Amazon Prime Student, go to tinyurl.com/jfvc02w

Distance Learning Tech Tip

Feeling a Bit Sluggish?

Internet feeling a little sluggish recently? Now might be a good time to do some digital housekeeping. Over the course of the semester, your internet browser may become "clogged" with things that it tries to remember for you. This is called a "cache," and it includes things like logos. Remembering logos from different sites saves your browser time when it reloads the same page again in the future. However, the cache can get more and more full, which can slow your internet speed. Each browser allows you to clear your cache.

You may have also heard of cookies in relation to the internet. Cookies are little tidbits of information that the browser stores as text (for example, remembered passwords and usernames). They may include harmless pieces of information about what you looked at on a particular website, but can also include sensitive personal information that you might have had to enter. As part of your digital housekeeping, it's also safer to clear cookies stored by your browser.

ASUHWO Tackles Bus Shelter, 'Coffee Bill'

BY ADRIENE
UNPINGCO

The Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu ended 2016 with a series of new and updated initiatives and legislation, ranging from the bus shelter to a more efficient way for students and faculty to grab a cup of coffee.

For several years, ASUHWO has worked to address the needs of UHWO students and others who rely on public transportation with the construction of a bus shelter on campus. According to the ASUHWO website, the campus needs a "new bus shelter to keep bus travelers comfortable and secure as well as to provide pedestrians with protection from the natural elements year after year."

The transportation project culminated last fall with the implementation of a shelter, complete with a slanted gray roof, concrete stools and glass-paneled walls.

At ASUHWO's General Meeting on Dec. 13, it was noted that maintenance of the shelter will be managed by the university's van drivers. ASUHWO also will post signage around the bus shelter area.

Good News for Coffee Drinkers

ASUHWO also passed a motion for funding for "The Coffee Bill," which designates \$250 for the purchase of three coffee carafes.



The bill was created with the intention of encouraging gathering and fostering a sense of community among the student body.

While numerous "coffee hours" have been held in the past, the events have been confined to the D and E building breezeways where there are electrical outlets to keep the coffeemakers plugged in. The new carafes will keep coffee hot for hours without being plugged-in, allowing "coffee hours" to move outside of the buildings into open areas, such as the campus courtyard.

ASUHWO representatives and senators will make an effort to attend these gatherings because it is easier for students to voice concerns in the kind of casual environment that the coffee

hours would create, said President Isaiah Bacalan.

In other actions:

- The Committee on Distance Learning is working to improve communication between ASUHWO and the student body.
- Sophomore Class Sen. Christielove Espinosa brought attention to the



issue of loud parties in the library.

- The Public Administration Division senator plans to renew rent-a-charger initiative that will allow students to rent chargers for their devices.
- A motion to approve Senate Tribute for Interim Chancellor Doris Ching was passed.
- Caucus Ambassador, Senior Senator and Humanities Senator positions have been freed.



WELCOMING CHANCELLOR BENHAM



UHWO Chancellor Dr. Maenette Benham

Photos Courtesy of Kevin Bechayda

'Let's Get to Work'

BY ARIANA SAVEA

"Today we stand on the shoulders of great leaders. This morning, I felt at home; I hope it becomes a home for the work we must do."

University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu Chancellor Dr. Maenette Benham offered these remarks during a Welcoming and Awa Ceremony hosted by the Piko Project on Jan. 3 as staff, faculty and students gathered at Hale Kuahuokala.

The ceremony was initiated by the blowing of a conch shell followed by a progression of 'oli: Ua Hiki Mai by Pu'u Zablan, Mele Honouliuli by Pu'u Zablan and Mele Oihi by Hauoli Akaka.

"These chants were done at the beginning of the welcoming, giving permission to Chancellor Benham to enter the hale, welcome her to our ahupua'a and present our campus community to her," said Pu'u Zablan, Piko Project Coordinator and emcee.

Dr. Manulani Meyer, in her welcoming

remarks, said, "We are in a time of great transformation," and spoke about how the "lei hala" that she had gifted the Chancellor. The moment proved emotional for not only Dr. Meyer, but also Dr. Judy Oliveira, the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

"To see the exchange between Manu and the chancellor is the true exchange of true Hawaiian women leadership," Dr. Oliveira said. "A moment as Hawaiian women leaders share—it was just a powerful moment. Chancellor is here for a calling and an acceptance of kuleana; she is getting a calling to a larger family."

Haylie Culp, ASUHOWO vice president, said, "It was a wonderful opportunity to experience more of the Hawaiian culture that I would not have been able to experience otherwise. I am grateful for the opportunity to welcome Chancellor Benham on behalf of our students."

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Dr. Jeff Moniz presented a spear to Dr. Benham, which, as Pu'u Zablan explained, "represented the transfer of power and our vice chancellor's acceptance and recognition of our new leader."

UH System President David Lassner noted his excitement for the area of West O'ahu and then welcomed Chancellor Benham, who took the podium.

Benham touched on humility, a sense of belonging and her commitment to UHWO. She concluded her comments by saying: "This morning I say aloha to you, my new family members. Mahalo nui to all of you today and let's get to work."

More sounds of the conch shell followed as well as two oli by Larry Kimura: Ke Au Hawaii and Ua Ao Hawaii. Lei was presented to the Chancellor "to honor our Chancellor, who is of Hawaiian descent and first Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian) woman Chancellor of a

Continued on page 10



Photos Courtesy of Kevin Bechayda

RECORD COMMENCEMENT CREATES GROWING PAINS

Turnout for 224 Fall graduates brings parking, noise and safety problems

BY ADRIENE UPINGCO

The University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu celebrated its largest graduating class on Dec. 10 since the opening of the Kapolei campus in 2012, but holding a commencement ceremony on campus for such a large number was not without its challenges.

A total of 224 graduates, out of the 311 graduation applications submitted for the Fall 2016 semester, had chosen to walk during the ceremony. But limited parking led to the closure of a portion of Farrington Highway as guests began parking beyond the boundaries of the campus' gravel overflow lot.

Cars parked along the major roads, along with crowded sidewalks, underlined major safety concerns. Leslie Opulauoho, Director of Student Development, said external services, including the



Honolulu Police Department and parking attendants, were utilized to direct traffic and help UHWO's Facilities team maximize space and accessibility.

"Ultimately, our most important goal is to make sure that we can have a ceremony that really focuses on and highlights our students, but also that we

can do so in a safe environment," Opulauoho said.

Accommodating the rising number of graduates is a "positive challenge to have," Opulauoho added.

Rainy weather in the days leading up to the graduation added to the possible concerns and contingencies.

Because of muddy areas caused by light showers on the Friday before the ceremony, one of the exits of the overflow parking lot had been closed. There also were concerns on having to move the ceremony indoors and, if so, where it could be held.

"I had my reservations about it because we would be seated outside and the weather hadn't been the best that week," said Fall 2016 graduate David Kawelo, "However, the sun made sure to make an appearance at the right time."

According to Opulauoho, the
Continued on page 10

TV SERIES REVIEW:

BY JESICA YEE

Enemies become friends, targets become suspects and victims get tired of running. A YouTube viral video is only the beginning in the brutal killings for the teenagers of Lakewood.

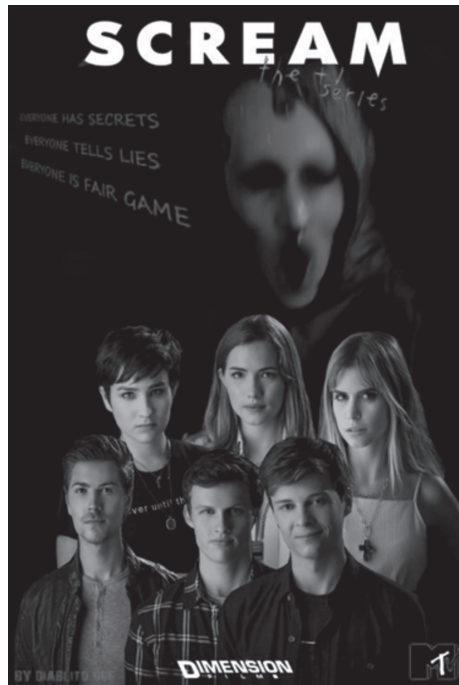
Emma Duval (Willia Fitzgerald), the nice girl in high school, is marked for death. But she is the only hope for Lakewood.

"Scream" is a TV adaptation based off the popular and classic American slasher movie of the same name which originally released in 1996 and was written by Kevin Williamson and directed by Wes Craven.

According to IMBd, creators Jay Beattie, Jill E. Blotevogel and Dan Dworkin wanted underlying similarities for reminiscence between the movie and the series.

The series uses the cliché high school setting of the popular crowd, the weirdos and the jocks. All are targets in an endless bloodlust—unless the hero can figure out the identity of the killer.

A layer of nostalgia is demonstrated



between the series and the movie when the killer hunts its prey and slays them in the most gruesome way possible to

make a statement. These murders have a purpose as the plot transitions from one episode to the next.

Everything needs to make sense in the end for the big reveal, of course. The bloodtrail will have you guessing who the killer is.

The characters are likable, entertaining and are realistic. More importantly, they are not one dimensional stereotypes as first thought to be. Each character grows together with each other building stronger bonds as friends.

In addition, Bella Thorne will be making a guest appearance for the iconic scene originally played by Drew Barrymore in the first episode as Nina Patterson, the queen bee.

The series aired on June 30, 2015. "Scream" has a 7.3 out of 10 rating on IMDb. If you liked "Pretty Little Liars," you'll enjoy "Scream." - A major difference, though, is the graphic violence.

VIDEO GAME REVIEW:



BY AUSTIN WANDASAN

Your annual dose of futuristic military shooter is here with "Call of Duty: Infinite Warfare." Has anyone been reaching max prestige level before a new COD is shipped hot off the assembly line?

Gamers should know what they're going to get with this year's reskin: campaign, multiplayer and zombies. That's a lot of content and definitely worth the \$60 price tag, but it seems like Activision is following Marvel with their tried-and-true production formula.

It's the future and Earth has colonized other planets, but Jon Snow wants Mars to be independent because the game needs an antagonist, an enemy faction, and a plot. You'll get triggered as the one-dimensional generic patriot, Reyes,

an unlikely spaceship captain who would rather risk his life on the ground than lead his crew in the bridge.

The new feature is spaceship dogfighting, the watered-down "Star Wars Battlefront" version. It's

pretty awesome the first time, but loses appeal as every other mission has a dogfighting section lazily tacked on.

The twitch shooter is back and you'll still get shot in back by a camper. This time there are classes with "unique" ultimate abilities that are basically deathstreaks.

Players will attempt to grind to tenth prestige (till the next COD comes out) as the sneaky soldier, the medium soldier, the heavy soldier and the robot. Even though "Infinite Warfare" has a whopping 17 game modes, we all know the majority will be playing Team Deathmatch on the 12 release maps.

The future weapons look familiar, but that's because your arsenal is comprised of future P90, future M4, future M40A1,

future AK-47—classic weapons with lazy future reskins. Of course, this wouldn't be a future shooter without toggleable multiability weapons such as the SMG/ Shotgun and Assault Rifle/Akimbo SMG.

The one redeeming factor in this game is the zombies mode. It's so good and so out of place that it warrants a separate release.

You'll fight hordes of undead with three other high school stereotypes in an '80s zombie movie that takes place in an amusement park. As you progress through



the map, you'll get stronger weapons and gadgets until you inevitably get overrun.

Look, I get it, Activision is a company and profit is its priority, but how much longer are gamers going to keep buying these generic future shooters? Vote with your wallet and force these triple-A game developers to really innovate—don't be a sucker and pick this game up for the bundled Modern Warfare Remastered.

Library Updates

Welcome back, Pueo

We're looking forward to seeing you all in the library this semester. Please stop by the reference desk if you have any questions.

Library Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m.
Friday: 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Closed: Sundays and Holidays

Book Recommendations:

Stop by the magazine rack in the lobby to check out our campus picks. We'll feature picks from the campus every month, so if you have a book from our collection that you would like to recommend to others, stop by the reference desk and speak to a librarian.

Bill of Rights Exhibit:

The Library and the National Archives Traveling Exhibits Service (NATES) has a display on the second floor called "The Bill of Rights and You!" that commemorates the 225th anniversary of the Bill of Rights. The exhibit runs until Feb. 28.

"The Bill of Rights and You!" spotlights one of the most remarkable periods in American history, explores the origins of the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution (collectively known as the Bill of Rights), illustrates how each amendment protects U.S. citizens, and looks at how Americans exercise the rights outlined in the amendments. "The Bill of Rights and You!" invites visitors to connect directly with the people, places and events that mark this historic document's evolution.

Stuck with Research?

It's never too early to start researching. Chat with us during library hours by using the widget on our homepage: <http://www2.hawaii.edu/~uhwolib/>.

Information Literacy Classes:

Faculty: Instructional sessions can be tailored to your specific needs. Please contact your subject liaison librarian to set up a session for one, or more, of your courses.

SPORTS LEAGUE SIGNUPS OPEN

Intramurals help maintain a healthy body and mind

BY KAYLA HILL

An important factor for returning students—and newcomers to the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu—to consider while organizing their semester is how to keep your life balanced by staying active.

"Maintaining good physical health often helps your mental health as well," according to Nami.org.

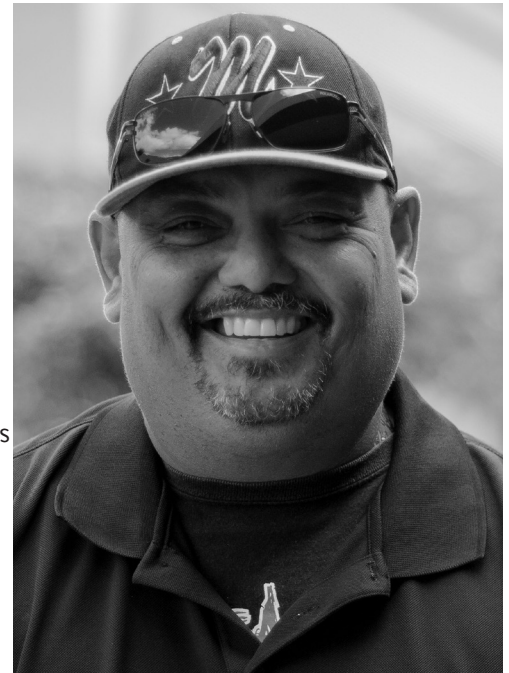
UHWO offers a range of intramural sports, and to sign up there is a link on its homepage at uhwo.hawaii.edu under the "Campus Life" tab. Interested athletes can sign up under the "Events Schedule" page, which will include leagues, tournaments and field days.

"This spring, we are going to be offering both Wednesday and Thursday, 3-6 p.m., for free play on the great lawn. A variety of different sports including soccer, softball and volleyball will be provided," says Ryan Perreira, intramurals coordinator.

League play starts with basketball, followed by softball and volleyball and the schedules are on the website, he says.

UHWO also will unveil a new program that Perreira says "will encourage participation in intramural sports. We have new stamp cards that students can bring with them each time they participate in free play, leagues or other special events. Ultimately, students can receive a UHWOSPORTS T-shirt, but we also have a variety of other prizes.

"We will also have a fitness challenge during E ola Pono or kakou, whichever one is being held this semester. We will have a push-up and sit-up challenge," he said.



Ryan Perreira, Intramural Coordinator

The requirements to participate in softball, volleyball and basketball leagues are stated under the "About Us" tab of the intramural sports section on the UHWO.edu website, which leads into the "Requirements" link. According to the guidelines, players must be at least a part-time student at UHWO, maintain a GPA of 2.0 or higher, sign a liability waiver for and must be in good health.

Along with intramural sports, UHWO also offers dance classes with signup information on its webpage.

For more information on intramural activities, email imwest@hawaii.edu

Student Life Events

- Jan 9 - 12: Welcome Week (Free coffee and school supplies)
- Feb 1 and 2: Club Rush - Spring Into Action, sponsored by student life
- Feb 9: West Sesh (Open Mic Night)
- Feb 13 - 17: E Ola Pono (Health and Wellness)
- Feb 21 - 23: Free Coffee and more

No'eau Center Hours

- Monday-Thursday: 8:30AM - 4:30PM
- Friday: 8:30AM-4:30PM. By appointment only for both tutoring and testing



Dr. Kaiwipunihei Lipe, Chancellor Maenette Benham and Aaron Sala



Student Life Coordinator Rouel Velasco, Elizabeth Gustafson, Christielove Espinosa, Chancellor Maenette Benham, Haylie Culp and VCSA Judy Oliveira

Welcoming Chancellor

Continued from page 6

University,” said Pu’u Zablan.

Tiana Henderson, Piko Project Coordinator, told the mo’olelo, or story, of the Hale Kuahuokala, as well as Dr. Albie Miles, Assistant Professor of Sustainable Community Food Systems. Miles spoke about the mala (garden), explaining that it is a “living, learning land” and that its intention is to “reconnect students to the land.”

The ceremony ended with the Oli Mahalo being sung while everyone was hand-in-hand and small Hawaiian salt gifts were presented to most guests.

“Piko Project is thrilled to have Chancellor Benham here as a leader and it’s going to be inspiring to have a Native Hawaiian woman to bring this vision here and be a leader for this state,” said Piko Project Director Melissa Saul.

Said Chancellor Benham: “I’m just really grateful to be here. I was really honest—let’s get to work. We have lots to do. Looking forward to that and celebrating along the way; of course, with the students.”

Fall Commencement

Continued from page 7

commencement planning committee prepares for different types of weather. Water stations are available to prevent overheating, ponchos have been considered for tentative downpours and No’eau staff have held up the flag on windy days.

Although weather and parking have “always been at the top of the list for the past several years,” Opulauoho said that the planning committee also has addressed other key matters. Noise from the crowd waiting to lei graduates, for example, was noticeably louder this fall. In the past, extra speakers have been installed so the ceremony could be heard farther from the podium.

“We understand that the loudness is coming from a place of excitement and enthusiasm,” Opulauoho said. “But we do want to find a balance between focusing on the graduates and the ceremony

and encouraging that excitement and enthusiasm.”

While school administrators may prefer to keep the commencement ceremony on campus, as the student population grows, doing so may add to concerns for the health and safety of graduates and guests.

The planning committee is continually researching other locations for future commencement ceremonies, factoring in cost, accessibility and logistics. Options on the West Side are preferable to make the ceremony more accessible to West O’ahu graduates and their families. Sites that have been considered include the Kroc Center, Kapolei High School, the Aloha Stadium and the Ihilani (now the Four Seasons) and Lanikuhonua at Ko’olina.

Opulauoho stressed the importance of communication in creating an enjoyable

and safe graduation exercises. Graduates are encouraged to limit their number of guests to six individuals as well as specify any special accommodations that they may need on the “Commencement Information for Graduates” page on the university’s website. The committee acknowledges that not all graduates communicate through the website, but improving methods of relaying information is a continuous task.

The efforts of the workers and volunteers, despite the attendance overload during the December ceremony, ensured a positive experience for graduates and their families.

“The ceremony was eloquent. Our speakers did a beautiful job, some even brought me to tears,” Kawelo said, “I was very much in the moment, and enjoyed every bit of it.”

Getting to Know Your Professors:

Dr. Yu Crafts Enticing Format for Economics

BY ELIZABETH GUSTAFSON

Teaching online has become more comprehensive, intense and competitive among universities looking to enhance their offerings to students. Among the most recognized online courses at the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu is an award-winning class taught by Instructor of Economics Peiyong "Patricia" Yu.

Dr. Yu's Principles of Microeconomics won the 2015 Laulima Innovation Award which honors UHWO faculty for their "excellent use of technology in the classroom that enhances the student learning experience."

Her award-winning course allows distance learning students to view step-by-step how to solve real-life problems using supply and demand curves. Yu also incorporated relevant videos about microeconomics concepts at the end of class lectures and created engaging homework assignments using the "resources" function. She posts YouTube videos for students to watch and assesses with multiple choice and discussion questions about the video topic.

The secret to success, she said, stems from wanting to "create an organized and easily accessed online format for students to save their time. And, in the meantime, I try my best to entice them to watch the lecture videos with fun and practical materials included."

Other courses she teaches, both in person and online, include Intermediate Macroeconomics, Hawaii's Economy, Environmental Economic.

After studying at Tianjin Foreign Studies

University, she earned her master's and doctorate in economics from Northern Illinois University. She taught economics at McNeese State University in Louisiana before coming to Hawaii.

She said her educational experience at Tianjin was quite diverse.

"Professors from North America taught economics in a fun and interactive way when I studied at Tianjin Foreign Studies University, in a way that is much different from the old Chinese rote learning approach," she said, adding that it was "their unique teaching styles inspired me to be a passionate and student-centered instructor."

She moved to the U.S. Mainland after earning a bachelor's degree in international trade and economics from Tianjin Foreign Studies University.

"My graduate study in America opened my eyes and taught me not to just focus on the seen effects, but also the unseen

effects; not on one school of economic thinking, but many other schools," she said.

"Training on teaching from various seminars and workshops helped me use multimedia and gaming techniques to interact with my students at UHWO. My PhD training also enables me to do research and publish papers in peer-reviewed journals."

Her mentor at Northern Illinois University was Dr. Jeremy Groves. She describes him as "patient, caring and approachable personality [who] helped me march to the end of the long journey of PhD study."

She decided to be a teacher while working as a teaching assistant in the Educational Services Exchange with China program. "I knew I wanted to be a teacher after working with Donald Granger



Dr. Peiyong (Patricia) Yu

Photo Courtesy of UHWO

and Leon Haletk (professors at Tianjin Foreign Studies University). They really cared about the students and created a fun and safe learning environment," Dr. Yu said.

Her advice for UHWO economic students? "Spend your summertime working for Hawaii Council of Economic Education or Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. They have great internship opportunities. Read economics for fun in your spare time. Listen to Economics Radios while driving. The two radios I am currently listening to are Marketplace and EconTalk."

And you're never too old to learn, she said. For example, Dr. Yu said she "tried to learn how to play piano when I was young, but gave up after learning how to play Für Elise. I bought a digital keyboard during this winter break and decided to pick it up. Last semester, I enrolled in one piano class on our campus."

Where does she see herself in five years?

"I would like to be an assistant professor of economics on a tenure-track line in the next five years, helping grow our ECON program and inviting more students to major in Economics."

Dr. Yu's New Year's Resolution?

Going to the gym at least three times a week. "I go to 24 Hour Fitness and enjoy doing Zumba there. I know that my health is very important to my family, my students and myself. Thus, I would like to maintain a balanced and energetic lifestyle and affect people around me positively."

CAMPUS VOICES!

With the new year comes new goals. What are new goals you would like to see UHWO accomplish in the next year? Why or how do you think it can be or should be accomplished?

COMPILED BY ELIZABETH GUSTAFSON



With the new year coming and graduation in May, I would like to see more students graduate on time. I think a lot of students aren't sure of what their class schedule should look like for a four-year graduation plan. This leaves them confused and sometimes taking more classes than they have to. I would like to see students approach their advisers in times of confusion or have advisers plan a four-year graduation pathway with new students as soon as they arrive on campus. Every student should be required to see their adviser their first semester. Or advertise that students should plan out their four-year schedule.

— CHRISTIELOVE ESPINOSA, SOPHOMORE, ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY



"I would like for more students to get involved with club programs and develop a strong relationship with the surrounding communities. This can be done by having the clubs reach out to the communities and volunteer where help is needed. I also think the club programs should plan more social outings like hikes and bowling nights. I would like to see UHWO create a campus corner or a larger student lounge that offers a variety of activities for students to socialize and hang out. UHWO is a commuter campus and students only show up to attend class. There would be more student involvement on campus if there were more things to do or places to socialize."

— ADRIAN L. HILL, SENIOR, ELEMENTARY EDUCATION



"The biggest issue I have is the frequency of classes offered. I don't have money to take classes that don't contribute to my degree, and some classes only appear in spring or fall. When the classes I need are offered, I find myself maximizing my credit load and raising my stress levels in order to take whatever is available that semester. It would be nice to not worry as much about when the next time a certain course will come around if more professors were available to teach classes more frequently. I want to see ... more vegetarian and vegan options at the dining hall. As a student pursuing the Sustainable Community Food Systems degree, I would like to see more support for our department. I don't mean simply more money for the program, but more staff and teachers. Albie is a great professor, and I'd love to see more passionate lecturers like him join the West O'ahu team. It can be difficult each semester to find classes that fulfill the credit requirements for SCFS."

— TRISTYN WIEHL, JUNIOR, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEMS



"One goal for UH West O'ahu would be to provide a more consistent caffeine presence on campus. Caffeine is the lifeblood of society, higher education especially. Joy and Shane tried to get a coffee shop for campus, but it proved more complicated than just having those coffee tables a few weeks out of the month during the semester. What I would do is see if there can be an addition to Da Spot on the righthand side near the soda dispensers. The issue is tackling the red tape that Joy and Shane couldn't break through. They thought they could get a food truck or two to sell coffee at the front of the school. I believe the problem was the Chancellor Freitas didn't want food trucks, or any trucks, on campus for that matter. Maybe with a new chancellor we get a new policy."

— GEORGE KALANTZIS, SENIOR, POLITICAL SCIENCE