Points of Pride


The Construction Management Program won the 2013 International Builder’s Show Rookie of the Year Award.

For 13 of the last 16 years Communication Arts students have won PELE Gold in the student division as well as Silver and Bronze finishes.

In 2014, Communication Art students brought home National Addy Gold and Silver in the student category.

The College Media Association named Honolulu CC’s student newspaper, Ka Lā the best college newspaper for a two-year school with less than 7,500 student enrollment.

Aloha United Way Community Learning Champion Award 2011, 2012 and 2013

Phi Theta Kappa won the following 2014 Pacific Region Awards:
- Five Star Chapter Award
- Distinguished Chapter Award
- Distinguished Honors in Action Award for our Honors in Action Project: “Holoku a me Laulima – Ka Moiolo a Halo: Competitiveness and Cooperation – The Story of Taro”.
- Honors in Action Theme 6 Award – Food Fight: Competition and Food
- Distinguished Chapter Officer Award - Lehua Rowland
- Coordinator’s Award Outstanding Regional Officer - Jhoma Sarmento

International relationships with:
- Kadan Automotive Technical College in Sendai, Japan
- Gifu Beauty College in Gifu, Japan
- Okinawa Women’s Jr. College in Naha, Okinawa, Japan

Honolulu Community College is recognized as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Two Year (CAE2Y). This program, which is sponsored by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security, recognizes colleges and universities who have met their standard for excellence in cyber security training. Honolulu CC is the only collegiate institution in Hawai‘i to have achieved this recognition.

For the second consecutive year, Honolulu Community College’s Computing, Electronics, & Networking Technology (CENT) Program placed in the top three for the “At-Large” regional of the Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (CCDC).

Honolulu Community College serves as the hub for all apprenticeship training for union trades on O‘ahu.

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Apprenticeship Program has an educational partnership between Honolulu Community College and the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. More than 2,000 graduates provide maintenance for our nation’s Naval fleet to keep them “Fit to Fight.”

The Peace Memorial Park is one of only three sites in the United States to hold sections of the Berlin Wall. The 12-foot, three-ton section of the wall stands on the Honolulu CC campus the way it stood in Berlin – with the graffiti-covered side facing the west.

Honolulu Community College is home to a free, permanent exhibit of dinosaur fossils available for public viewing.

Honolulu Community College was the leader in the utilization of the World Wide Web by offering the first campus-wide information Web server in May 1993 by Distinguished Alumnus Kevin Hughes, internationally-recognized in Web design and software and a member of the WWW Hall of Fame.

Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training (PCATT) started in 2001 with two major programs, the Cisco Academy and Sun Microsystems Education, and today has partnerships with VMware, Siemens, Red Hat, Oracle, Autodesk, Microsoft, and others. PCATT is a consortium of the University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges, headquartered at Honolulu Community College.

The Mike Curb MELE Studio opened in 2010 thanks to a generous donation by the Mike Curb Family Foundation. The Music and Entertainment Learning Experience (MELE) program features a state-of-the-art recording studio and is the only program in the state that offers an Associate of Science degree in Music Business and Audio Engineering. The program aims to expand the reach of Hawai‘i’s music industry.

Chancellor Erika Lacro was named one of “20 for the Next 20 Leaders” by Hawai‘i Business Magazine in 2014. She is also one of 15 local leaders as the second cohort of Omidyar Fellows 2013-2014.

Chancellor Lacro is the Principal Investigator of the C3T Hawai‘i Program, a $24.6 million grant awarded to the University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges through the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration.

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Chancellor's Message

Honolulu Community College is a well-established institution with a deep-rooted history woven into the fabric of the community we serve. With incredible faculty and staff, amazing students and alumni, and wonderful industry and community partners, together, we are Building a Community of Heroes. Embracing the “student-centered-student focused” culture on the campus has made our number one priority focused on the success of our students. Ensuring more residents of Hawaii earn degrees and certificates is a college goal and will serve to benefit the state of Hawaii over time. Knowing that by 2025 jobs will require some type of post-secondary education, Honolulu Community College is improving student success across our campus in response to this statewide need. Our faculty and staff share a singular goal: equip our students, with certiﬁcate and degree degrees to enter the workforce or prepare them to transfer into higher levels of education. With this in mind, the college has created systems to better track students and their performance. We ask for your support in moving the college forward as we near our 100th anniversary in 2020.

Honolulu Community College Campus Priorities

Student Scholarships and Financial Aid

Nearly one third of all students receive some form of financial aid. The cost of tuition, books, fees and related expenses can seem almost beyond reach for many students. Critical support is needed to help students attend college and achieve a better life for themselves and their families via higher education.

Support a student at Honolulu Community College: Support a student for 1 year $3,000* Support a student for ½ year $1,500 Support a student for ¼ year $750 *Funds support the Honolulu CC Scholarship fund Name your scholarship for $1,000 Endow your named scholarship for $25,000.

Student Opportunities Fund

Having the means to purchase textbooks and materials by the first day of class helps keep Honolulu CC students enrolled and on track toward earning a degree. Many Honolulu CC students are the first in their families to attend college. For many of them they are unable to receive financial aid assistance. This fund is to provide emergency financial support for students who are facing financial difficulties that may become an obstacle from them attending classes. Monetary, need based awards could be used to cover the costs of attendance, including: books, tuition, supplies, bus money, childcare, etc.

Provide books and related assistance for one student per semester: $500 Endowment to provide books and related assistance for 50 students per semester: $50,000

Academic Success Incentive

In 2010, Honolulu Community College passed a groundbreaking mandatory placement policy that requires that students testing into developmental education take the necessary developmental classes in their first semester. Honolulu CC is the only campus in the UH system to have such a policy, a policy that is considered a best practice by Achieving the Dream, a nationwide initiative to improve student success. The purpose of these funds is to encourage and reward students who are taking developmental math and English courses at Honolulu Community College. Funds would be used as incentives to reward successful completion in these courses, and to pay mentors to teach and encourage fellow students in the developmental courses.

Mentorship and Incentive Awards for two students for one semester: $500

Incentive awards for 25 students per semester: $12,500

Student Union

The Long Range Development Plan approved in 2011 recognized the need to reorganize program spaces, encourage student engagement and accommodate a student population that exceeds the capacity of existing aging and outdated facilities. A critical step moving forward requires repurposing the current Science Building into a Student Union to house, in one central location, student support services such as, financial aid, counseling, and create another student lounge space.

Renovation, Equipment: $200,000 Five Year Sponsoring and Permanent Naming Opportunities: $1,000 - $2,000,000

Go Forward! Program

The Go Forward! Program will provide opportunities for transformative college experiences for students who have not considered higher education as a viable alternative. Each year a cohort of students would participate in a summer Bridge Student Success program and thereafter, a first year experience program.

The program would provide scholarship and academic support for students who have financial or other barriers limiting college access. Scholarship support includes, but is not limited to, costs associated with attendance (e.g., tuition, books, fees, childcare, etc.) and academic coaches for both summer and traditional academic year attendance.

A scholarship for one student through the Associates Degree: $7,000 Scholarships and program support for 15 students: $150,000

Advanced Technology Training Center

Over the last 94 years, Honolulu Community College has established itself as the technological training center of the Pacific. Building 5, which currently houses the large majority of Honolulu CC’s science programs, was built close to 50 years ago. Today, Honolulu CC’s ability to remain innovative and dynamic is severely impacted by the aging and limiting capacity of its science and technology facilities. The creation of an advanced technology-training center (ATTC) at Honolulu Community College is at the cornerstone of how Honolulu will build a stronger Hawaii.

This center, to be erected on the Koko side of the campus, will serve as the College’s focal point in delivering a solid foundation in science and technology education in the heart of downtown Honolulu. With the College’s expertise in the areas of applied science and technical workforce development, it is the optimal place to build such a facility thus realizing a larger goal of delivering relevant programs to meet the demands of emerging industries in the areas of agriculture, aquaculture, renewable energy development, creative media, and science.

Equipment: $200,000

Five Year Sponsoring and Permanent Naming Opportunities: $1,000 - $2,000,000

Music & Entertainment Learning Experience (MELE)

MELE utilizes a comprehensive music business and production curriculum meeting the requirements for entry-level training of music industry and production professionals. The curriculum focuses on combining academic experience with real-world applications to prepare students to work in the rapidly evolving global music industry of the 21st century. The MELE program offers two distinct degree paths. The Associate of Science (AS) in Music Business & Production with special focus on business related courses, including accounting, business law, and economics, as well as music business courses. Music business courses include courses such as a survey of the music business, music publishing, and intellectual properties. The Associate of Science (AS) in Audio Engineering Technology focuses on the engineering and production of music recording. Audio engineering courses include studio production, audio engineering, and studio maintenance and electronics.

MELE Students Scholarships – support one student for one year: $3,000

Name your scholarship for $1,000. Endow your named scholarship for $25,000.

For more information, contact KC Collins, CFRE. Executive Director of Development Regional & Community Colleges 808.956.3458 or KC.Collins@uhfoundation.org 2444 Dole Street | Bachman Hall 105 | Honolulu, HI 96822

With Warm Aloha, Dr. Erika L. Lacro Chancellor