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## Library History

### Mission Statement

The Library & Learning Resources Unit (Library, campus Web Team, Open Computer Labs, and Testing/Placement Lab) supports the vision and curriculum of Kapi'olani Community College by providing an innovative environment for learning and research. To accomplish our mission, the Library & Learning Resources Unit shall:

- Provide access to and instruction in the use of information tools and resources,
- Collaborate with faculty, staff, students, and community to enhance instruction, learning, and research, and
- Be a gathering place, (both physically and virtually), for cultural exchange and diversity in learning through development of collections, creation of original content, and participation in exhibits and performances.

### Library History

The Kapi'olani Community College library was completed in 1992 when the College relocated from downtown Honolulu to a new campus at the foot of Diamond Head in east Honolulu, overlooking Waikiki.

The Library introduced a new concept in library design in the early 90's. The facility spatially integrates print, video, and computerized materials. The Library's innovative design allows students to follow a topic from its most current state, through recent stages, and finally to in-depth study.

Students entering the library encounter NewsWare, a large-screen television that transmits continuous national, international, and local newscasts (CNN), providing up-to-the-minute information from around the world.

In Current Periodicals, adjacent to NewsWare, students can use computerized workstations to locate recent magazine and journal articles discussing news and events.

Students can also access information about books, government documents, multimedia and other materials held in libraries throughout the UH System through Hawaii Voyager. Additionally, periodical databases containing full-text articles, and ebooks are available through the Web.

Students continue their research using the Reference Collection, and the General and Special circulating Collections on the second floor.

Librarians, faculty, and administrators responsible for the library believed quality student research to be of the utmost importance. Students should demonstrate a thorough knowledge of a particular subject, including background information, trends, changes through a specific period of time, and how to obtain the most current information available on it. Teaching students how to acquire, evaluate and use information to make knowledgeable decisions are the foundation skills all students learn in our library instruction program. Students see the relevance of world events as it relates to the classroom experience and realize that the library, and the information it provides both in-house and online is an integral part of their research experience.

The Library successfully incorporates the two major design innovations: 1) the integration of mass communication channels (continuous televised newscasts) into the Library's other services; and 2) the building's shape to arrange a variety of information formats in a logical, progressive order.

### The Community beyond the Campus

To assume its role in regional and international information exchange, the Library has embarked on several projects:

- Developed the PRAISE, Asian Studies Development Program, and Emergency Medical Services online resources to provide full-text online collections and other services to the Asian-Pacific area and beyond.
- Established the Char Asian-Pacific Study Room and Collection from a donation to present activities that focus community attention on Asian and Pacific issues. The Board of Directors for the Room's activities include the Chief Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court, the State Attorney General, notable local leaders and officials, and international dignitaries.

- Cooperated with several universities and colleges in Asia and the Pacific to conduct materials and staff exchanges, develop joint information resources, engage in collaborative research and writing projects, and promote international librarianship.
- Established collections on Japan, China, and Korea through international cooperation projects with institutions in those nations. Most of the books in these collections were donated by agencies such as the Japan Foundation and Japan Forum; universities such as Peking University in the People's Republic of China, Kansai University in Japan, and Inha University in Korea; and numerous individuals and corporations.

The Library relies on local and international donors to support its innovative statewide and regional projects. To date, the Library has received over \$150,000 from donors in Hawai'i and Asia to implement its programs. These and other generous gifts will be used to establish the Library as a center for disseminating information throughout Hawai'i and the Pacific. For more information about the Library or any of its projects, please [contact us](#).