



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII®
MAUI COLLEGE

**ANNUAL REPORT
2021**



CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE



Aloha mai kakou,

“He ‘āli‘i ku makani mai au” – “I am a wind-resting ‘āli‘i; no gale can push me over.” The ‘āli‘i can withstand the worst of gales, twisting and bending but seldom breaking or falling over.

This ‘olelo no‘eau has been our rallying cry during 2020 and 2021. It reminds us daily to be nimble like the ‘āli‘i, to withstand the strong winds of the uplands.

We have faced the COVID-19 pandemic winds head on with strength and resilience. Who would have thought this pandemic would extend beyond a year? We have learned many lessons along the way and we have not wavered from our commitment to develop quality higher education for the Maui Nui Community. I am pleased to present to you this annual report on UH Maui College.

Two highlights for me during this fiscal year were hosting mass vaccination clinics and a face-to-face commencement ceremony. The vaccination clinics ran from December until May and, in partnership with the Department of Health Maui branch, we assisted in putting thousands of shots into arms. I am so proud of our staff that helped support the efforts in many ways. Our nursing students were deployed to assist with the vaccinations and our culinary arts students fed the thousands of volunteers who rallied around us to help in this effort.

We polled our graduates on the type of commencement they wanted and it was unanimous – “face-to-face” was their full-throated and wholehearted response. I promised them that if the rules permitted, we would hold a face-to-face graduation and that is exactly what we did. In fact, we held two ceremonies – one in the morning and one in the evening – making it easier to ensure social distancing. We were even able to provide a “graduation goodie bag” to each graduate that included a full-on lū‘au for four – kālua pig, chicken long rice, rice, mac salad, and a pineapple upside down cake

created by our baking students. The event was incredibly well-received by graduates, guests, faculty, staff and our wider community. Again, this effort took many hands, and I am grateful to all who were involved in honoring our graduates on their special day.

Let me end with an appeal on behalf of our students. This pandemic has impacted our less advantaged students much more significantly than other students. The college has used its federal stimulus money to support these students by providing \$2,000,000 (two million dollars) in scholarships. And yet, we have students who are still struggling. I ask that you please consider supporting scholarships – with a donation of any amount that is right for you – so we may assist them in meeting their basic needs. Education is so important – now more than ever. I humbly ask that you help us insure that a quality college education is available to ALL.

With warm regards,

Lui K Hokoana, Ed.D
Chancellor

FOUNDATION

An Example of How Your Donations Support UH Maui College Students



UH Maui College student nurses ran a COVID vaccine clinic at Binhi At Ani Filipino Community Center on May 1. First-year students (in teal scrubs) and second-year students (in maroon) gave 76 shots.

Maui has only one acute care hospital, located in Wailuku. If you live farther than 30 minutes away from Maui Memorial Medical Center and need immediate care, the consequences can be dire. This one issue has caused many people to sell their homes or move away.

The West Maui community has tried for years to have another hospital built there. According to the Maui News, the state approved a hospital project in 2009, but it has since been on hold due to an inability to secure funding. And even if the hospital were to be built, it would be difficult to find enough medical personnel to staff it.

In light of these challenges, the Wailea Community Association has found an innovative way to help anyone who needs better access to healthcare. It has started contributing in several ways to the nursing program at UH

Maui College, in hopes of increasing healthcare resources in the Maui community.

Helping new nurses get to work
This spring, WCA will cover all the licensure expenses for UHMC's 41 nursing graduates, as it did for 38 graduates last fall. The costs can be up to \$450 per student: the test is \$200, plus students have to travel to O'ahu to take it. WCA also paid for the licensure of 10 LPNs, and it has committed to helping another 10 LPNs this fall.

In addition, the WCA is helping nursing students prepare for their NCLEX licensure examinations by offsetting the cost of software that features practice tests and simulations, tutoring, books and more to increase students' testing success.

"We are thrilled to continue partnering with UH, especially during this pandemic," said Bud Pikrone, general manager of the Wailea Community Association. "We have all learned how valuable this program and these students and graduates are to our Maui community." Besides helping students become nurses, the partnership with WCA is already making a tangible impact in the community.

WCA recently asked UHMC's nursing department for help talking with the WCA landscaping crew in Ilocano about COVID vaccinations. Students realized there was a need in the Filipino community to dispel misinformation and make it easier to access vaccines.

They organized a COVID vaccination clinic at Binhi At Ani Filipino Community Center on May 1. The students ran all aspects of the clinic—

from finding supplies to setting up to screening and registration—and gave 76 shots! “It is an amazing testament to the influence these young nurses are having, and will have, in this community,” said Anne Scharnhorst, DNP, RN, chair and professor of Allied Health at UHMC. She said WCA’s influence will be felt for years to come.

Enabling students to continue their journeys, students have been grateful for the support, especially considering how the pandemic has impacted their lives. The WCA’s gifts have encouraged nursing students not only to complete their licensing, but also to continue their education.

Chelsea Yamashige graduated with her Associate of Science in nursing in May 2020. She said the financial support for NCLEX fees gave her more financial freedom, which has allowed her to better balance her work, school and personal life, and spend more time studying.

“This ultimately allows me to better care for the patients I have as one of

the newly-appointed nurse residents at the Maui Memorial Medical Center,” she wrote in a thank-you letter.

Yamashige is now working remotely on her bachelor’s in nursing from Boise State University. She plans to continue on for a doctorate in nursing practice, as she wants to become a nurse practitioner and specialize in oncology.

“It is here in the field of nursing that I truly feel both challenged and driven to become a better version of myself every day for the benefit of my patients, my community, and to perpetuate a strong workforce of passionate and genuine healthcare team members,” Yamashige said.

Mikiala Maynard also earned her associate degree from UHMC in May 2020. With financial support from WCA, she passed her licensing exam in August and is now working on a bachelor’s in nursing at UH Mānoa. She will graduate this May and has been accepted into the Doctorate in Nursing Practice program at UH

Mānoa. She wants to become a family nurse practitioner and stay on Maui to serve her community.

“This new journey has not been easy, but it is already so rewarding,” Maynard wrote in a letter to WCA. “By being able to help members of our community, and by learning and growing so much myself, I know I have found my true calling.” She added: “I hope that by returning to school, I am showing my daughter (and others) that anything is possible, and dreams can come true, with hard work and dedication.”

Like Maynard, Arielle Bagcal appreciated the support from WCA to cover her NCLEX exam last August. She is continuing her studies at UH Hilo toward a bachelor’s in nursing and hopes to finish in spring 2022.

Bagcal said that the assistance from WCA will help her pay for her BSN tuition and any other additional fees. She wrote, “You have alleviated many of our financial burdens and helped us achieve our goals.”

The Office of Development, Maui Nui headed by Director Jocelyn Romero Demirbag is part of the University of Hawai’i Foundation. The foundation was established in 1955 to encourage private support for the University of Hawai’i. Today it is the central fundraising organization for the UH System.

The generosity of our community partners – businesses, non-profits, and individuals – enables us to support students and innovative programs throughout our Maui College campus and learning centers in Lahaina and Hāna and on Moloka’i and Lāna’i.

There are many ways for you to help. We encourage you to give in the way that is

easiest for you. Every gift, regardless of size, is greatly appreciated and makes a significant difference in the lives of our students. And your gift makes you an integral part of our Maui College ‘ohana.

We are happy to answer any questions and work with you to determine the best way for you to make a difference to UH Maui College.

Ways to Give

- Online
- Check
- Payroll deduction
- Cash
- Wire transfer
- Pledge payments over time
- Through a will or trust
- Donating real estate, securities or other assets



Please contact

Jocelyn Romero Demirbag, Ed.D.
 Jocelyn.romerodemirbag@uhfoundation.org
 808-984-3471

EXTRAMURAL AWARDS

Like every college and university in this country and around the globe, we depend on outside funding for some parts of our operation. Extramural awards or grants support research and training activities conducted by university faculty and staff that are directed toward research and innovation that helps to increase knowledge and provide solutions to improve quality of life. These monies represent external investments from governmental agencies such as the federal, state or local government, the private sector and non-profit organizations.

Our Grant Development Coordinator **Melissa Bonnin** and our Contracts & Grants Specialist **Cheryl Reeser** head the UH Maui College team that searches out and researches these grants and writes the documentation required to apply for them. Many faculty and staff are involved in the process, as well. The chart on the right lists the grants we've received during the last year. As you can see, the great effort put in by our team has resulted in great success. And that translates to a great impact on both our students and our community.



AWARD TITLE	AWARD SPONSOR	AMOUNT
UH Maui College Educational Talent Search	EDUCATION, DEPT-FED TALENT SEARCH PGM	277,375
UH Maui College Central Maui and Moloka'i Upward Bound	EDUCATION, DEPT-FED OFC OF POSTSEC ED	450,566
MCTV Educational Access Activities, Responsibilities, Services For Higher Education - Channel 55 (MCTV) Services & Activities	MAUI COUNTY COMMUNITY TELEVISION	177,691
APCS SHAKA	HUMAN SERVICES, DEPT-HI	1,050,000
Modern Internships	COUNTY MAUI OFC OF ECON DEVEL	100,000
Coffee Bean Optical Sorter	COUNTY MAUI OFC OF ECON DEVEL	65,000
WIFI on Wheels Pilot Program	HawaiiKidsCAN	7,530
Back to School	COUNTY MAUI OFC OF ECON DEVEL	48,000
Uniting Culture, Purpose, Connection, and the Academic Journey to Advance Low-Income Students in Undergraduate Students in STEM	NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION	2,600,000
WIOA Youth Program Services	COUNTY MAUI OFC OF ECON DEVEL	108,000
Building Environmental Resiliency Leaders	COMMERCE, DEPT-NATL NOAA-FED	186,989
Lāna'i Dual Enrollment Project	UNIVERSITY HAWAI'I FOUNDATION	38,000
HDS Dental Hygiene Fund	UNIVERSITY HAWAI'I FOUNDATION	10,000
KS 13th Year UH Maui	UNIVERSITY HAWAI'I FOUNDATION	2,155
Mauka to Makai: From the Mountain to the Sea	AGRICULTURE, DEPT-NATL INS FOOD AND AGRICULTURE	489,234
Noble Chef	UNIVERSITY HAWAI'I FOUNDATION	4,250
'Ike Pili 'Oihana (Professional Knowledge) Project	EDUCATION, DEPT-FED OFC OF POSTSEC ED	400,000
Kupuohi I Ka La: Increasing Capacity for Continual Growth	EDUCATION, DEPT-FED OFC OF POSTSEC ED	500,000
Kahua Hana	EDUCATION, DEPT-FED OFC OF POSTSEC ED	450,000
CWS SHAKA	HUMAN SERVICES, DEPT-HI	1,950,000
CWS SHAKA	HUMAN SERVICES, DEPT-HI	238,028
Sustainable Living Institute of Maui	UNIVERSITY HAWAI'I FOUNDATION	24,000
Kealaho'imai: CTE Pathways to Health and Wellness	HUI NO KE OLA PONO, INC.	297,195
UH Maui College Cooperative Education & Extended Learning Workforce Development Partnership Grant	COUNTY MAUI OFC OF ECON DEVEL	75,000
Academic Coaching for Returning Adults	UNIVERSITY HAWAI'I FOUNDATION	8,500
Lāna'i Dual Enrollment Project	UNIVERSITY HAWAI'I FOUNDATION	40,000
Enhancing Music and Hawaiian Performing Arts at UHMC	EDUCATION, DEPT-FED OFC OF POSTSEC ED	500,000
Sustainable Living Institute of Maui	UNIVERSITY HAWAI'I FOUNDATION	20,000
Kupuna Smart	COUNTY MAUI OFC OF ECON DEVEL	86,750
Building Environmental Resiliency Leaders	COMMERCE, DEPT-NATL NOAA-FED	263,002
Teaching Through Technology (T3) Alliance Program	UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS	9,000
Pai Ka Mana Student Support Services	EDUCATION, DEPT-FED STUDENT SUPP SVCS PGM	293,417
GEAR UP Maui	EDUCATION, DEPT-FED OFC OF POSTSEC ED	520,000
UH Maui College Central Maui and Moloka'i Upward Bound Math Science	EDUCATION, DEPT-FED OFC OF POSTSEC ED	297,601
UH Maui College eSports Community Partnership Project	COUNTY MAUI OFC OF ECON DEVEL	49,468
HDS Dental Hygiene Fund	UNIVERSITY HAWAI'I FOUNDATION	57,000
UH Maui College Educational Opportunity Center	EDUCATION, DEPT-FED OFC OF POSTSEC ED	508,291
UH Maui College Outlying Maui Upward Bound	EDUCATION, DEPT-FED OFC OF POSTSEC ED	297,601
Ho'okele Program	KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS	105,000

TOTAL AWARD AMOUNT \$12,604,643

FINANCES



Total
Expenditures

\$21,488,858

EXPENDITURES

INSTRUCTION (CREDIT PROGRAMS)

Payroll	9,229,720
Operations	572,136
	9,801,856

EXTENDED LEARNING & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (ELWD)

Payroll	601,096
Operations	0
	601,096

ACADEMIC SUPPORT (LIBRARY, MEDIA, U CTR, VCAA)

Payroll	1,511,603
Operations	104,846
	1,616,449

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Payroll	1,792,689
Scholarships	1,053,879
Operations	142,372
	2,988,940

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT (OPERATIONS)

Payroll	3,494,694
Utilities	1,446,705
Operations	1,539,118
	6,480,517

TOTAL EXPENDITURES 21,488,858



Ending Cash
Balance

\$4,468,856

OPERATING BUDGET

ACTUAL - unofficial 7-10-21

REVENUES

State General Funds	17,997,468
Tuitions	5,852,601
Performance Funds	228,025
Other UHCC Transfers IN/OUT NET	-76,245

TOTAL REVENUES 24,001,849

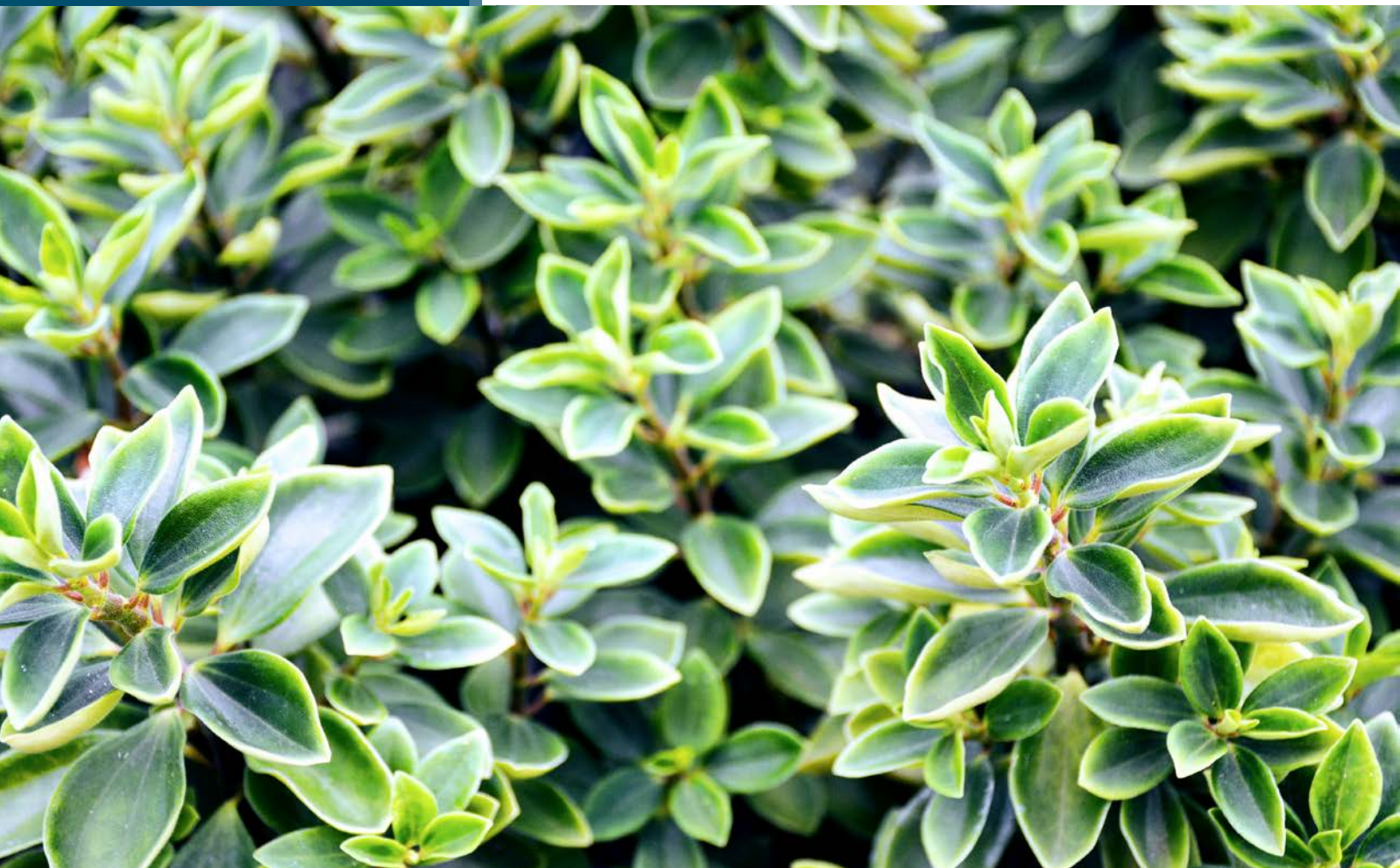
EXPENDITURES

Expenditures ACTUAL	21,488,858
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NET INCOME 2,512,991

CASH or RESERVES

Beginning Cash Balance	1,955,865
ADD NET INCOME	2,512,991
Ending Cash Balance	4,468,856



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

During 2020, we held a series of conversations with many members of our UHMC Community to reassess and reimagine our college's future as well as assess the progress we've made toward objectives laid out in our 2016-2021 Strategic Plan. The findings resulted in a report called "Holomua" (Moving Forward) which serves as a ramp from a year of pandemic, economic disruption, and social distancing to a new and evolving post-pandemic period. Many specific goals emerged. One of the most important is deepening our commitment to and integrating more deeply with community wants and needs.

To that end, we engaged [Islander Institute](#) to conduct a Community Needs Assessment. What follows are excerpts from its report to us and then suggestions for ways forward.

"Holomua's" first recommendation was to conduct this community needs assessment, with the intent that it would serve as a catalyst and guide for the next Strategic Plan scheduled to commence in 2022. To best serve the Maui Nui community, UHMC knows it has to better understand the current

needs of the community in light of COVID, while also reflecting on the longstanding and emerging needs of Maui Nui and its people.

"Beginning in Spring of 2021, Islander conducted one-on-one and small group interviews with 68 people, including prospective students, current students, faculty and staff, employers, high school students, and community organizations. Islander conducted an analysis of all the responses to determine recurring themes and ideas, and to develop suggestions for how UHMC can capitalize on this opportunity to better serve the Maui Nui community in these times.

"Through our conversations, two critical themes emerged relating to the student experience and community needs of Maui Nui:

- 1) A sense of belonging, and
- 2) A sense of purpose.

These two themes encapsulate the fundamental elements of a UHMC that can attract and retain students, provide a valuable and successful experience, increase campus-wide pride and morale, develop lifelong relationships with alumni and their families, strengthen relevance throughout UHMC's communities,

and make a longstanding positive impact on Maui Nui and the world." The report concluded with these seven suggestions.

1 Lean into the reasons people choose UHMC. Those are the small-town feel that makes people feel seen and valued, the unique-in-the-world location, kuleana to the people and place, and the ability to remain close to family and friends in their home.

2 Take a stronger role in the kuleana of building a sense of place. UHMC is now in a position to be an institutional fixture that helps define, preserve, and strengthen Maui Nui. We can take a stronger role in perpetuating the things that make Maui Nui special by working with community leaders to ensure the continuation of important stories, neighborhoods, and environments. In so doing, UHMC can strengthen its position as a leader that is looked to in order to help write the story of Maui Nui going forward. Working with others to strengthen a sense of place will deepen the sense of belonging at UHMC and may even inspire a sense of purpose in its citizens.

3 Create a stronger sense of community ownership of UHMC. Community members can play an active role in UHMC's success, if we do more to instill a sense that the college belongs to the community. Work can be done to ensure that the Maui Nui community sees their college as an opportunity for them to make an investment in their own people, funded by their dollars, supported by their efforts, enhanced by their cumulative knowledge and experience, and focused on the fact that Maui Nui has aloha for its people—particularly its young people—and wants them to succeed.

4 Continue to improve distance learning opportunities – continue to expand on the “silver lining” of the pandemic by giving many students, especially those in rural areas, the option of taking courses offered both at UHMC and at other UH campuses.

5 Consider the next steps in rebranding – for many, the less appealing features of Maui Community College remain in peoples' minds. We can take further steps to promote a new image based on the real stories and experiences of students, alumni, parents, educators, employees, and community members. In keeping with its values and selling points, UHMC can rely more on relationship building to change minds, rather than impersonal public relations and commercial activities.

6 Concentrate on doing a few things very well - The most important fields for students seem to be those that are backed with career opportunities, long-term career success, and tracks that contribute to the overall wellbeing of the community. We should make these fields our focus.

7 Make community assessment an ongoing part of operations - The strongest mission-oriented community institutions are in close touch with their constituencies. UHMC can make a regular practice of being in conversation with their students and members of their community, much like the honest and meaningful conversations that informed this study. As needed, UHMC can enlist third parties to provide additional outreach, perspectives, and access to relationships. Ultimately, UHMC can do a better job of involving students in the creation of their own experience to increase the senses of belonging and purpose that are so important to having a positive experience.

We are resolutely committed to being the center of our Maui Nui Community and engaging in a dialogue that consistently increases the potential of success for our students and our community at large.



STUDENT VOICES



Sarah Hauptman

April 2020

Sara Hauptman entered our Nursing program in Fall 2019, armed with a Master's Degree in Health Education and two years' experience at the State Department of Health.

"I was a public health preparedness educator. The Zika and Dengue viruses were highly concerning. The effect of Zika on fetuses and the outbreak of Dengue Fever on Hawai'i Island were particularly troubling. Rat Lung Worm Disease was also causing unease. My job was to develop educational materials and campaigns to educate the community. We did

outreach to Hāna, Moloka'i, Lāna'i including town hall presentations, everything we could to disseminate information throughout Maui County.

"When COVID hit our shores, I got an urgent call from the Department of Health. Everyone is working tirelessly to address this crisis. I'm working on an educational campaign for COVID -19, specifically simplifying our message of social distancing, hand hygiene, stay-at-home orders. We're reaching out to underserved communities – Hāna, Moloka'i, Lāna'i – and to vulnerable populations – Micronesian, Marshallese Islanders, for example. It's a mainstream message but we need for everyone to hear it loud and clear.

"We're also managing the Maui County Health Volunteers, which is an official part of the U.S. Medical Reserve Corps. After the September 11th terrorist attacks, a lot of volunteers wanted to go to New York City to help but there was no system to vet or organize them. This nationwide organization was formed in response to that. So we have doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals on stand-by in case of emergencies. They can

be allocated to different areas such as acute care facilities, assisting epidemiologists, doing telemedicine for DOH.

"Right now, a LOT of people want to help. We have 130 volunteers – mostly nurses and physicians – and we're encouraging support workers to join us, too."

She describes her 30-member cohort as a "family." "We were very accustomed to being on campus together every day. Now, our family is separated and that's a big change for us. It's unfortunate but necessary and I applaud our teachers for doing an exceptional job being flexible. They pulled us from clinical rotations at the hospital early which was very wise. They're using everything they can think of – from remote presentations and lectures to virtual simulations and any other technology they can identify – to ensure we meet all our requirements.

"Like me, a lot of my peers are very eager to graduate so they can help in an official nursing capacity. And several of them have also volunteered with our Maui County Health Volunteers."



Student Kau'ilani Garso-Steward



Student Mykaela Padron

Ali'i Scholars, Culinary Arts Program September 2020

Kau'ilani Garso-Steward has always found solace in baking. "Whenever I picked up my whisk and created a delicious treat my troubles would literally melt away. I knew I had to make this my career. I had to find financial assistance and, thankfully, saw the amazing opportunity to apply for the Ali'i Scholarship. When I received the email starting with the word 'Congratulations!', I was speechless for a moment and then screamed with excitement! I would be able to pursue my dreams of becoming a baker without the worry of financial strain. One day, I hope to open my dream bakery and share my wonderful treats for any

who wishes to enjoy them." Dawn "Kui" Hanks has five children and three hānai children. She epitomizes everything we love about non-traditional students and life-long learners.

"I have always enjoyed school. I believe when we gain knowledge, we gain personal growth. I love receiving good grades because it means I am learning all I am offered and I feel a sense of accomplishment and purpose. The UHMC culinary and baking program is an awesome experience."

Phrincess Jhuline Constantino studied Robotics at Maui High. "You may be thinking, 'how can someone jump from building a robot to cooking?' My grandma was a big inspiration. Growing up, I was always next to her while she cooked with a huge smile on her face and lots of love.

"I hope to travel the world and use my degree to get a job as a Chef in the Tourism and Hospitality industry. And although I can't cook as well as my grandma, I will cook with lots of love just like she did."

Briana Jade Valentin started baking with her mom for family parties when she was just three years old. "I gradually started to bake on my own in middle school and it skyrocketed in high school. I would bake all the cakes for my family's parties, events and sometimes just for fun or as an experiment. "I was absolutely thrilled and ecstatic when I first found out about my Ali'i Scholarship. At first, it did not register so I just sent the email to my mom who was also

so thankful. My whole family is absolutely loving and supportive of my (culinary) career choice. When I get my Culinary degree I hope to work at a bakery to continue learning and then, I hope to open a dessert cafe of my own one day."

Mykaela Padron only recently became interested in Culinary Arts. "After working as a barista and learning more about coffee, I took an interest in the whole culinary world. I have followed many popular chefs, baristas, and bartenders on social media and I aspire to create works of art like they have. I have also taken an interest in culinary because everyone needs food and I hope to bring others comfort through my cooking.

"I am so grateful for this (Ali'i Scholarship) honor and thank everyone who has supported me this far. I will work hard these next two years and soak up as much knowledge as I can."

Kahiaulani Ramos has great culinary ambitions. "My passion for culinary started when I was little while cooking and baking with my family. From cooking meals at home to being involved with parties and events, the food culture in my family has always played a big part in my life. Being able to take elective culinary classes at Baldwin High School also guided my career path in culinary. "After college, I want to be a leading chef in a great community. I plan to volunteer and participate in community events. I am ever so grateful to my family, who have been very supportive and motivating and to those who made this happen and for giving me this opportunity."



Kaimana Moku Bush

May 2021

Kaimana Moku Bush's family comes from Moloka'i and farms about 40 acres there. "When I first started in the Agriculture & Natural Resources program, I thought I wanted to grow bananas, sweet potatoes, food crops. Then I fell in love with Native Hawaiian plants and changed my degree path from Tropical Crop Production to Horticulture and Landscape Maintenance. It took me a little while because I work full-time as a landscaper at a Wailea resort – but I did earn an Associate of Applied Science degree this spring.

"The program at UH Maui College is excellent. Ann Emmsley (the Program Coordinator) is a great instructor.

Through the program, I learned there are more endangered species in Hawai'i than anywhere else in the

world. It's sad when you look around and don't see Native Hawaiian plants.

"I'm trying to change that a little bit. I've incorporated some native plantings into my work at the Grand Wailea – 'ohi'a, ohai, alah'e'e. And I volunteer at a classmate's dune restoration project. It's a sliver of land in North Kihei and now has some of the rarest plants growing there – 'ohai, makaloa, akulikuli, hunakai, pa'u o hi'iaka.

"I really want to open my own nursery for endemic and endangered species, to get them normalized into landscapes all over the island. It's also a way to serve the community. I decided back in high school, you can make money, but you also need to give back. And Ag is the future."

Lennel Joy Alvarez

May 2021

When the Wailea resorts needed a fluent Filipino speaker with medical knowledge to explain the COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination sign-up process to its landscapers last spring, they contacted our Nursing Program. First-year nursing student Lennel Joy Alvarez and her classmate Selwyne Matillano answered the call.

"We found that these folks had questions about what was being offered, didn't know how to sign up, were having online difficulties and, frankly, were hearing a lot of misinformation. As a result, the vaccination rate in the Filipino community was low.

"I decided to set up a vaccination clinic someplace familiar to and comfortable for the Filipino community. I enlisted support from the college's nursing program faculty and students, the Campus Health Center, and the State Department of Health. And throughout the spring, we were able to organize and staff three successful vaccination clinics that took place at Kahului's Binhi At Ani, Filipino Community Center."



BRIGHT SPOTS

FOR 2022

The Maui Food Innovation Center

We look forward with great excitement to the opening of a new, state-of-the-art Maui Food Innovation Center (MFIC) early in the new year. Part of our Office Extended Learning and Workforce Development under the direction of Karen Hanada, MFIC will continue and expand its mission as a business incubator designed to support local food producers through education and training, business incubation services, research, and the development of value-added food products.

That mission is to partner with private enterprise and government agencies to support local food producers through education and training, business incubation services, research, and the development of value-added food products. Our Value MFIC helps develop “cottage” size companies into medium-sized food manufacturers in the State of Hawai‘i by providing education, access to industry leaders, and a shared-use food business incubator and processing facility with a vast array of resources and technologies to elevate and foster their growth. The Maui Cookie Lady, HI Spice, KIM CHEE, Maui Manjookies, Grandpa Joe’s, Fat Daddy’s Smokehouse, and Maui Sweet Cakes are just some of the MFIC’s success stories.

The new MFIC, located in the Pilina Building on our campus, is comprised of: staff offices; a multi-purpose meeting and education room; wet, dry and cold processing areas; a packaging area and finished product storage area; a sanitation and pot wash area; raw material, refrigeration, and dry goods area; a maintenance area and equipment storage; and a shipping and receiving area. The renovation of the 4,000- square-foot, fully equipped food manufacturing and packaging facility, that will be County, FDA, and USDA compliant, is fully-funded by the State of Hawai‘i. This \$7 million investment recognizes the economic value the MFIC offers Hawai‘i’s new and established food businesses, students, farmers, ranchers, chefs, and restaurateurs.

The MFIC is a shining star in UHMC’s commitment to our community and a truly collaborative effort. It is a unique, first-in-state incubator fostering Agribusiness and Foodpreneurs x-celeration and education. The Center is helping to build a stronger, economically diverse, and sustainable Maui by supporting the value-added food industry. MFIC assists its community by providing technological expertise, innovative training, consultation, a manufacturing facility, and a Resource Hub for new and established food entrepreneurs endeavoring to bring their products to market locally, regionally and nationally.

We are committed to a broad array of individuals within the community and assisting them to take their food products to market and to advancing Maui County foods. We want to work with agribusinesses, new and established food entrepreneurs, foodservice businesses, UHMC Culinary, Business, and Science students interested in food manufacturing, workforce development, women, veteran, and minority-owned food businesses, Native Hawaiian food business owners. If you have a culinary dream, we want to work with you.

[Maui Food Innovation Center](#)





HULIHIA

An Initiative for COMPLETE CHANGE

In order for the monumental challenges we have all faced over the last two years to truly mean something, we must embrace opportunities revealed and make enormous and lasting changes. UH Maui College intends to be at the forefront of a complete change for our Maui Nui. Complete change – huluhia in Hawaiian – is necessary for our community to thrive.

To that end, we partnered with Kamehameha Schools' Maui, Moloka'i, & Lāna'i Community Strategies Team to launch in May 2021 a two-year pilot project we have named "Huluhia: A Maui Sustainability Systems Center." Many members of our faculty, staff, and the UH Foundation spent months working with Kamehameha Schools Analyst Jonathan Stenger (who happens to have been our first Sustainable Science Management program graduate)

and his team to draft a positive way forward. Our vision for Maui County by 2040 is to have clean energy and transportation, food security, clean and sufficient water for the future, protected ecosystems, waste reduction, sustainable tourism, green employment and a green economy.

Yes, we've all heard these words, phrases, and promises before. Many past initiatives have fallen short, usually because of narrow focus or attempts to address a specific short-term problem. The theory of change we have set forth in our [White Paper](#) is that "if we engage the community by providing sustainable modeling rooted in cultural 'ike, then we will see better informed decisions throughout Maui Nui that lead us toward a more balanced relationship with the 'āina." The idea of interconnectedness – that human beings are not separate from the environment – is many thousands

of years old. It is the basis of Hawaiian culture.

Looking at the sustainability of our Islands through that cultural lens is, perhaps, the most significant aspect of this initiative. "The first on the list of Huluhia's sustainability understandings is Hawaiian 'ike as a backbone to inform levels of sustainability," says Hōkūlani Holt, Director of Ka Hikina O Ka Lā, Hawai'i Papa o Ke Ao. "The overarching goal is to collaborate and to seek ways to be a systems approach to the idea of sustainability. It also seeks to be inclusive and to address the interrelatedness of the issues to overall community health. This is what Hawaiian cultural outlook on the health of the 'āina and the kanaka was and should be again. To reach that balance and recognition that we are all connected. I hope to be able to learn the science of it as I hope to contribute the 'ike Hawai'i of it."



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To learn more about Huluhia, please visit hulihiamaiui.com and please click on [“Get Involved”](#) to join us as we move Maui Nui into truly sustainable future.

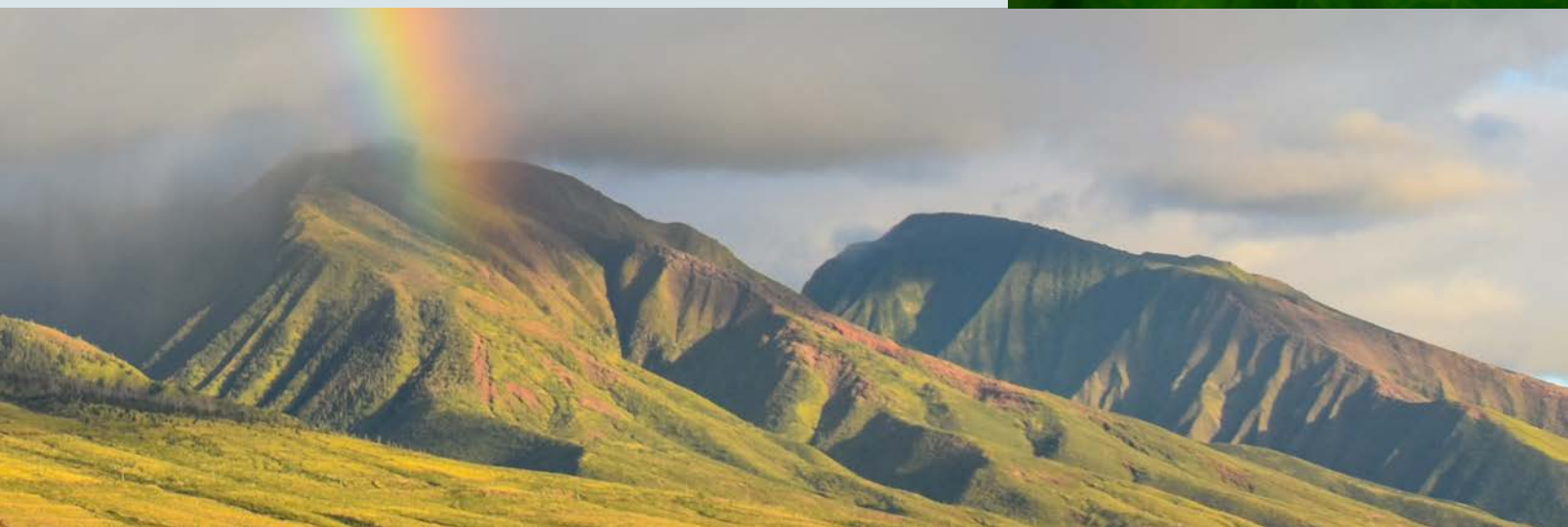
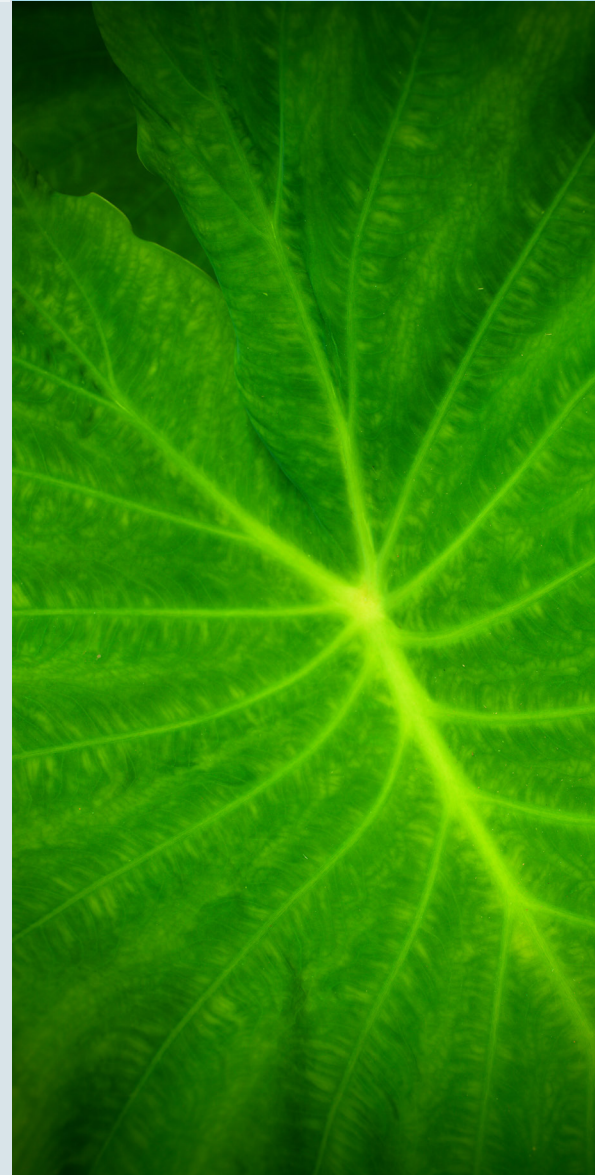
The Sustainable Science Management Program and Sustainable Living Institute of Maui here on our campus will play considerable roles. “I’ve been working on the concept now known as Huluhia since 2013,” says Tim Botkin, our SSM Program Coordinator. “While it is still complex and formative, the good news is that academic research and professional experience have validated its approach. To date, continuation of disconnected approaches, no matter how passionate, have kept us from achieving the success we seek. But we now have tools to assimilate our community knowledge, technology and visions of the future into solution-building which pushes our Maui needle closer to sustainability. That is Huluhia.”

Nicolette van der Lee is our SLIM Program Manager. “We have the potential to bring the community together to cultivate hope and systems-driven decision making as we face the pressing challenges of climate impacts, social and economic inequities and conserving our natural resources for future generations,” she says. “It is an exciting and ambitious initiative for Maui to lead and serve as a model for

innovative island communities.”

As for our college at large, we will be the convener, providing a neutral facilitative table at which the community can come together. And we will be the overseer, providing computer modeling that allows stakeholders to anticipate possible unintended consequences which will lead, ultimately, to more informed decisions on the path forward.

Last May, a group of more than 30 stakeholders – members of the community with first-hand experience in all the critical disciplines – convened for the “soft launch” of Huluhia. It was a day of lively and impassioned discussion. What is most important now is that the community at large actively participates with us. “The momentum towards sustainability is strong in the Maui community,” says Jonathan Stenger. “At Huluhia, we want to strengthen that momentum by bringing sustainability expertise and a holistic approach so that the initiatives and efforts of our community achieve a perpetual balance between natural resource use, human prosperity, and well-being.”





Pūko‘a Hina‘ole

Our Water Quality Testing Lab

Island populations the world over are acutely aware of the human-made effects of the global climate crisis. Two of our most precious resources – the sea around us and our potable water sources – are threatened. We’re proud to house Maui’s only water quality testing lab and grateful to have Dr. Andrea Kealoha as a faculty member who teaches Oceanography and also runs the lab.

She was born and raised in Pā‘ia, the fourth generation of her family to be so. She spent her childhood in or near the water but never thought she could turn her passion into a career. Andrea holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Global Environmental Science from UH Mānoa, a Marine Science Master’s Degree from Hawai‘i Pacific University and a PhD in Oceanography from Texas A & M University. Her research

focuses on climate change and other human stressors to coral reef ecosystems.

“It affords multiple educational opportunities,” explains Andrea. “We have a summer bridge program in water quality education for high school students, we have a college environmental technician certificate program, and we have an OCET Introduction to Water Quality class that’s open to members of the community. There’s a lot of interest. Most classes fill up and I’m hoping we’ll eventually serve between 100 and 200 people per cycle.

“The lab makes monitoring more accessible for permit holders who discharge waste into the ocean, farmers who monitor their agricultural water, and for

conservation groups. For example, citizen groups like Hui O Ka Wai Ola that test water at beaches can now send samples here instead of having to test them on O‘ahu. We’ll also have the capacity to conduct research on our own waters,” Andrea adds.

She has had the opportunity to explore and travel, including multiple research trips to the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. She calls it “the most beautiful place I’ve ever seen and the ecosystem is thriving and abundant. Those trips made me fall in love with research and strengthened my connection to my culture.”

The lab’s research assistant, Arik Dadez, was afforded a similar opportunity this past summer. Along with colleagues from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA), UH Mānoa and the College of Charleston, Arik completed a 20-day voyage to Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM). The team's mission was to study ways to mitigate the spread of a newly-identified and fast-growing nuisance alga, named *Chondria tumulosa*, that is posing a serious threat to native species. The team spent eight days conducting research around Manawai (Pearl and Hermes Atoll), where the alga was documented in 2019.

The role of UHMC's water quality lab was to investigate possible oceanographic phenomena that may be contributing to the presence and distribution of the alga. To do this, Arik collected water samples around the atoll for a suite of parameters including temperature, salinity, nutrients, pH, chlorophyll and stable isotopes. The researchers are comparing their data from sites with and without *Chondria* to understand the oceanographic and biogeochemical conditions in which this alga thrive. The samples are being analyzed at UHMC's water quality lab and at UH Manoa.

It was Arik's his longest voyage ever and his first time to Papahānaumokuākea. "The trip was amazing," he says. "To see the blues, all the different blues in the world and all the marine life, it was an eye-opening, life-changing experience."

This research was supported by NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Our community at large has also taken note of Pūkoʻa hinaʻole. The Kāʻanapali Ocean Resort Charitable Trust donated \$40,000 to the lab and its work, thanks to a lucky coincidence at a difficult time.

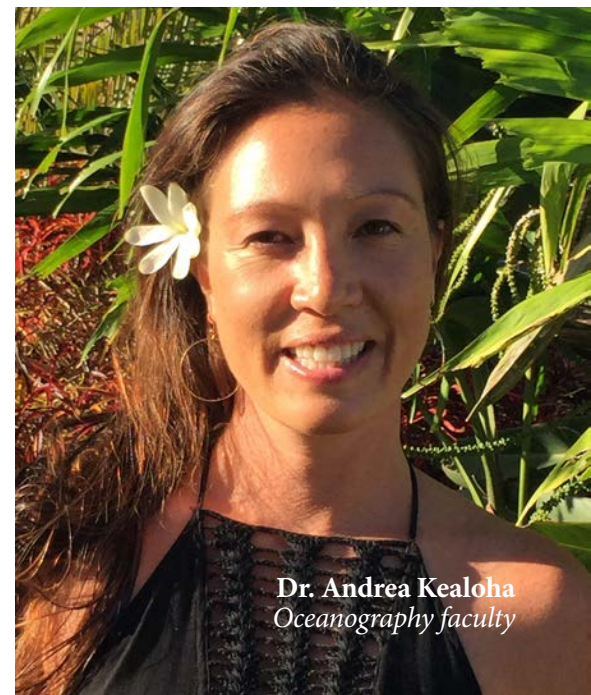
Andrea was conducting research at Kahekili Beach Park, site of the Lahaina Wastewater Reclamation Facility injection wells. Given the wastewater infrastructure improvements and the dramatic reduction in tourism during the pandemic, Andrea had an unprecedented opportunity to investigate the

potential positive impacts of improved water quality on coral reef health and resilience at the beach park – which fronts the Kāʻanapali Ocean Resort.

The Kāʻanapali Ocean Resort Charitable Trust is invested in preserving the health of their local reef and supports efforts in this area from mauka to makai. When the trustees learned that Andrea's work was happening literally in their backyard, they were eager to participate and get the homeowners involved. The result was a \$40,000 donation. Andrea also believes it presents a great opportunity to involve the homeowners, and especially their children, in learning to care for our ocean.

Andrea is optimistic that our water quality education program and the water quality lab are going to be good for the college, the community, and the Hawaiian culture. We think she's right because our lives and those of future generations of Islanders depend on it.

We encourage everyone to visit the [UHMC Water Quality Lab](#) website to learn more about Pūkoʻa hinaʻole, Dr. Andrea Kealoha and the important work being done at the lab.



Dr. Andrea Kealoha
Oceanography faculty



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