Kūlana o Kapolei

Spring #2 Newsletter of UH West O‘ahu

March-May, 2026

Kona storms brought more than moisture and change. It reminded us that practical knowledge is needed.

Palehua was saturated. The ua noho was unrelenting for 2+ weeks. Water catchment to flush toilets with no electricity. Milwaukee batteries charged our cell phones.

Spring Semester Newsletter #2 (March-May, 2026)

Our Kona Low storm taught us many things. Did you know that practical knowledge is now being heralded as the next vital knowledge movement of the world? Here is the magic of UH West Oahu: We have Service-Learning opportunities for all students! We offer creative and meaningful Internships. We place our Education students into Student-Teaching classrooms with Mentors. Even our Capstone Projects offer hands-on/minds-on opportunities to those who seek this kind of knowing. This is why our Pahuhopu, our institutional values and principles look and sound the way they do:

- **Po‘okela -** *We value excellence in education that meets the high aspirations of students, faculty, and staff, along with the needs of our community. (aka: Hana pono)*
- **Kaiāulu -** *We value viable, healthy communities where everyone feels included, welcomed, and respected. (aka: Service Learning, Internships, Capstone Projects)*
- **Hana Lawelawe -** *We value conscious service to community, both within and beyond our campus, that builds the capacity to offer one‘s excellence for the benefit of others and our environment. (aka: Service Learning, Internships, Aloha ‘Āina work)*
- **Mālama ‘Āina -** *We value environmental responsibility that links our love and care of land, water, and people with the courses, concentrations and interests of our UH West O‘ahu campus community. (aka: Aloha ‘Āina work, Service Learning, Internships)*
- **Waiwai -** *We value abundance/wealth that develops a culture of philanthropy and sustainable use of resources through the cultivation of quality relationships, creativity, exploration, and transdisciplinary learning. (aka: Service Learning, Internships, etc)*

Kūlana o Kapolei

Spring #2 Newsletter of UH West Oʻahu
March-May, 2026

6th Spirit Fest held in Hilton Hawaiian Village
March 20-23, 2026

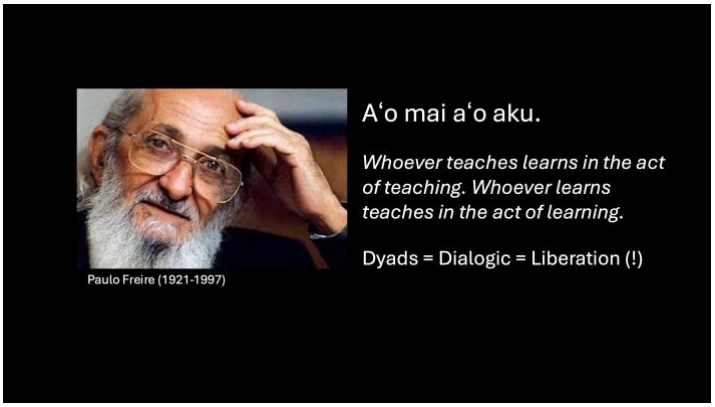
Miss Hawaiʻi 2025

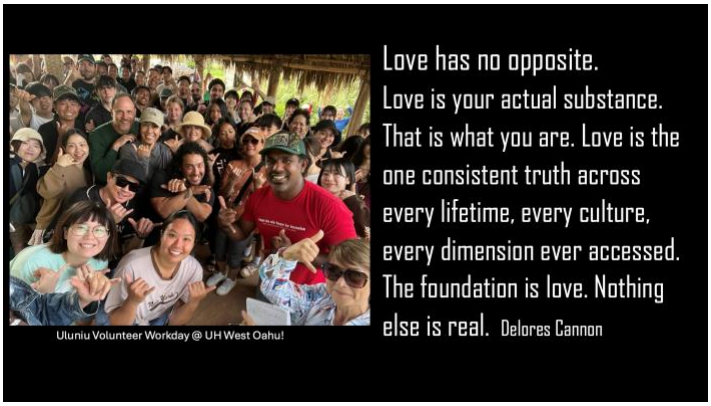
Marata Hoet, Minoaka Fitzsimons, Sharon Simms

Director: Ryan Souza

Ryan James Kemp and his beloved Marisa

What an amazing day this was! Kūlana o Kapolei was asked to keynote this special gathering of light workers, cultural practitioners and transformative educators dedicated to a quantum world and the "collapse of the wave function" (aka: ʻike kupuna) and how it is now being woven into the quality of relationships that are moving from fear to love-based processes. It is an amazing time on the planet – it really is! What is happening now is that Indigenous epistemology is being infused into AI engines and the coherence is beyond anything we have been able to articulate. Hawaiian and Indigenous thinking is now being called forth by global networks, the United Nations, and by my own family (!) so that we can hoʻopono, practice truth telling, for the healing of our world. This is serious and joyful at the same time. This time offers us the opportunity to embody the things, ideas and principles we know will make a difference. This is how our universities will change. We will be more ʻhands-on/minds-onʻ in our thinking and teaching. The questions we now offer to you are: "How are you plugged into this massive and exponential healing in the world?" "Do you know of the power and significance of concepts like resonance, consciousness, coherence in your work and life?" "Is your pedagogy and evaluation evolving with the use of A.I.?" If not, why not? It has been said that the future is going to be about "radical collaboration" in ways we cannot predict. Here is the mana of our times. It is instructive and inspirational for us all. It is the practice and awareness of mōʻike aloha – the idea that the genesis of our enduring intelligence is ALOHA (!) Isnʻt that amazing? E komo mai e ʻoluʻolu mai oe. Come along!



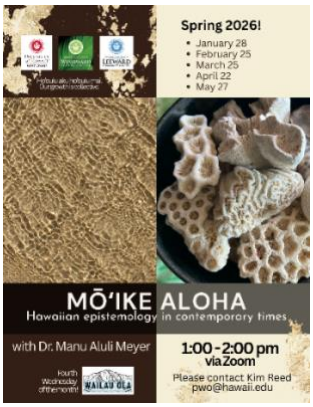


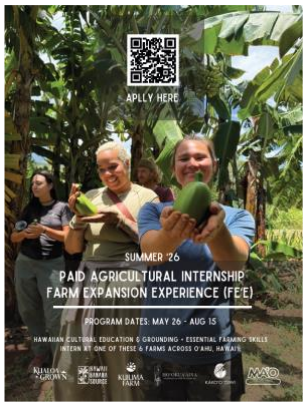
Kūlana o Kapolei

Spring #2 Newsletter of UH West O‘ahu
March-May, 2026

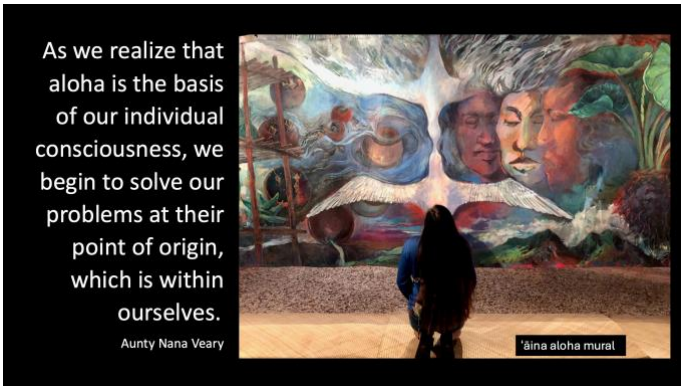
He pūko‘a kani ‘āina.
Coral sounds out for land.
Link with like-minds and evolve (!)

From the one, the many. From the many, the one.





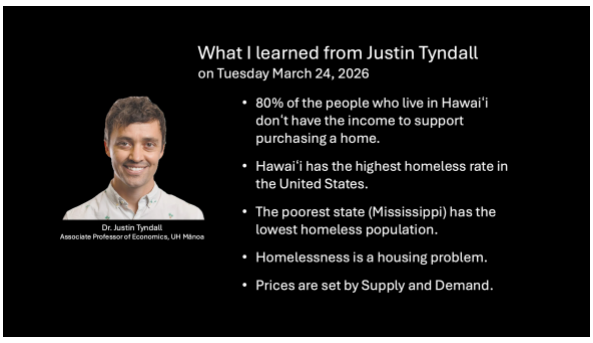
It is now time to collaborate! It is now time to seek out different ideas based on enduring principles. We are committed and preparing ourselves at UH West Oahu to enter collaborations with not only our beloved community, but with each other and different education and social institutions. Signs of change are everywhere around us and despite all the negative talk and frustration some of us possess and express, *our world is changing*. We will either change with it or suffer. What is happening every single day at Kūlana o Kapolei are requests from around the globe to collaborate, evaluate, exchange, and discuss on panels, in events, at conferences and through books and articles…. what a different ontological viewpoint of the world would say of this chaos. For us in the field of Indigenous epistemology and hermeneutics (Mō‘ike Aloha and ‘Ike Pāpākolu) who enjoy the ono of ‘ike kupuna – ancestral knowledge – the answers are clear: *Aloha is the primal source of our collective evolution*. Are you helping your students find INTERNSHIPS or places to activate and show their knowledge. Are you linking them to RESEARCH opportunities that are within our communities across Hawai‘i and across the world? Our students are unique people with unique dispositions. We are ambassadors of aloha throughout the world. Find out if this is true by embodying it within your pedagogy (!)

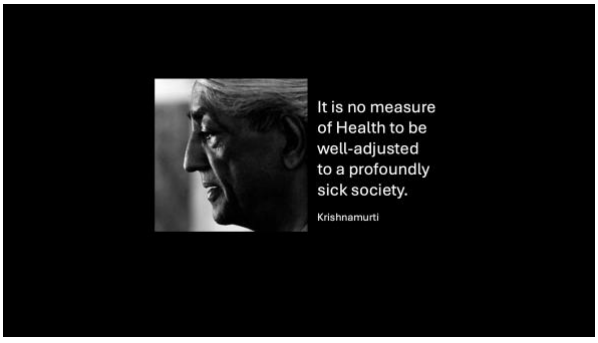


HULIHIA

THIS TIME OF CHANGE

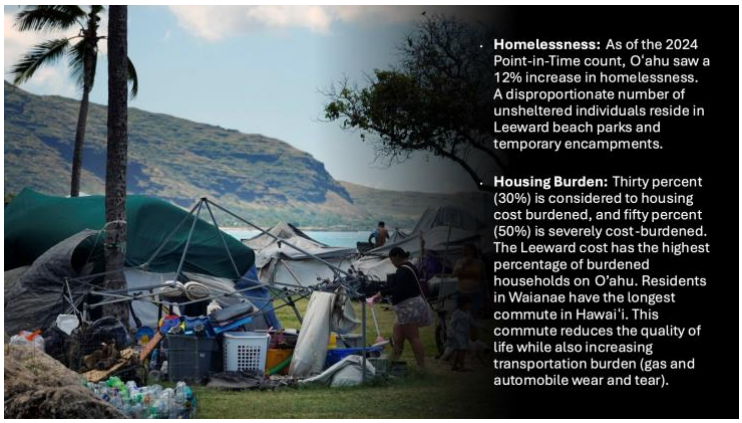
*Hulihia is a shared challenge framework created by the **UH West Oʻahu Academy for Creative Media** where students learn by responding to real conditions in Hawaiʻi—together, across disciplines.*

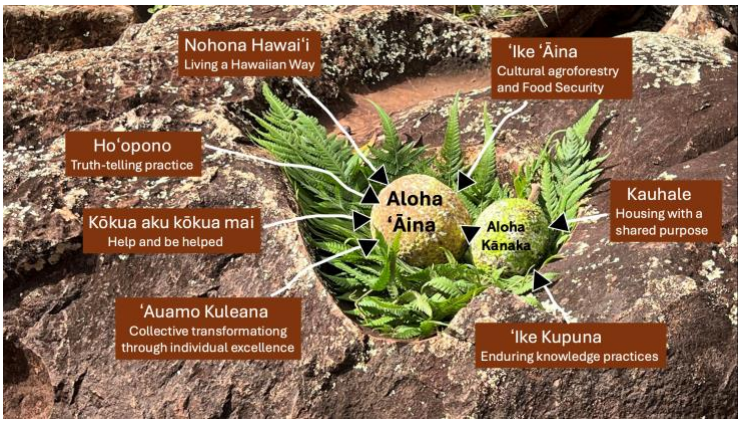




Re-Framing Housing in Hawaiʻi – A Talk given to the ACM Faculty and Students
Purpose: To develop creative ideas re: Housing in Hawaiʻi

On Wednesday, April 15, 2026 Kūlana o Kapolei gave a "Reframing" talk on Housing in Hawaiʻi. What we are learning in these times of Artificial Intelligence is that OUR consciousness is the point because if we do not know how to approach a problem/issue with better awareness and questions, then we cannot possibly approach it with maturing intelligence. What this means is that we must spend, as Albert Einstein states, 55 minutes in one hour to *understand the problem* at hand. In Hawaiʻi did you know that 80% of us CANNOT afford to purchase a house? This is GOOD NEWS because it will force us to *re-think the very issue at hand*. The talk on "Re-Framing Housing" focused on 7 Hawaiian values and practices that can help us reprioritize the things that offer continuity – Nohona Hawaiʻi, ʻIke ʻĀina, Kauhala, ʻIke Kupuna, ʻAuamo Kuleana, Kōkua Aku/Kokua Mai, and Hoʻoponono. It is beyond idealistic to speak in this way. It is how we will survive and thus evolve. https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/12/7-principles-to-transform-housing-in-hawaii/ Please cut/paste this link for a summary of the 7 Principles that will change Housing in Hawaiʻi. Eo Hawaii-nui-ākea!



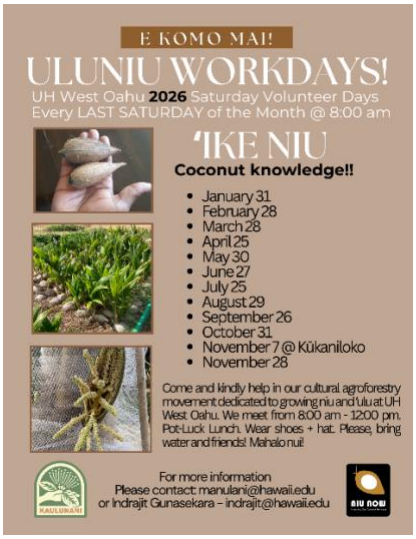


Kūlana o Kapolei

Spring #2 Newsletter of UH West O'ahu

March-May, 2026

Collaboration with Perplexity (AI) and Mōʻike Aloha - Hawaiian epistemology



Our ʻAha Hoʻoponopono is going to Puna! The ʻāina momona of Kalihi Valley Our very own uluniu – coconut grove!

Valuing is grounded in land

ʻĀina momona - thriving, abundant lands - is both a condition and an aspiration. What is valued is not productivity in an economic sense but the flourishing of the relational system between people and land. **He aliʻi ka ʻāina; he kauwā ke kanaka** - *"the land is a chief; humans are its servants"* - inverts the hierarchy that underlies most Western valuing frameworks. Land is not a resource to be used; it is the sovereign standard against which human activity is judged. Our dedication, care and aloha for ʻāina helps us evolve (!)

Valuing is spiritual and embodied, not purely cognitive

Naʻau - the gut as the seat of intuitive, embodied, and spiritual knowing - means that in Hawaiian epistemology, what is valuable is not determined solely by the mind. Truth can

be *felt* before it can be articulated. **Mōʻike aloha** - the coherence of aloha as a knowledge system - names a form of knowing that is simultaneously experiential, relational, and spiritual. Valuing that ignores naʻau-based knowledge is, by Hawaiian standards, incomplete.

Valuing is intergenerational and genealogical

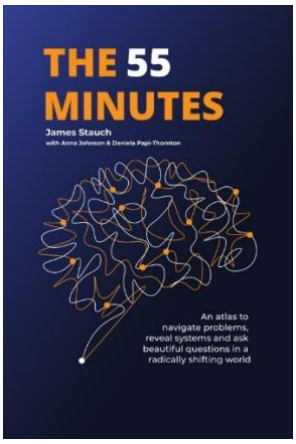
Moʻokūʻauhau - genealogy as *"an unbroken chain linking those alive today to cosmological life forces"* - implies that value cannot be assessed at a single point in time. What is valuable is what sustains and honors this chain: what was given by ancestors, what is held faithfully now, and what is passed forward to those who will come. This is a fundamentally different temporal logic than a program evaluation that asks *did this produce outcomes within a two-year funding cycle?*

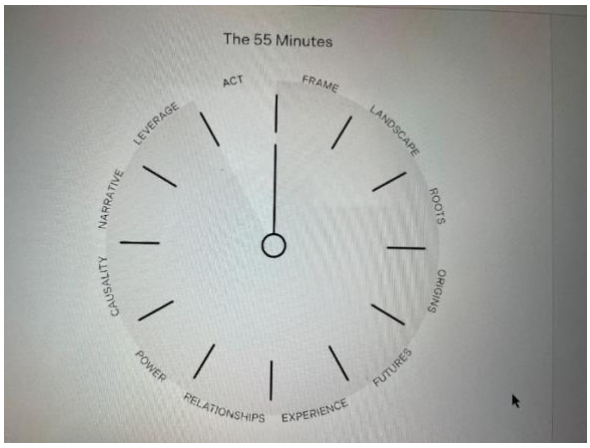
Kūlana o Kapolei

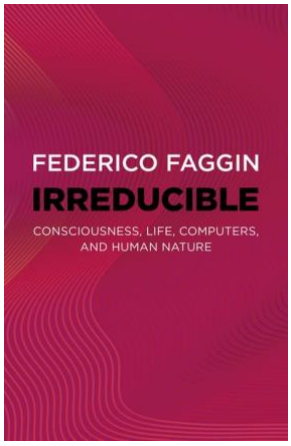
Spring #2 Newsletter of UH West Oʻahu

March-May, 2026

Systems thinking begins with a pause – a deliberate refusal to accept the initial framing of a problem in its initial form. It offers not quick fixes but the conditions in which better questions can emerge. Marius Constantinescu in *The 55 Minutes* (James Stauch)







It is absolutely critical to notice that The 55 Minutes book highlights Indigenous knowledge as massive areas of insight and knowledge. The bottom are ideas from **Federico Faggin**, a world respected physicist, engineer, philosopher, and creator of the Microprocessor. He is helping us to engage in the first five minutes of this 55 Minutes – FRAMING. (Faggin is helping us re-frame ideas with the kind of consciousness that will inevitably shape different questions/solutions, especially around the practice and potential of Artificial Intelligence:

- *Trust is not a concept, it's a measurable shift in frequency. Science calls it coherence. Ancient traditions call it surrender. I am not forcing the Field to respond. I am becoming compatible with its resonance.*
- *My position is that physics needs to also deal with the interiority of reality, what we call mind, which includes consciousness, free will, and life in its most general manifestation.*

- *The description of the experience is not the experience.*
- *To fully understand living organisms, we must imagine them as dynamic energy that is simultaneously transformed into its three objective dimensions of matter, information, and energy supervised by the deeper inner subjective properties of consciounsess and free will, which are properties that can only exist in the quantum reality.*
- *Meaning, understanding, and free-will decisions do not exist within a computer.*
- *I imagine consciounsess as a holistic property that is supported by a near-infinity of invisible connections that are neglected when simple systems are studied in a reductive way.*

Kūlana o Kapolei

Spring #2 Newsletter of UH West Oʻahu
March-May, 2026

Earth Day is every day!

Jaime Abrazado focusing

Dr. Masahide Kato came!

Aloha Espinosa's light

Rouel Velasco helped guide us

Aloha ʻĀina Club Girls!

Earth Day is a day in April (22nd) that we are meant to stop and focus on our living world. It was marked here at the UH West Oahu campus with a wonderful group of students, staff, faculty and community members dedicated to aloha ʻāina/aloha lāhui – Love Land, Serve People. Mahalo **Olivia Chung,** Event Coordinator for the Student Activity Fee Board, for putting on such a creative, engaging and lovely event! Mahalo **Tasia Yamamura, Porsha Toma** and **Rouel Velasco** for brainstormed and envisioned this year's Earth Day. Mahalo **Ryan Perreira** for the ono cooked food! It was such an intentional moment to sit under shade and sun to share ideas, exchange clothing, and to dip into kupuna actions that centralized love of land and service to people. That appears to sum it up, and all ideas, systems and actions with that at the center allows coherence to become effulgent, meaningful and on-going. Here is the simplification of complex ideas that Indigenous sensibilities have organized around. Here is a Center that can hold (!) When one considers how we are going to survive through this cacophony of polemic thinking where you have to "argue" your point, and "defend" your thesis. Are we not preparing our student for battle? Why not prepare them for radical collaboration that is at the center of Mōʻike Aloha – the newest way to describe Hawaiian intelligence that we all possess when we centralize these two ideas. Love land, serve people. I remember when people would mock Indigenous 'simplicity' with regard to our relationship

with land, sky, water and people. It has become the final battle ground for how we will survive and thus evolve. How are you preparing students for more enlightened questions with AI?

Ihililani, Tasia, Shayna mending

Clay from Papa Wailau Ola

Ngahiraka teaching how to mend clothes

Kupuna wisdom everywhere

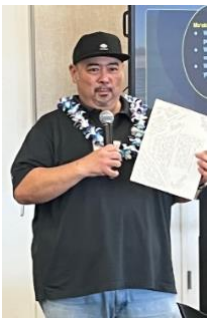
Kūlana o Kapolei

Spring #2 Newsletter of UH West O‘ahu
March-May, 2026

WO Scholar-Leadership Summit a radical success!
Friday, May 1, 2026 @ Windward Community College

Dr. Wo with mo‘opuna Ku‘ulei

Noe Pua‘auli


Jeff Mexia

Pūlama Collier

Kevin Takayama

What an amazing day we had at Windward Community College with 40 Wo Scholars!! Mahalo to Dr. Joyce Yamada, Kevin Takayama, Jeffrey Mexia, the Wo Family, the la‘au lapa‘au haumana of kumu Noe Pua‘auli of WCC, and also to our main presenter *Loea* Pūlama Collier of Maui-nui. It was a vital day to introduce the idea of mō‘ike aloha - Hawaiian epistemology - as the practice of presence, context, and care within all relationships. Pūlama was clear and powerful about leadership and how aloha is the genesis of all values, and ultimately even knowledge. Kevin was a vital facilitator of the Wo Leaders as these ideas were unfolding through every aspect of the day: by the food, the gifts, the energy of welcome, the timing to create and share ideas with each other. Every idea reflected the topic of leadership through a cultural lens. Here is my favorite idea from Pūlama. She is describing mō‘ike aloha – Hawaiian intelligence.

> *Mō‘ike aloha is a synergistic idea that aloha is the essence of Hawaiian intelligibility, sense ability, and enduring knowledge systems that created and sustains the viability of a Hawaiian existence. Mō‘ike aloha is the coherence of aloha conveyed through meaningful Hawaiian cultural knowledge, wisdom, and empiricism that has endured over time. It is a native interpretation of Hawaiian epistemology. Pūlama Collier*

Wo Scholars – Third Generation from all Hawai'i Community Colleges Kumu Noe with her two la'au haumana with teas! Dr. Joyce Yamada, Director

Kūlana o Kapolei

Spring #2 Newsletter of UH West O'ahu
March-May, 2026

Food Security and SCFS students in the FIELD!

Dianna Hill (Ula) SCFS Student! Mitch Steffey of Kōkua Hawai'i Mitch and Ula out in the Field – Capstone Project perhaps??

Hawai'i imports almost 90% of our foods (!) The history of this fact is daunting to place in this small Newsletter. Suffice to say that the worldview that makes land, food and people a commodity does not come from an Indigenous mind. What that means is that when we begin to consider ***continuity*** within the context of Island Peoples, we must consider the origin, health and diversity of our foods. Thank goodness (!) we have a passionate group of people here at UH West dedicated to this issue: Dr. Albie Miles and Dr. Matt Lau are heading our SCFS – Sustainable Community Food Systems – Concentration. It all began from the Food Sovereignty work of MA'O Farms in Wai'anae that worked to bring SCFS to our campus. Mahalo Kukuiola Maunakea-Forth and husband Gary for starting this massive movement over 25 years ago that stimulated this awareness of where, how and why healthy foods begin with a health relationship with people and place. This was the topic on Saturday, May 2nd at the Maili Community Center where food security and educational advocates (thankyou Chancellor Penaloza for being present for the whole day) came together to discuss our future collaboration. We were able to listen to young MA'O mahi'ai (farmers) discuss their insights and needs in Higher

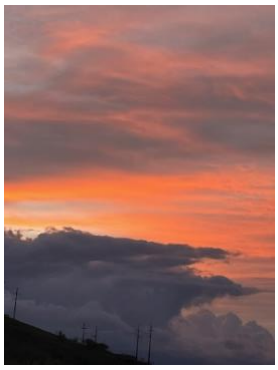
Education. What was exciting for Kūlana o Kapolei is the facilitators are current students or alumni of our SCFS program – Nanea Kelii and Lynn Batten. I could sense that some of MA'O's current mahi'ai are looking forward to entering SCFS with the kind of passion and intention we are needing. E ola!

Nanea Kelii of MA'O Farms is in SCFS now! Future SCFS students at MA'O sharing. Kukuiola Maunakea-Forth SCFS Alumni, Lynn ten. Kaui Sana – Manager!

Kūlana o Kapolei

Spring #2 Newsletter of UH West O'ahu
March-May, 2026

What does Commencement really mean?? Saturday, May 9, 2026 @ Stan Sheriff Center
A moment to embody what graduation means for our evolution as a planet (!)



Iwalani Raes graduates! The morning drive into town. Raul Ragudo – HIHH! Chris with Kim Ae + Kim Reed Our beloved Math + Science Faculty!

Anthropology haumana! Mahalo BOR kia‘i and faculty Mahalo Serina Makaiwa Lori Sal-Long graduated! Beloved welcome committee!

ACM Team ready to cheer on their students! Our VC Harald! Laurie James with her beloved Teachers! The Naulu Center Team Aloha Jade‘s gift of honey!

I am once again renewed with our graduation exercise! Truly. It is almost my most favorite day of the entire year (!). I am forever grateful for the on-going excellence of our faculty and staff, and the mythic effort and coherence of our Student Services Team lead by Dr. Leslie Opulauoho and a team of beloveds that includes our very own Serina Makaiwa, Christine Neves, Bev Baligad, Kim Reed and Kim Ae. Mahalo to all the Naulu Center ‘ohana who continue to offer the highest intentionality for our haumana, and for our campus Spirit.

Kūlana o Kapolei

Spring #2 Newsletter of UH West O‘ahu

March-May, 2026

‘Aha ‘Ai Pono – Kanaka Food Security Gatherings

A Report Back to the Community of our 4 gatherings!

Palehua, Wai‘anae, Waimanalu, Kalihi Valley

Monday, May 11, 2026 @ Kamehemaha Schools

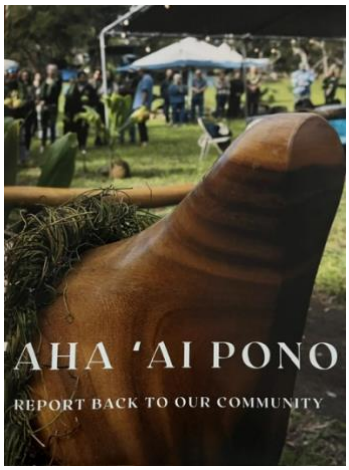
Kaiulani Odom, Director Mea ʻAi Pono practitioner

Tammy Hoe Smith

Kaui Onekea, KKV

Mary Oneha, Waimanalo

Kukuiola Maunakea, MAʻD



Mahalo Hawaiʻi Good Food Alliance for helping host our four ʻAha ʻAi Pono in beloved community places of Oʻahu: Palehua, Waiʻanae, Waimanalo and Kalihi Valley. Mahalo for our two visionaries who dreamed us together: Kaiulani Odom, Director of the Hawaiʻi Good Food Alliance, and Alicia Higa, Director of Elepaio Social Services of Waianae Community Health Center. We met with 70+ folks in Kaiwakiloumoku at Kamehameha Schools for four hours with intentional beloveds dedicated to healthy, meaningful and healing foods. All of it heals - the growing, the care, the giving, the feeding. We gathered to mark our continued dedication to the healing of Hawaiʻi and our lands by stepping beyond conditional silos to greet each other, to thank each other, to see each other, to know each other. Mahalo for this opportunity to share poetry, dreams, images, ideas, food, and prayer. It was a special way to mark our year-long collaboration in our beloved Oʻahu spaces and to see and feel where we can grow from here. Research, Policy, Funding, Collaboration. It was a special moment to be present. Aloha nui!

Jesse! UHWO Alumni Monica Esquivel, KKV

Megan Inada, KKV

Kanaka Food Security Panel gave us fabulous insight into our future of mea ʻai pono

Kūlana o Kapolei
Spring #2 Newsletter of UH West Oʻahu
March-May, 2026

HULIHIA – THIS TIME OF CHANGE

A gathering of Hawaiʻi Housing Visionaries
Tuesday, May 12, 2026 @ ACM, UH West Oʻahu

Sharla Hanaoka, ACM

Carlos Penaloza, Chancellor

Hawaii Home Ownership

Ramona Mullahey, HUD

Kali Watson, DHHL

Dave Sellers, HI.Off Grid

What a special day this was! To listen to creative and dedicated visionaries doing their tippy-toe best to unravel the complexity of our current paradigm is quite something to witness. Kūlana o Kapolei is dedicated to Mō'ike Aloha – Hawaiian epistemology in all its forms, so listening to this marvelous group of community members speak and share their views of Affordable Housing was both instructive and inspiring. The following quotes are Attuned, a book written by Ryan James Kemp. He is helping us understand the dynamics of the paradigms we live, work and teach in – always unnoticed, always present, invisible but very much shaping our world-view, decisions – everything (!)

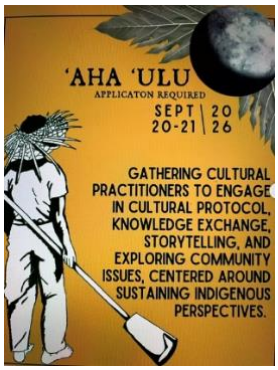
- It lives beneath cognition at the level of ontology..... The paradigm itself carried the sense of inevitability, shaping the process from within, present in the room without being named. (page 6)
- At times I write this as a-where-ness, because the awareness is more about where we are doing something from rather than what we are doing. (page 7)
- Through this work, paradigm perception has taken shape as a lived practice, one that develops over time through attention, experience, and attunement. (page 7)
- Since then, my work has been a process of unlearning, relearning, and attuning into the layer of reality where the frames live, developing the capacity to perceive what a room is organizing itself around and from within, including the aspects of itself that remain outside its own awareness. (8)
- What became clear through practicing this over and over and over again was that context holds a much deeper organizing power than content. (page 9)
- The same words, the same ideas, the same decisions take on entirely different meanings depending on the field they are arising within and for. Without that field or the a-where-ness of it, content floats, unrooted and unanchored, carrying a sense of disconnection from the conditions that give it life. (Ryan James Kemp, page 9)
- Paradigms are energy fields. (page 51)

There is a particular quality of stillness that arrives just before a worldview breaks open.
Ryan James Kemp, Attuned

Kū Mai Puna in August kukui for 20 year veterans

'Aha Niu in June on Maui

Ho'oma'a I'a in June



'Aha 'Ulu in September

Iwi

Changing the Paradigm of Brain Research!

A collaboration of radical researchers from Italy, Hawai'i, London, Cambridge, Kalihi, Canada, Bhutan, India – all dedicated to 'onto-cognition' the ability to see, name and describe the hidden paradigms we live in. Especially in the field of Research, a paradigm drenched in a materialistic paradigm shaped by power, money and extraction that continue to miss the point of our humanity. This group is lead by Dr. Sanjeev Sridharan – a beloved global scholar.

Wehe Nā Maka – UHWO AI Interns changed and grateful!

What an amazing experience for us all! Mahalo Dr. Esther Widiasih and Dr. Fiorella Penaloza for their support of three students: Iwalani Raes, Lori Sal-Long, and Dianna Hill (Ula). We had our final de-brief of the 3 month Internship and experience for three mature UHWO students dedicated to family, community and culture. All three students brought their level of readiness to the discussion of the use and function of AI. All were radically changed with the experience and we benefited from their personal and practical insights. Mahalo

International Indigenous Scholars visit UH West Oahu

Professor Marama Muru-Lanning of the University of Auckland, and Dr. Lisa Uperesa of UCLA came to campus to hear some of the origin stories of how Indigenous epistemology was birthed as an area of scholarship. It was a lovely share in Kuahuokalā while Tasia and her 'āina workers labored in the student mala. They are part of a larger effort to look at the future of Indigenous Knowledge and its role in world-wide activation. It was vital to share with them the things we are working toward here in Hawai'i with our collective vibe (!)

Dr. Kaliko Correira @ Waolama

Brother helping!

Three lei iwi kukui! Kalanipō, Kaliko, Manu

7 lei iwi for Convocation

Kaliko making holes

On Tuesday, May 19th something super special happened on the slopes of Palehua. The president of Nalimakui, our UH West Oahu Hawaiian Faculty + Staff Council, brought her brother and some ono grinds for lunch to come help in the finding, cleaning, drilling and stringing of seven lei iwi kukui for our 7 members who have spent 20+ years in service to higher learning. These 7 faculty + staff will be honored during our Fall Convocation on Tuesday, August 18, 2026. It was special for Kūlana o Kapolei because this kind of collaboration is the essence of all form. Mahalo nui e Kaliko for your time, effort and intentionality to help us honor our faculty and staff. That‘s how. That‘s how.

Mahalo to Kaleolani Helekunihi, our newest member in the Chancellor’s Office for saying “yes!” to making 20 umeke launiu – coconut baskets – for the BOR meeting on May 21, 2026!! It was quite a thrill to have her instant YES because our Niu Now ‘ohana could not produce this in time. Mahalo to Serina Makaiwa for supporting this project and creativity that Kaleo was able to encourage in her ‘ohana and community. The umeke launiu were then filled with an Uluniu Project poster and a bag of candied coconut and a few mai’a from our very own Student Organic Garden thanks to the steady work and dedication of our kahu’aina, Tasia Yamamura. It was indeed a labor of love! Mahalo Kaleo!

Kanaka Initiative for ʻIke Hawaiʻi infused within University of Hawaiʻi campuses

Mea ʻai pono – lunch time!

Aunty Manu with Dr. Punihei Lipe + Tiffinie Kakalia Nahulu, Dr. Lorinda Riley

Welina Mānoa

Puʻu Zablan, Kainoa

Kinohi, Tiff, Malia

Pilina Circles led by Kawehi and Timmie

Hilo beloveds! Tiff + Taupouri Tangaro

Punihei Dr. Harald Barkhoff!

A New Chapter Begins for Dr. Punihei Lipe!

We honored a brilliant and visionary Hawaiian Scholar-Practitioner during our gathering of Hawaiian advocates dedicated to restorative justice on Thursday, May 21, 2026. Punihei gave her personal and academic history with many beloveds in the room. Here is what she leaves at UH Mānoa:

Director – Hawaiʻi Papa O Ke Ao https://www.hawaii.edu/hawaiipapaokeao/
Director – Native Hawaiian Place of Learning Advancement Office http://manoa.hawaii.edu/nhpol/
Director – UHM Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation https://manoa.hawaii.edu/nhpol/trht/
Director – Institute for Hawaiian Language Research and Translation
https://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/institute-of-hawaiian-language-research-and-translation/

Punihei will be heading to Kamehameha Schools to become the K-12 Principal! We wish her our tippy-toe best in all that she heads into, and all she will inspire because now is the time – and we are the people able to kōkua you. Our best Punihei! Our very best to you and your ʻohana.

Uluniu Workday on Saturday, May 30th
30+ hard-working coconut heads came to mālama our uluniu!

Indrajit spoke on niu kaula/rope

Some niu kaula varieties

SCFS haumana, Ula Hill, led the entire day!

Hana no'eau

Uluniu o UH West Oahu is going strong!

Something happens when we share purpose with others. I notice kids discover they are hard workers, mothers learn their kids are hard workers (!), and teachers learn their students are hard workers. Could it be a ruse? Maybe. What the Niunates – serious coconut heads dedicated to the growing of uluniu, coconut groves, know is that food security is a real idea and cultural agroforestry is something we can all do together (!) Every last Saturday of the monther, for the past six years, a group of people dedicated to aloha ʻāina and to mālama uluniu meet to deepen their relationship to place and people. Here is a picture of Ashley's three teenage daughters: Liz, Evelyn + Olivia. (military family heading out of Oahu by the end of May) They were truly changed by the aloha they felt from all the Niunates and said it was their deepest experience of Hawaiʻi. Yes, that's what aloha teaches us. That's what happens when we share purpose with each other. We are learning the ways of nature because We Are That. *Kupu ka niu kupu ke kanaka*. *When coconuts grow, humanity flourishes*. It really does..... E ola niu!