



Aloha mai kākou!

Faculty, staff and students at the University of Hawai'i–West O'ahu engage in scholarly work that informs policies and practices that benefit communities; expands internships, practica, mentoring and service learning; and increases partnerships and sharing of expertise with community organizations. This is called “Engaged Scholarship,” which means that education, research and practice are linked in significant and systemic ways to benefit community identified needs, interests and/or goals. The act of partnership is noteworthy as all our scholarship must engage community members in a mutually reciprocal manner that generates the best opportunities for all involved.

In this quarter's Kūkulu Kaiāulu Hō'ike Hapahā Makahiki (Quarterly Impact Report) Winter 2020, we present the scholarly efforts of three faculty and their university and community-based partners. From Dr. Albie Miles and Elise Dela Cruz-Talbert, whose preliminary research helps us to understand food insecurity among our students across the UH System, to Dr. Jon Magnussen, who brings the stories of Hawai'i alive through music, and to the health and well-being efforts of Dr. Ric Custodio and Dr. Aimee Grace – these scholars are all learning and sharing valuable lessons to uplift us all.

We hope that this issue of our quarterly report inspires you to think of how you might become more active in supporting UH West O'ahu's community of diverse learners!

E mālama pono!

Maenette K.P. Ah Nee-Benham
Chancellor, UH West O'ahu



UH West O'ahu's Wish List

Health Science

- ✂ \$1,000 for Iomilomi (traditional Hawaiian massage) class supplies
- ✂ \$1,000 for UH West O'ahu Community Health graduates to take the GRE and application fee to attend graduate school at UH Manoa
- ✂ \$1,500 for student subscriptions to online HIM focused software (EHR Go)
- ✂ \$5,000 for UH West O'ahu Students to attend and present research at National Conferences
- ✂ \$15,000 – 24 iPads for use with new augmented reality app for permanent storage and use in anatomical and physiology

Music Program

- ✂ \$1,000 for Ensemble Tuition Scholarships (Band, Chorus, Strings, or Hawaiian Ensemble)
- ✂ \$1,500 for Digital Camera to record performances/practices
- ✂ \$2,000 for Wireless Mic System
- ✂ \$4,000 for UH West O'ahu Students to attend Music Industry Exposure Conference
- ✂ \$5,000 for Student Music Technology Workstation
- ✂ \$10,000 for Mobile Music Technology Teaching Unit lab classroom

Sustainable Community Food Systems

- ✂ \$1,000 for Library Collections
- ✂ \$1,000 for Tools and Materials for the UH West O'ahu Campus Student Organic Garden
- ✂ \$2,500 for student travel expenses for the Sustainable Community Food Systems (SCFS)
- ✂ \$3,500 for the creation of a SCFS student scholarship
- ✂ \$5,000 for UH West O'ahu Student and Faculty research support



Mahalo for supporting UH West O'ahu.
All gifts help our students and are also tax deductible.

Please contact C. Kent Coarsey at kent.coarsey@uhfoundation.org for more information on how to help or visit www.uhfoundation.org/give to make an online gift today.

Kūkulu Kaiāulu *Building Community* Hō'ike Hapahā Makahiki Quarterly Impact Report



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WEST O'AHU

The University of Hawai'i is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

Initiative addresses health care workforce needs

A University of Hawai'i initiative – UHealthy Hawai'i – aims to leverage UH's programs to improve health care in Hawai'i. Initial UHealthy research, conducted with contributions by UH West O'ahu faculty, included an overview of the educational, training, certificate and degree programs available throughout the UH System.

"This research will now be used to support a strategic action plan to improve campus-to-campus partnerships and articulations, and collaboration with high schools," said Dr. Ricardo Custodio, associate professor of Health Science at UH West O'ahu.

The initiative focuses on four areas: ensuring a robust statewide health workforce; discovery and innovation to improve and extend lives; promoting healthier families and communities; and advancing health in all policies.

"We are working toward creating opportunities for the youth of West O'ahu to have training that will lead to health careers that pay a sustainable wage," said Custodio, a long-time pediatrician and former medical director at the Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center.

UH West O'ahu is pioneering programs in unique areas such as Hawaiian and Indigenous Health and Healing, Community Health, Respiratory Care, Pre-Health Professions, Health Information Technology, and Long-Term Care.

UHealthy Hawai'i is led by Dr. Aimee Malia Grace, a pediatrician and the director of Health Science Policy with the University of Hawai'i System.

"The UHealthy Hawai'i initiative has certainly benefited from the engagement of the visionary, thoughtful, engaged team at UH West O'ahu," Grace said. "We look forward to continuing to work together to improve health and health care in Hawai'i and the Pacific, particularly through improving our health careers pipeline and outreach."



Dr. Ric Custodio lecturing in one of the classrooms in the new Health Science building.

Oboist J. Scott Janusch holds an oboe made of Hawaiian kauila wood. Photo from UH News



Expanding music education resources across the State

The UH West O'ahu music program – through faculty, students, and collaborative efforts within the community – is far-reaching, touching thousands beyond the Kapolei campus.

"Music celebrates our community's cultural heritages, and our music program engages our students and community members in the creation and performance of music for the community to enjoy," said Dr. Jon Magnussen, associate professor and head of UH West O'ahu's music program.

Magnussen's research focus is expanding music education resources for 'ōlelo Hawai'i communities. In October, his "Pāka'a Lanakila!" enjoyed a three-day residency at the Bishop Museum, featuring Chamber Music Hawai'i's Spring Wind Quintet and Kalama Cabigon, 'ōlelo Hawai'i narrator. The program was for school children and teachers and a free Teacher Resource Guide in Hawaiian and English was given to provide curriculum support.

In November, the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra Masterworks Series featured Magnussen's "Nā Kau 'Elua | The Two Seasons" concerto for oboe and orchestra, commissioned by J. Scott Janusch and Live Music Awareness for the Hawaiian Oboe Legacy Project. A special feature was the oboe handcrafted from 300-year-old kauila wood native to Kōke'e, Kaua'i, by world renowned oboe maker Howarth of London.

Since 2018, more than 10,000 school children have heard "The Symphony of the Hawaiian Birds," through the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra. This partnership between UH (UH West O'ahu faculty Drs. Daniel Houglum and Magnussen contributed movements), the orchestra, and Bishop Museum aims to educate O'ahu students through science, music, and art about Hawai'i's native bird species and conservation efforts.

Additionally, the University Band, Kapolei Chorale | University Chorus, University Strings, and Hawaiian Ensemble perform throughout the community. UH West O'ahu's music program launched a new Certificate of Music in fall 2018.

Study seeks to investigate food insecurity across University of Hawai'i

Imagine being a college student unable to focus on your studies because you're lacking one of life's most basic needs – food.

"Students have fixed costs in terms of rent and housing, and often what they end up doing is internalizing their budget shortfalls by the thing that is flexible, and that is the amount of food or the quality of food that they eat," explained Dr. Albie Miles, assistant professor with the Sustainable Community Food Systems (SCFS) program at UH West O'ahu.

The USDA describes food insecurity as a household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food. The problem is being addressed at UH thanks in part to efforts by Miles and Elise Dela Cruz-Talbert, a former instructor with the SCFS program and an epidemiology PhD candidate at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Dela Cruz-Talbert and Miles investigated the issue with two surveys, the first in 2016 exploring food insecurity among UH West O'ahu students, then in 2018 among students across all 10 campuses in the UH System.

In 2018, Dela Cruz-Talbert led the study design and analysis, and supervised a team of SCFS student interns – Sydney Millerd, Rainbow Ulii and Ramon Araujo Jr. – who helped to create fliers for each campus about their study results. In a preliminary analysis among approximately 1,500 survey participants across the 10 campuses, about 1,000 reported being food insecure at some point within the last year when they took the survey.*

Based on the data gathered, Miles presented to UH President David Lassner a list of policy recommendations, including the creation of a UH System Student Basic Needs Committee, a process that is now underway.

*The survey scored a 3.1 percent response rate.

Photo courtesy of Dr. Albie Miles

