Aloha mai kākou!

We have been hearing a lot about “workforce development.” What exactly does this mean? I asked current students, graduates, faculty, and our regional employers, “What is workforce development?” Here’s what some shared: “It is a series of pathways for people to meet their dreams, live their passion, and improve the lives of family and friends.” “It’s a game changer! Your (UH West O‘ahu) programs see the whole person and provide opportunities for them to succeed.” “It’s about economic development and workforce diversity!” “For me these programs focus on people with disabilities by helping them to succeed in ways they could never imagine. It’s about equity.” “It is the backbone of our community as it bridges employees and employers. It bridges youth and young adults into a life of opportunity!” “At UH West O‘ahu our programs help all people to break through barriers and glass ceilings by providing them global perspectives, and transformative tools and skills to be the leaders we are waiting for!”

I could not have defined workforce development any better. At the University of Hawai‘i–West O‘ahu, our value proposition commits us to preparing 21st century leaders – career creators! Our programs provide our students with knowledge and hands-on skills and capabilities so they are able to discern and create innovative strategies that address the conundrums of our times. I am proud of our faculty and staff who prioritize connecting students to a broad range of information as well as providing a foundation for coordinated strategies that value work quality and equity.

In this quarter’s Kūkulu Kaiāulu Hō’ike Hapahā Makahiki (Quarterly Impact Report) Fall 2023, we provide you with an overview of three of our signature programs that are preparing our professionals and leaders in Accounting, Creative Media, and the Health Professions. And, there’s so much more! Visit our website to learn more about our programs in CyberSecurity and CyberOperations, Teacher Preparation (early childhood, elementary, secondary), Psychology-Counseling, Disaster Preparedness, and much more!

There are many ways you can support UH West O‘ahu’s workforce development efforts! We hope that this issue of our quarterly report inspires you to think of how you might become more active in supporting our UH West O‘ahu students, our future professionals and leaders!

E mālama pono!
Maenette K.P. Ah Nee-Benham
Chancellor, UH West O‘ahu
The Accounting concentration is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of accounting and the skills necessary to analyze, evaluate, and report financial information as well as identify local and international issues that affect the business environment. UH West O’ahu’s 190 students in fall 2022 (most recent data available) were the highest number of undergraduate accounting majors among the 10 UH campuses.

Accounting

Within the Health Professions concentration, students can choose to specialize in one of several plans of study including pre-nursing, pre-physicians assistant, pre-physical therapy, pre-occupational therapy, pre-pharmacy, or pre-medical. These specializations, or tracks, allow the student to follow a clear career path and fulfill potential prerequisites necessary for graduate and/or professional school in medicine and health sciences.

Health Professions

UH West O’ahu’s Creative Media program embraces digital media literacy experienced through video, animation, video games, design, social media, web and app development, virtual and augmented reality, other forms of media communication, and design and digital storytelling.

Creative Media