

Subject: This Week at UH West O'ahu - Week of Sept. 14, 2020
From: UHWO Communications Department <uhwocomm@hawaii.edu>
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A BULLETIN FOR UH WEST O'AHU FACULTY AND STAFF
This Week at UH West O'ahu
Week of Sept. 14, 2020

Return-to-Campus Information from Chancellor Benham - Bulletin No. 18

Aloha mai kākou!

Over the last 17 weeks, I have been providing information in this weekly bulletin about the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on our campus operations and budget. In August, more information about our budget was presented [in this bulletin](#) and in the August Ka Pe'ahi Lono as well as at our Fall Convocation. In July and August, the campus executive team with each Vice Chancellor's Office significantly reduced our operational costs while at the same time putting more energy into our enrollment efforts. In addition, over the summer months, our VCAA, AVCAA, and Division Chairs began to examine the productivity and efficiency of our academic programs. Their review has helped us to make operational and personnel cuts in a manner that still maintains the quality of our academic programs. This effort will continue through this fiscal year.

The hard work of prioritization that will streamline our efforts and address our fiscal situation now requires your feedback, your ideas. Mahalo Nui to those who attended the first two campus conversations (Sept. 8 and Sept. 10). These generative conversations are facilitated around three key queries that ask you to suggest ways that we can reduce our costs while maximizing access and affordability to quality signature academic programs and learning opportunities. This is not an easy conversation – we know – but your feedback is so very important. **There are two more conversations – one today, Monday, Sept. 14, at 1 p.m. and the last on Friday, Sept. 25, at 9 a.m.** RSVP for Friday's session to uhwochan@hawaii.edu. You must RSVP 24 hours in advance to participate.

Please note that we are also meeting with students, our faculty senate executive committee, and other focus groups over the next two weeks. Our next steps will be to work on refining our current short-term strategies (2020-2021) and identify mid-range strategies (for 2021-2025) that are built on our [Impact Strategies](#). Representatives from across our campus will engage in this process during the month of October. I will keep you posted and ask for your feedback through our weekly bulletin.

Again, remember our themes for the month is: ***E ala! E alu! E kuilima! Awaken! Come together! Join hands!*** Together we will succeed!

Mahalo nūnui! E mālama pono!
Maenette Benham, Chancellor

To put into context the impact of the pandemic on Hawai'i's economy and the UH System, please view Civil Beat articles that describe how UH Mānoa is addressing the dire economic situation:

<https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2020/09/11/uh-manoa-provost-budget-cuts-will-exceed-those-seen-during-great-recession/>

<https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/09/uh-manoa-may-cut-theater-journalism-social-work-programs/>

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 Keith Sakuda, professor of Business Management at UH West O'ahu:

Early during the COVID quarantine a close friend joked that he feared the world would be taken over by introverts (like me) while extroverts (like him) spiraled into madness due to the lockdown. Fortunately, that has not happened, but he was right about some of us being more comfortable with quarantine life. Simple joys like eating home-made ice cream and fishing with my wife have been enough to keep me on track through the social isolation, and the worldwide movement towards videoconferencing has kept my calendar full. Workshops and seminars have never been easier to attend, and attendance at my community board meetings has never been better. While I do miss time spent with family and friends, virtual alternatives to events like birthdays and weddings remind us we are all just a click or two away (even those far from home). Life will be better once COVID ends, but until then, savoring the simple moments and appreciating new ways to connect keeps us moving forward.

Sign up for hurricane preparedness workshop, Sept. 15

Hurricane season is June 1 to Nov. 30, so now is a good time to learn more about what you can do to better prepare for a hurricane. The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Department of Public Safety (DPS) is offering [virtual hurricane preparedness workshops via Zoom](#). Hosted by DPS Emergency Management Coordinator Jimmy Lagunero, the session covers COVID-19 considerations and how they may affect hurricane preparation, resources and information about local and government agencies, and more. Space is limited, so those who are interested should sign up soon.

Notice of UH Board of Regents meeting, Sept. 17

The Sept. 17 Board of Regents meeting will be [held virtually](#) starting at 8:30 a.m. The agenda and materials packet may be accessed on the board's public website: <http://go.hawaii.edu/MD3> (PDF). See the Board of Regents website for information on accessing the livestream: www.hawaii.edu/bor

Change in check printing schedule, effective Oct. 1

Due to significant budget restrictions and to take advantage of efficiencies gained by electronic payments, effective Oct. 1, the University Disbursing Office will only be issuing paper checks twice a month (on/around the 15th of the month and the last business day of the month). Accordingly, we strongly encourage employees to sign up for the digital delivery of payments via ePayment (<http://www.hawaii.edu/epayment/>) to avoid any unnecessary delays. Please contact Sheri Ching at 689- 2512 or sheric@hawaii.edu with any questions.

Process to post on Student Media Board's Online Bulletin Board

UH West O'ahu's Student Media Board (SMB) is offering faculty and staff to post flyers on its Instagram page. To help get your information out, please follow these instructions:

- All flyers must be 6 inches x 6 inches big.
- The files should be either in an image (JPEG or PNG) or in a PDF format.
- SMB will make all efforts to post within five working days from the date of SMB approval.
- Provide a caption between 20 words and 100 words including hashtags for the posting.
- Use [this form](#) to upload your image files.

Please keep in mind that the SMB has the right to decide not to post the flyers that challenge school policies and adjust flyer captions. SMB will provide the agreed upon services using diligence, best effort, and reasonable judgment but

guarantees no specific outcome to the client. The name and photo associated with your Google account will be recorded when you upload files and submit the form. If you have any questions or concerns, please email smbwo@hawaii.edu.

September EUTF “Well Aware” message and EAP newsletter now available

The EUTF “Well Aware” message for the third quarter is now available in the “Messages from EUTF” section on the [OHR website](#): Benefits → Health & Wellness → Medical, Chiropractic & Prescription Drug.

Also, the [Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#) September 2020 edition of the Hawai‘i Employee and Hawai‘i Supervisors newsletters are posted on the Worklife Hawai‘i website. Featured topics this month:

Hawaii Employee:

- *When Tragedy Strikes at Work*
- *Using “Distancing” to Think Calmly Under Pressure*
- *Find the Answer with This Brainstorming Tool*
- *Keiki Solutions to Coping with COVID*
- *Drug Abuse Resurgence of GHB*
- *Benefits of Brisk Walking*
- *Tips for Making Better Impressions at Work*
- *Increase Productivity While Working from Home*

Hawaii Supervisor:

- *Documentation of a reasonable suspicion referral*
- *How can I genuinely praise my employees without being patronizing?*
- *What is the difference between describing and interpreting unacceptable behavior?*
- *What can supervisors do to help with the effects of the pandemic on mental health for employees?*
- *Best practice guidelines for workplaces dealing with loss due to an employee death by suicide.*

Check out free Zogo finance app

The Zogo finance app, sponsored by UH Federal Credit Union, is great for faculty members who teach financial literacy. According to its website, “Zogo teaches financial literacy in a way that GenZ actually loves — On their phone. Gamified. With incentives embedded.” Learn more about Zogo by visiting its [website](#), watching a [video](#) about the app, listening to [user stories](#), or downloading the [app](#). The free app was founded by Duke University undergraduate students who wanted to make financial education more fun and engaging for young adults.

PIKO Outdoor Learning Space construction deliveries

Multiple construction deliveries continue for the PIKO Outdoor Learning Space project. When there are deliveries, please expect temporary disruptions to pedestrian access at the roundabout and entry ramp. 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.

Honouliuli (Ho‘opili) Station update

Images courtesy of Nan, Inc.:



The Holo Card fare machines and fare gates at Honouliuli (Ho'opili) rail station.



Distance Learning Tip of the Week – Playing videos at lower resolution for quicker playback

Do your streamed video presentations stutter and halt in the classroom or online? Low internet speed paired with high definition (HD) video may be the problem. YouTube videos are often uploaded in HD. These videos can take much longer buffering data before being ready to view. Avoid the wait by playing videos at lower resolution. Find the gear icon in the bottom right of the video player to check quality options. Choose 360p for quicker and more reliable playback.

News from [E Kamakani Hou](#)



[Monthly Mental Health Moment – Hidden Strengths](#) - Clinical psychologists Dr. Steven Taketa and Dr. Analu Sing, with the [Mental Health Clinic at UH West O'ahu](#), will offer monthly mental health tips to students, faculty, and staff to cope through COVID-19 and these trying times.

[Student Support Spotlight: IT Help Desk](#) - Welcome to an E Kamakani Hou series that highlights the services the University of Hawai'i–West O'ahu offers to help our students succeed. Student Support Spotlight will profile the wide-ranging services that are important for our students and campus. The series has so far featured profiles on [Advising](#), [Admissions](#), the

[Behavior Intervention Team](#), the [Bookstore](#), [Campus Security](#), [Career Services](#), [Mental Health Services](#), [Disability Services](#), [Distance Learning](#), and [Financial Aid](#).

[Student Support Spotlight: James & Abigail Campbell Library](#)

[Student Support Spotlight: Nāulu Center](#)

[Student Support Spotlight: No'eau Center](#)

[Meet risk management and insurance professionals at Zoom events](#) - Students will have an opportunity to meet and learn valuable lessons from risk management and insurance professionals at one of several talk-story sessions and workshops hosted by UH West O'ahu's [Risk Management and Insurance Certificate Program](#) this semester via Zoom (link will be sent to students who RSVP to the events).

[UH West O'ahu introduces new programs this fall](#) - The University of Hawai'i–West O'ahu is unveiling a new slate of academic offerings – including another STEM degree – to address the state's workforce needs, in time for the start of the Fall 2020 semester.

[UH West O'ahu site for free COVID-19 testing, Sept. 12](#) - The University of Hawai'i–West O'ahu has been chosen as a site for free COVID-19 testing this Saturday, Sept. 12, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

[Learn why your vote counts at Constitution Day event, Sept. 17](#) - Learn about the U.S. Constitution and the importance of your vote in this year's upcoming General Election at the event, "[EH! You Goin' Vote or Wot?! — Constitution Day Workshop](#)," 1 to 2:30 p.m. Sept. 17 via Zoom.

['Āina-to-'Ōpū workshops now available via videos](#) - If the sound of [spicy tomato jam](#) is making your mouth water, then check out this month's 'Āina-to-'Ōpū Workshop to learn how to make the delicious spread for yourself.

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](#).

WESTOAHU.HAWAII.EDU



University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu
[91-1001 Farrington Highway, Kapolei, Hawai'i 96707](#)
ph: 689-2800 | [westoahu.hawaii.edu](#)