

THE HOOT

student newspaper

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I – WEST O'AHU

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UHWO Classes on the Rise

Students Call for More Major Courses

THE HOOT

STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Hoot Staff

Noven Valenzuela Jr.,
Editor in Chief
Erika Bareng,
Managing Editor
Maybel Maui, Layout
Editor
Rebecca Carino
Alexa Fagaragan
Ronald Garza
Andrew Leituala
Tori McCann
Michael O'Meally

Faculty Advisor

Shannon Putnam

Student Life Coordinator

Rouel Velasco

Feedback and Submissions

uhwothehoot@gmail.com

Advertising Inquiries

BUSINESSES/ORGANIZATIONS
thehootadvertising@gmail.com

STUDENT CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS
thehootclassifieds@gmail.com

Social Media

Facebook.com/TheHootPress
Twitter.com/TheHootPress
Instagram.com/TheHootPress
TheHootPress.org

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PAMANTASAN: PROMOTING FILIPINO PERSPECTIVE, LEGISLATION AND REPRESENTATION

ERIKA BARENG

While Filipinos make up a fifth of the student population at the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu, they make up just 10 percent of the students at UH Manoa.

The statistics were among those discussed at the 2015 Pamantasan Conference in February, which was held at UHWO. The annual conference seeks to promote the recruitment and retention of Filipinos in the University of Hawai'i System and much more.

On Feb. 20, 106 students, faculty and staff from different schools within the UH System attended the conference, which takes place at a different campus each year.

Pamantasan is a Tagalog word meaning university or college. The conference promotes the growth of Filipino presence and support of Filipinos in higher education.

"The conference is a gathering for Filipinos, advocates for Filipinos and support for Filipinos. The idea is to tackle issues including Filipino enrollment and completion, representation of Filipino faculty and staff, legislative agendas related to any issue affecting Filipinos, higher education, or access in general, empowerment and the celebration of the culture and heritage," said conference organizer and UHWO Student Life Coordinator Rouel Velasco.

"The fact that [the conference] is physically at UHWO is significant because there is a large amount of Filipinos in this area," said the Director of the Student Equity, Excellence, and Diversity (SEED) Program and the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Diversity at UH Manoa Dr. Amy Agbayani. Agbayani participated in the conference and has been essential to Pamantasan through her work in pioneering the advancement of Filipinos and other underrepresented groups within the UH System. Her role was pivotal in the growth of conferences stemming back to the 1980s.

According to statistics from the UH Manoa SEED in June 2013, Filipinos make up the second largest population at the UHWO campus at 19.6% of the school population. Although Filipinos also make up 20.6% of students in the state Department of Education public school population, they are largely underrepresented at the UH Campuses. They make up 9.9% of the undergraduate population and 3.8% of the graduate population at UH Manoa. They also have a population of 6.6% at the undergraduate level and 6.3% at the graduate level at UH Hilo. There is a large demographic at Honolulu Community College, Kauai Community College, Leeward Community College and Maui Community College at 22%, 22.1%, 21.2% and 20% respectively. However, they still remain underrepresented at Hawaii Community College, Kapiolani Community College and Windward



Community College at 8.7%, 12.4% and 3.6% respectively.

The theme of this year's conference was Unity Through Diversity. The Philippines is an extremely diverse country – it has 7,107 islands, about 200 dialects and multiple major religions.

The conference held workshops focusing on the theme of uniting not despite of differences, but because of rich cultural diversity and commonalities as Filipinos. The attendees discussed the ways to preserve cultural identity and to persevere in efforts toward education.

The goal of the workshop entitled Revolutionary Alphabets, run by two students, Joseph Gorre from UH Manoa and Laetitia Mahoney from Roosevelt High School, was to engage students in Indigenous Language Arts mixed with contemporary and modern styles to preserve culture by creating it, and by promoting the conferences' theme. Students practiced painting Baybayin letters.

"The Filipino ancient script Baybayin is from the Philippines and it is a forgotten alphabet," Mahoney said.

"The theme is unity through diversity, and what's cool about Baybayin is that you can use it to write in Visaya, Tagalog and Ilocano. Even if people say that the Philippines has all of these different languages and cultures, this workshop is a creative example that shows us that unity and diversity can exist," Gorre said.

Another workshop was called Looking Back and



Looking Forward: Putting Privilege in Perspective, which was led by UH Manoa graduate students Alycia Kiyabu and Kristine Jan Espinoza from UH Manoa. During an interactive activity highlighting privilege, organizers read a series of statements aloud and if they were applicable to the participants, they asked them to either step forward or backward from a "starting line," which is symbolic for the race to success in life.

For example, they asked, "If you have attended a private school, please step forward." The purpose of this activity was to explore the meaning of privilege and its connection to the Filipino community and higher education.

"It gave me a realization of what privilege is," said Leilehua High School senior Brianna Pasoquien-Rabago.

Other workshops highlighted opportunities within higher education such as student panels regarding experiences and opportunities for transfer students, overviews of leadership experiences with the Prevention, Awareness and Understanding (PAU) Violence Program and internship opportunities. They also held workshops about identity formation and self-esteem. The conference provided a multitude of information for the future of Filipinos as well as the general population.

"Although the conference is [focused on] Filipinos, you can always talk about empowerment outside of this space and bring it into the larger world," said Kiyabu, who was also a conference attendee.

FEATURE

UHWO STATISTICS SHOW NUMBER OF CLASSES KEEPS PACE WITH STUDENT POPULATION

But Some Students Frustrated by Lack of Classes

MICHAEL O'MEALLY

The University of Hawai'i — West O'ahu says it is diligently adding more courses to accommodate the growing student population, but a few students have had to push back graduation due to the lack of classes.

It's not uncommon to hear students complain about being waitlisted for a class needed to fulfill a graduation requirement or having to stay an extra semester.

Yet statistics provided by Heidi Arrington, Academic Affairs Program Specialist, show that since UHWO's new campus opened in 2012, the student population has increased by 17 percent while the number of classes offered has jumped by 24 percent.

Fall Enrollment

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014
# of students	1,662	1,997	2,361	2,661
# of classes	258	348	405	438

Spring Enrollment

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
# of students	1,372	1,575	1,909	2,179	2,344
# of classes	241	270	336	394	432

"The enrollment has gone up significantly over the past several years. We've worked diligently to be able to offer the right amount of courses for our growing student population," Arrington said. "We continue to hire additional faculty and support staff to keep pace with these demands." The projected student population for Fall 2015 is more than 2,900.

Junior Laura McDowell is pursuing her bachelor's degree in Business Management. McDowell enrolled at UHWO in 2012 and was inclined to University of Hawai'i's "15 To Finish" program in which students take 15 credits each semester in order to graduate within four years at their institution.

"Here's my beef with that: How can students graduate 'on time' (within four years) if no classes are being offered or they can't get into the classes they need to graduate?" McDowell said.

McDowell was waitlisted for three out of her five classes this semester, which included BUSA 386, MGT 322 and MGT 301. She had to get an override for BUSA 386 in order for it to be counted for a graduation requirement. When McDowell's allotted time to register for classes was given, a majority of the upper division BUSA classes were full.

Sherry Proper, Interim Academic Program Officer, advises students to contact their professors and ask to be enrolled in their class even though it is full.

"We monitor the number of students on a class waitlist and encourage faculty to add another section when the demand warrants it. Sometimes it is possible to add another section of a course on short notice right before a semester, and sometimes it is not," Proper said.

"We have space limitations too, since we only have so many classrooms. Some professors will allow more students into their course above the limit, but that cannot always be done, since there are system-wide restrictions to some types of courses, such as Writing Intensive," Proper said. "Those classes must be capped at 20 students per system-wide policy."

McDowell had gone through the process of contacting multiple faculty and staff members only to get denied.

"Many students just give up at that point because what else can we do about the situation? We end up taking bogus classes we don't need and graduate later than the four years," McDowell said.

Due to lack of professors, not all classes for multiple majors can be taught in the same semester, causing classes to alternate every other semester.

"We have been adding employees in all areas as we have been able to get more positions from the legislature. As a state-funded institution, our state legislature controls numbers of full-

time employees at the campus," Proper said.

Proper said, "We have been adding more classes every year since our new campus opened. We were able to add a lot of full-time faculty positions this academic year and we are asking for more positions from the legislature in the next biennium budget. We never want course availability to push back a student's graduation date.

Senior Jeri-Lynn Simpson, a Finance major, said she had planned to graduate in December 2014, but had problems acquiring classes. Simpson had to extend her stay at UHWO due to the lack of Finance classes offered in Fall 2014.

There are three core FIN courses required to graduate but only two were offered in Fall 2014, which Simpson had previously taken. The last course was not offered that semester. Simpson got an override for her BUSA course to serve as a BUSA and FIN interchangeably. Simpson knows of five other students who needed the correction.

"Being held back an entire semester is frustrating. I took on a certification, Risk Management and Insurance, and also pushed back other classes to balance out last semester and this semester. I'm taking five classes this semester. I will graduate with Honors in Finance and have a Risk Management and Insurance certification come May 2015," Simpson concluded.

McDowell is not pleased with her predicament. "The students shouldn't settle for less just because they can't get into the classes they need to graduate. It's not fair. We are paying for our education and the availability of classes should be provided," she said.

Proper said that UH West O'ahu will continue to add more classes, but the process must be done in a strategic way that is based on data and not just a student's individual situation.

INTRAMURALS PROGRAM AT UHWO

ANDREW LEITUALA

If you are interested in playing sports and meeting new students in the process, the Intramurals Program at the University of Hawai'i — West O'ahu might fit your needs.

UHWO's program aims to provide students with the opportunity to play competitive sports against other UH campuses.

The ImWest intramural sports and recreational program involves sports and activities such as volleyball, soccer, flag football, basketball and ping pong.

Shane Nishimura, who is an ImWest student advisor on campus, coordinates a once-a-week "Field Day" for students who are interested in letting off some steam.

"We are trying to get a steady amount of students to participate in our weekly field days that we hold every Wednesday from 2-5 p.m. and also to gather enough students to compete in the Intramural Tournament where we compete against other UH campuses like Leeward Community College," Nishimura said.

The program is currently looking for student



volunteers to help with the field day set ups and breakdowns. Current plans are also to vigorously advertise the weekly field days.

The program hopes to host individual tournaments on the UH West O'ahu campus against students, faculty, staff or even clubs. Anyone will be able to create a team and enter competitions.

Last spring, the Intramurals Program hosted a volleyball tournament that included five teams

with a combination of UH West O'ahu students as well as faculty and staff. The winning team won prizes from the bookstore ranging from gift cards to lineyards.

Students may sign up for intramurals events by contacting Shane Nishimura by email shanetn@hawaii.edu or by attending one of the weekly field days held every Wednesday on the Lawn in front of the Library.

CAMPUS TOBACCO POLICY STILL UP IN THE AIR

Chancellor Calls for Committee to Decide

REBECCA CARINO

With students favoring designated smoking areas and faculty calling for a total ban, University of Hawai'i — West O'ahu Chancellor Rockne Freitas is forming a committee to come up with a unified campus tobacco policy.

Freitas asked the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i — West O'ahu (ASUHWO) to take a stand on whether to remain a tobacco using campus or ban smoking altogether. The ASUHWO conducted a survey in late January to receive student input on the campus tobacco policy. The survey was distributed in person during the campus club rush on Jan. 28 and in an email blast.

The survey ended on Feb. 17 and ASUHWO voted in favor of continuing to be a tobacco using campus with designated smoking areas, according to ASUHWO Social Science Sen. Isaiah Baclaan. Freitas will have the final say on the tobacco policy.

"Chancellor Freitas is convening a committee, which will consist of students,

faculty, and staff, to look into a tobacco policy," said UHWO Director of Communications Leila Shimokawa. The first meeting is set for this month.

UHWO is currently a tobacco using campus that adheres to the UH Executive Policy E10.102 on Tobacco Products. The policy prohibits smoking in all university buildings and within 20 feet of building entrances and exits, 20 feet of air intake ducts and vents and of windows of buildings that are not air conditioned, and 50 feet of designated pick-up and drop-off points for campus and public bus transportation.

ASUHWO Vice President Briana Williams, who took the lead on the tobacco survey, said that she was pleased with 15 percent response, which is "well over the 10 percent that most studies require to make a decision." Many of those surveyed are non-tobacco users, which surprised Williams.

If the campus were to continue as a tobacco using campus, there would need to be

designated smoking areas and if the campus were to become tobacco free, UHWO would need to provide services to help smokers quit, Williams said.

Faculty members voted in favor of a tobacco-free campus. Dr. Stanley Orr, Faculty Senate Chair, said if the campus becomes tobacco free "is it enforceable?"

"There are still going to be smoking areas whether it is legal or illegal," Orr said.

Samantha Torres, a senior at UHWO who uses tobacco, states that having a tobacco free campus may cause smokers to stress more and "they might leave campus to smoke and then it would affect their studies."

Christopher Davis, a sophomore at UHWO who is a non-smoker, states he doesn't mind if there were designated smoking areas. Davis said not everyone will agree with having designated smoking areas, "but you can't just take away the whole thing from the school."

WORK-STUDY PROGRAM GROWS AT UHWO

REBECCA CARINO

The budget for work-study opportunities at the University of Hawai'i — West O'ahu will nearly quadruple in the upcoming school year, according to financial aid officials.

The allotted budget for Federal Work-Study was about \$12,000, but in preparing for a larger demand in FWS opportunities, the budget has increased to about \$47,000, said UHWO Financial Aid Officer Helen Longao. That is welcome news for students who have financial need and want to work on campus.

Work-study is seen as a "win-win" according to Longao because it saves the school money and departments are able to receive student help while allowing students to build on their clerical and job skills. Seventy-five percent of the amount paid to students in FWS is

paid by federal funds, saving the institution money that would be spent in full for regular student employment.

Currently, FWS opportunities are not highly advertised and most students inquire about FWS opportunities. This is due to the financial aid office being "tapped" with multiple financial responsibilities, Longao said.

Aside from overseeing financial aid, the department run by three staff members also manages student employment and, before the arrival of Career Counselor Loea Akiona, internships and job opportunities. Like all programs at UHWO, the intent is for FWS to grow and "having someone else handle that leg allows that person the ability to grow that program," Longao said.

The increase in funds "is a big step for our institution" Longao said. Now it's about "meeting with the chancellors, the vice chancellors to see how we can best utilize those funds," she said. Longao says the goal is to maximize the use of FWS funds for this upcoming school year since funds renew every year.

Financial aid officials have reached out to the different departments to see if they need the help of FWS. The goal is to ensure that "FWS-eligible students are hired by the different offices on campus, providing much needed assistance and that everyone will be able to benefit from the fund," Longao said.

HOKULE'A: VOYAGE TO WEST O'AHU

DUSTIN SATO, SPECIAL TO THE HOOT

Forty years after the Hokule'a's initial voyage through Polynesia without navigational instruments, former TV reporter Elisa Yadao still marvels at its cultural significance.

"It takes my breath away just thinking we got to be part of it," Yadao said during a 40th anniversary commemoration at the University of Hawai'i — West O'ahu. Yadao and cameraman Clifford Watson documented parts of the voyage in the 1980s for KGMB-TV and shared their experience at 'Ulu'ulu: The Henry Ku'ualoha Giugni Moving Image Archive of Hawai'i in late March.

Navigator Nainoa Thompson became the first Polynesian in 600 years to develop a non-instrumental way to navigate and it changed society's thinking of how Polynesians populated the region, Yadao said. Open ocean voyaging was "purposeful voyaging," she added.

"The fact that we were able to put that in perspective for people is huge," Yadao said.

Students were treated to the pair's stories about their experiences and a brief film on the Hokule'a.

Yadao recalled the long process it took to gain the crew's trust and the difficulties trying to get interviews with crew members, including Thompson, president of the Polynesian Voyaging Society.

Yadao laughed when she shared her first attempt at interviewing Thompson. She explained that she asked Thompson for an interview before he went into Kawaiha'e Church for a blessing before the voyage and Thompson said he would talk to her when he was done. An hour later, Yadao still believed that he would come out and grant an interview, but when she checked the church it was empty.

"We built up a relationship and a trust," Watson recalled. When they were finally allowed on board the double hull canoe. Watson said he "asked permission to step aboard. I felt it was an honor."

Yadao and Watson were permitted to travel with group on the voyage back to the Hawaiian islands from Fiji in 1987.

Although Yadao said she thought she was a "nuisance," Watson provided examples of how he and Yadao earned their spot on the voyage. He helped by standing watch and helping where he could while Yadao

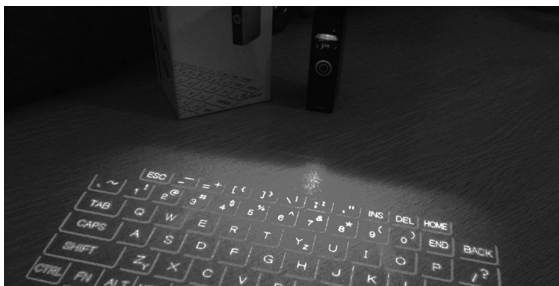
washed dishes and patched sails, among other duties.

Watson said he considered themselves part of the crew. Watson also would perform his journalistic duties recording the voyage.

While they reflected fondly on their time aboard the vessel, Yadao also described feeling homesick, seasick and cold. Yadao said she often felt that she was a burden to the crew because she wasn't able to do any heavy lifting.

Yadao also shared an experience when a slight conflict arose between the news team and the crew. Thompson wanted to assemble an extra mast to speed up travel, however the original canoe did not have one, so Yadao explained that they would have to record it. It was an awkward and tense moment, but Yadao said she and Watson were there to document the voyage.

Yadao and Watson both explained the voyage was life changing and a great opportunity for them. When asked if they would do it again, they both said yes.



TECH REVIEW

The Celluon Epic: Projection Laser Keyboard

Have you ever watched a cool sci-fi flick like “Iron Man” or “Star Trek” and wished we lived in a time where that kind of technology exists?

Well, wonder no more my forward-looking friend, for that future is NOW!

In our day and age, our “on-the-go” society has seamlessly harmonized our smartphones and tablets into the very nucleus of our everyday lives. We may as well glue them to our hands.

We do everything from our mobile device — read textbooks from our tablets or take notes (or video notes) from our phones. For instance, this review was typed from a phone!

These phones and tablets have become our main computing devices, but they lack the kind of keyboard that could power us through more demanding tasks.

Enter the Celluon Epic, a projection keyboard that has the power to dazzle even the most skeptical of tech savvy aficionados.

So What Is It?

The Celluon Epic is a device that laser projects a fully functional QWERTY holographic keyboard

onto any flat surface. This pocket-sized gizmo connects to any device via bluetooth enabled pairing or SSP; Secure Simple Pairing. This new advancement in secure pairing means there is no need for passcodes.

Once on, the image functions like an ordinary keyboard using sensors to detect keystrokes. Just tap your fingers and the words magically appear on the screen of your mobile device.

Need a mouse? Maybe not, when there’s a button that allows you to turn on the track pad feature for mouse-like scrolling. With power-saving mode, you can extend the use of the device for hours.

The Celluon Epic works with almost all mobile operating systems. It’s compatible with the latest Android technology, iOS 4.0 or later and Blackberry 10. The versatility of the Epic extends to other devices we love, such as video game consoles, laptops and desktops with Windows XP or even Mac devices.

Why Is This Perfect For Students?

Every day we are faced with new demands that capriciously affect our lives, but there are those small gems that shine through and aim to make life a little easier.

The Celluon Epic is the perfect device for the active lifestyle that a student leads. It’s ultra portable - more so than a laptop or a tablet keyboard attachment. It’s easy to use, and it works with all our favorite devices.

It’s great for meetings or for taking notes in class. And it looks cool. Who wouldn’t want to be around a group of people and whip out a super cool holographic device of the future?

The Celluon Epic was designed to fit smoothly and conveniently in our lives and turns any college student into a more efficient scholar on the cutting edge of technology.

The Celluon Epic can be purchased at Best Buy for \$99.

FASHION TRENDS

MICHAEL O’MEALLY



GUYS

GQ magazine advertised many short-sleeved collared shirts in collections from Louis Vuitton and Saturdays NYC that carry vivid patterns. The new eccentric patterns definitely make a statement in your wardrobe and fit in perfectly for the spring and summer season. Pair these with dark denim jeans and slicked back hair for an Elvis-inspired look. These shirts are also found in Topman and Gap stores.

GIRLS

The boho style has had a long stay in the spotlight. Fringe has become an accent on multiple articles of clothing — shirts, skirts, bikinis, jackets, scarves, bags and cardigans, just to name a few. The fringe adds a Southern California vibe that smoothly transitions into the upcoming warm summer months. Pacsun and T&C Surf Designs have the best selections of clothes with fringe.



photo credit: Saturdays NYC

photo credit: Pacsun



Noven Valenzuela Jr.

HE SAYS:

School is almost out, so what are you doing for the summer? A trip? Stay home vacation? More homework? Don't let the semester end without having a summer checklist in place.

Here are some suggestions:

Plan Now

Check every day for flights using programs like Google Flights or StudentUniverse.

Google flights is an "easy to navigate" website that collects prices from many different websites while also allowing smooth transitions between the quality of flights, date changes and even possible layovers that may result in you taking two trips.

StudentUniverse is a website dedicated to providing students with all sorts of travel needs such as trains, planes, activities and even lodging. Discounts

are provided for those who sign up and usually start at \$20.

Study Abroad

Studying in another country provides two possible benefits: Take a much needed vacation and also earn more credits that may contribute to graduation.

Studying abroad gives you insight into another culture as well as friends from all over the world. On your next trip, you might be able to stay with some friends you've made.

Staying home?

If you do not plan on leaving, maybe find a job, take summer school courses (if you can afford it), think about your post-college plans, or turn up in town. With beaches and weather like this, sometimes home is where it is. Minus the traffic.

Set Goals

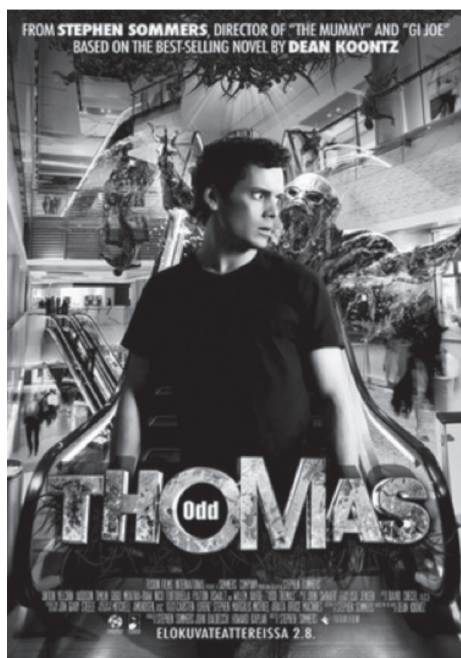
Summer can be a time of relaxation and reflection. During the break, why not assess where you are and set different goals.

Set a physical goal to exercise, eat better or learn a new sport. Or focus on a financial goal such as opening a savings account and saving up for graduate school.

The goals should be attainable. Even if it's a mini goal to clean your room, at least you can check something off your "to do" list.

Summer, Not Slumber

Try to keep yourself busy this summer! School may be ending, but try not to fall into a perpetual state of summer vacation.



REBECCA CARINO

MOVIE REVIEW

(Netflix Edition)

Odd Thomas

still allows for a great experience for its viewers despite its odds. Sixty-five percent of viewers have said they enjoyed the film.

This mystery thriller flick is wreathed in paranormal juju, but seasoned ever so perfectly with comedy, horror and a bittersweet ending.

This film is the adaptation of Dean Koontz' *Odd Thomas* and it revolves around a boy named Thomas Yelchin who works as a short-order cook and lives in some small unnamed town in California.

He has a sweet "bring-home-to-mama" girlfriend named Stormy and he's psychic. Thomas uses his abilities throughout the film, channeling his gut feelings and the guidance of those on the other side, to prevent a catastrophic massacre.

This film was directed, produced and written by Stephen Sommers, who also produced similar otherworldly films such as *The Mummy* (1999)

and *Van Helsing* (2004). This film redefined what "supernatural" was by humanizing spirits and romanticizing ghouls. It will also have viewers gripping onto the creases of their pillows till the very end.

The movie is perfect for hipsters who gravitate toward underrated films. I came across this gem after 45 minutes of indecisiveness and was enticed by its five bright red stars.

The plot line is a bit jumpy, but it's just another dimension of the hectic life that Thomas has to deal with. Despite all of the unrealistic situations Thomas ends up in, his teenage life issues and concerns are one that viewers can (or could) relate to.

Overall this film is great for those who want to watch something new. It takes the supernatural and makes it unusually human.

Indie film adaptations of novels usually end in failure, but *Odd Thomas* (2013) is a rare exception.

The film only earned \$570,168 in stark contrast to its \$27 million budget, and it received 5.2 out of 10 on Rotten Tomatoes. However, the film

HTIC AND UHWO PARTNERSHIP

ERIKA BARENG



HAWAII TOKAI
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE
TOKAI UNIVERSITY
PACIFIC CENTER

Hawai'i Tokai International College officially opened its campus this month next to the University of Hawai'i — West O'ahu and the two institutions now share an academic partnership.

Tokai's grand opening took place on April 17.

The academic partnership pledges that both campuses will "participate in the joint delivery of courses and programs, share academic resources, participate in collaborative research and publication, participate in the joint organization of special technical and administrative programs and provide UHWO and HTIC students with opportunities to take credit courses at the other campus," according to a UHWO news release.

The academic partnership began to take shape during formal discussions in June 2010 regarding the adjacent placement of the two campuses, said Interim Chancellor of Hawaii Tokai International College, Dr. Edward Schultz.

Discussions began between former UHWO Chancellor Gene Awakuni and Naoto Yoshikawa of HTIC and eventually, the plan emerged, Schultz said. On January 15, 2011, a formal agreement between the UH System, the Tokai University Educational System (TES), UHWO and HTIC was signed. TES/HTIC signed a Land Purchase Agreement on October 11, 2011 and started site preparations as UHWO was moving into its new campus, Schultz said.

"Developing an academic partnership with Hawai'i Tokai International College was always the intent of UH West O'ahu officials when it was agreed that HTIC would build its campus adjacent to the University," said Interim Academic Program Officer and Director of

Strategic Initiatives, Sheryle Proper.

A program that will be available for UHWO students includes study abroad opportunities.

"HTIC offers a "Discover East Asia" program which concludes with study in Korea, China, or Japan, and we will invite UHWO students to participate in this program as well," Schultz said.

Both campuses will also have shared courses, benefitting both campuses.

"UH West O'ahu students may take language classes at HTIC. HTIC students may register for some of our classes, which will add more perspectives to the classroom experience, which is a benefit for all students," Proper said.

"HTIC has a strong English as a Second Language program and also teach[es] Japanese, Chinese, and Korean. These offerings can be made available to UHWO students. Also at the lower division level there are courses in our catalog not found at UHWO, which can be opened to UHWO students.

Similarly, there are many courses offered at UHWO's lower division level, which will be of great interest to HTIC students. Ultimately, there will be HTIC students who once they obtain their AA degrees at HTIC will seek to continue at UHWO," Schultz said.

According to Proper, academic as well as physical resources will be available for UHWO and HTIC students. In addition to courses, Tokai students will be able to use the UHWO library's resources. They will be able to borrow UHWO's library books and use group study rooms and computers as well as purchase and rent books from the UHWO Bookstore, access wireless

connectivity on campus and dine at the UHWO on-campus restaurant, Proper said. UHWO students will have access to HTIC dormitories.

Overall, while both campuses promise academic opportunities, they also foresee social and cultural benefits for both UHWO and HTIC students.

"The UHWO/HTIC partnership strikes me as a win-win situation for both campuses. HTIC students, many of whom are international students with little knowledge of Hawai'i or the U.S., will have much more direct exposure to the values and lifestyles of UHWO students," Schultz said.

"Similarly UHWO students will benefit with new friendships. Socially we hope that the clubs and activities of each campus will entice students to cross the parking lot," Schultz said.

The details and timetables for these shared resources have yet to be determined, as the partnership will continue to evolve over the next several semesters, Schultz said.

According to Proper, specific courses and programs also have yet to be identified, but meetings and discussions to work out the logistics will continue.

"I am confident that with good will and by keeping in mind our common goals to provide our students with the best education possible, this partnership will see great success," Schultz said.

STUDENTS RECEIVE \$500 SCHOLARSHIPS UNDER '15 TO FINISH' PROGRAM



ERIKA BARENG

Two hundred University of Hawai'i — West O'ahu students who completed 15 credits and earned a grade point average of 3.5 or higher in the fall received a \$500 merit-based scholarship this spring, according to financial aid officials.

"Because it is a merit-based scholarship, we can look at it as a way to keep students motivated," said Financial Aid Officer Helen Longao, who worked to publicize the scholarship.

A little more than \$100,000 of the '15 to Finish Scholarship' monies was awarded to students for the Spring 2015 semester, Longao said.

Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Dr. Judy Oliveira, Director of Enrollment Management Jim Cromwell and the Director of Financial Aid Lester Ishimoto collaborated to establish the 15 to Finish Scholarship. The scholarship is a spinoff of the 15 to Finish campaign within the UH System, which encourages students enrolled in two- or four-year institutions to take 15 credits per semester in order to earn their degree on time.

Extra eligible funds coming from a percentage of students' tuition set aside for scholarships were available to allocate toward the 15 to Finish Scholarship. Thus, the new scholarship quickly took shape due to the windfall of funds.

"It was a stroke of luck that the funds became available," said Longao.

This semester's scholarship is a way to

promote the 15 to Finish campaign. "It's a scholarship to incentivize the completion of a baccalaureate degree [within] four years in a timely manner," Cromwell said.

Finishing every semester with 15 credits reduces the chances of incurring more debt and increases the chances of entrance into the student's desired career pathway, Cromwell added.

The presence of the scholarship is also a way to give back to the students who take the time to complete an extra course while balancing other responsibilities, Oliveira said.

"We want to reward students for their time," Oliveira said.

Though the scholarship is a measure to incentivize taking 15 credits, Associate Professor of History Dr. Jayson Chun reminds students about the UH West O'ahu credit hour policy, which is that students must study two hours per week for each hour of classroom instruction.

"Keep in mind — you will be spending 15 hours a week on school, and another 30 hours a week studying at home. That adds up to 45 hours per week devoted to studying," Chun said.

Chun advises students who have work commitments to take classes at a more leisurely pace by taking four classes per semester plus two classes in the summer to ensure graduation after four years. Chun also recommends taking

less than four classes per semester to ensure that students are focusing on their studies, if need be, at a slower pace.

"Every student is different, and some students may take six years or more due to family finances, family or work responsibilities, or just taking the time to go at a slower pace and focus on their studies," Chun said.

Cromwell and Longao say that this is a scholarship that may change in the future. The scholarship will be continued next semester.

"Next year, we would like to help more students get [the scholarship]," Cromwell said.

Cromwell is considering either lowering the GPA requirement or scholarship amount in order to reward more students.

Longao says there was no formal announcement of the scholarship because it is a work in progress, but it is currently listed on the scholarship website and in updated recruiting materials. There will be a formal announcement of the scholarship prior to the upcoming fall semester.

Senior Deion Agustin believes it is a helpful scholarship and had no idea it would be coming.

"I was surprised to see that it was in my account. It's great. I didn't know the scholarship was actually around, but it helps. It helped pay for my tuition. They should encourage more people to take 15 credits to get the scholarship," said Agustin.



Summer Hours and Holidays

- Saturday, May 9 CLOSED*
- Monday, May 11 – Friday, May 15 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Monday, May 18 – Friday, May 22 CLOSED
- Tuesday, May 26 – Thursday, August 20 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

*Beginning Saturday, May 9 – Saturday, Aug. 22 the Library will be closed on Saturdays and Sundays. Regular summer hours will be Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The library will also be closed on the following state holidays:

- Memorial Day – Monday, May 25
- Kamehameha Day – Thursday, June 11
- Independence Day (observed) – Friday, July 3
- Statehood Day – Friday, Aug. 21

While the library is closed, you can always return materials in our outdoor bookdrop, located outside the mauka facing doors. When the library reopens, these materials will be checked in and backdated to the last date that the library was open.

Casual Reading – New Books!

New books have recently arrived in our casual reading collection, just in time for summer reading. Check out *Funny Girl* by Nick Hornby, *The Best of Me* by Nicholas Sparks, *Undeniable* by Bill Nye (the Science Guy) or other great books from this collection!

You can still check out books over the summer as long as you're registered for classes in the fall.

Congratulations and best wishes to the class of 2015! For everyone else, have a great summer — we'll see you in the fall!

UH PRESIDENT LAUDS UHWO

KREMLIN MANUEL, SPECIAL TO THE HOOT

The President of the University of Hawai'i System, David Lassner, delivered a congratulatory message emphasizing growth, sustainability and the future of University of Hawai'i — West O'ahu during a site visit.

During an open forum at the Campus Center on March 31, Lassner started off congratulating the UH West O'ahu staff for an outstanding year of performance, prosperity and perseverance. He was appreciative of how far this campus has grown over the past years. He mentioned "the opportunities are limitless for this institution."

Lassner discussed some of the campus' achievements after describing some of its early struggles during its fragile beginnings.

The institution had to fight for its survivability for some time, and its challenges included small facilities, an insufficient budget, not enough students and the lack of online classes to accommodate its target segment. Now, he noted that the campus is doing such an incredible job it was the only campus in the UH system in which its expenditures did not exceed its revenues last year.

Originally, the campus was built to cater to most of the West O'ahu region.

When he became president of the system, Lassner turned his focus on attracting more students to get educated, targeting people in any stage of life who are still interested in achieving a degree in higher education.

Because the Hawai'i population does not have enough degree holders, Lassner said he wanted to offer more opportunities to those who wanted more in life. He added that statistically, part of the problem stems from the state being heavily dependent on tourism and military support.

In order for this state to start generating more revenue, Lassner shared some of his visions involving the future of West O'ahu. By bringing entrepreneurship into the programs and the system, Lassner said he wants to produce graduates who don't just focus on getting a job, but who also create jobs for other graduates. Lassner said that the students on this campus have the potential and are capable of doing incredible things.

Lassner outlined strategies for this campus

that involve restoration, regeneration and recuperation, emphasizing "there's always room for growth." The school still needs more facilities and must concentrate more on beautification efforts, Lassner said.

For regeneration, he wanted to improve business practices by offering classes that focus on business efficiency and effectiveness.

Lassner also tackled sustainability involving the campus' operations, curriculum, scholarships and community engagements. His last concern was to target students who also have daily jobs. He mentioned that more of the efforts would be toward offering multiple online classes and even afternoon courses to fit students' needs and accommodate the growing demand.

Lassner said he was also satisfied with the way the campus has always worked together with the rest of the system, noting he wants to see continuous improvement and share the campus' achievements the same way "it is preserved, treasured and celebrated."

UHWO RECEIVES WASC ACCREDITATION

'Notice of Concern' Removed

ERIKA BARENG

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) reaffirmed the University of Hawai'i — West O'ahu's accreditation last month for the next seven years and removed the Notice of Concern status, said Julie Funasaki-Yuen, a UHWO spokeswoman.

UHWO's reaccreditation was issued on March 6, 2015, according to Jacqueline Honda, UHWO Accreditation Liaison Officer and Director of Institutional Effectiveness. In the WASC Commission Action letter, WASC commended UHWO for "making progress toward a more student-centered university."

"Our faculty, staff and students have worked hard to create a student-centered environment at the university and a culture of assessment and continual improvement," said UH West O'ahu Chancellor Rockne Freitas. "It was truly a collaborative effort by the entire university to address the commission's recommendation."

The next WASC visit is scheduled for spring 2022, with a mid-cycle review in 2019, Funasaki-

Yuen said in a news release. The University is required to submit an interim report in fall 2018 to notify the commission about progress made on the commission's recommendations related to:

- Resource planning and development toward financial stability
- Growing faculty capacity
- Clarifying decision-making structures and processes
- Developing assessment systems and
- Strategizing distance education delivery

"WASC found that UH West O'ahu addressed core commitments to student learning and success, quality and improvement, and institutional integrity, sustainability, and accountability," Honda said.

In July 2012, the WASC Senior College and University Commission issued a letter notifying UH West O'ahu of its reaccreditation with Notice of Concern status.

According to the Commission Action Letter,

the commission "cautioned UHWO about the long-standing instability in senior leadership positions." The letter later stated that UHWO made leadership turnover a priority thus establishing a stable senior administration.

However, because UHWO took standards seriously, addressed WASC's concerns and made progress towards meeting all of the standards, these factors led to UHWO's reaccreditation, Honda said.

Honda also encourages students to also take part in maintaining accreditation by voicing their student concerns, since UHWO is cultivating a student-centered environment.

"We are having our WASC consultant talk to us about how to plan for the next accreditation in seven years, so we can start now," said Honda.

UH West O'ahu has remained fully accredited since 1981.

Hawai'i's Marine Life

Blue Whale



Humpback Whale



Sperm Whale



Trash



Gray Whale



Killer Whale



Minke Whale



Fin Whale



Bottle nose Dolphin



Sperm Whale



**Protect and Preserve
the Ocean's Valuable Resources**