Lanihuli Observatory dedicated

by Brett Ninkle
Ka’Ohana Staff Reporter

Viewing craters on the moon, the rings of Saturn and the moons of Jupiter will soon become a common occurrence for WCC students thanks to the Center for Aerospace Education’s optical telescope in the new Lanihuli Observatory.

The observatory was dedicated Oct. 12, Discoverer’s Day. It is located in the parking lot across from Hale Pālanakila and will be used in classes, as well as community outreach events, to provide the Windward side with a better understanding of what lies beyond our planet.

Observing interstellar clouds and galaxies will be possible with the new optical telescope. It’s covered by a 16-foot rotating dome, completed this past summer, which provides “a screen against wind as well as blocking out surrounding glare from (city) lights,” said Joe Ciotti, WCC astronomy professor.

The optical telescope isn’t the only feature available in the observatory. Visitors can listen to noise bursts from the planet Jupiter and from the sun, in a solar telescope. A NOAA weather satellite tracking station provides real-time images of the sky from polar orbiting satellites. Hurricanes and other conditions can be seen, including volcanic activity on the Big Island.

Sunspots are visible using the solar telescope. Last November, visitors observed the rare transit of Mercury across the solar disk.

The Windward side tends to be cloudy, but the optical telescope can still be used through gaps in the clouds. The radio and cosmic telescopes, as well as the NOAA weather station, are unaffected.

The observatory will be used by the astronomy and physics classes as well as Hawaii Space Grant, Upward Bound and K-12 students. When weather permits, it will also be open to the public after evening Imaginarium shows.

The goal for WCC students is to give them hands-on experience with real telescopes while exploring career opportunities in space science. Already, three former WCC students are telescope operators on Mauna Kea.

The community outreach programs “will open children’s eyes and allow them their first look at the heavens through a real telescope,” said Ciotti. “It certainly will be an experience that will never be forgotten.”

The total cost of the observatory was $850,000, with $650,000 going to construction and the rest going to instruments, computers and furniture.

A long list of private foundations, government agencies and individuals contributed to the project, including the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, Minami Community Foundation and Hazel Valier.

However, the improvements aren’t over. They still need to build a permanent staircase to the roof for easier access to the solar telescope.

“Currently, we use an aluminum extension ladder, which is precarious and difficult to use when equipment needs to be carried to the roof,” said Ciotti.

With the available features in the observatory, Ciotti said, “While clouds are common on the Windward side, there are occasional nights when the sky is fairly (clear). What a shame it would be to waste all those wonderful evenings.”

Body finds new home on Windward side

by Theresa Worden
Ka’Ohana Editor in Chief

ask Donald Frost what his auto body students want most and he might say, “More sewing machines.” That’s because when the students are finished in the shop, they’re learning a very different trade: quilting.

Volunteers teach the basics of sewing, reading rulers and calculating measurements. In the process, these body students want most and he’s set his hopes between working with quilts and cars. He said both tasks require planning and a lot of patience. He’s set his hopes between working with quilts and cars. He said both tasks require planning and a lot of patience. He’s set his hopes between working with quilts and cars.

“If you want to learn how to make (a quilt) I’ll teach you, but I won’t make it for you,” Donald told the boys.

Using donated scraps of fabric, sometimes in the worst shape, they teach the students how to transform them into something beautiful. Melissa said their rough demeanor sometimes in the worst shape, they teach the students how to transform them into something beautiful. Melissa said their rough demeanor sometimes in the worst shape, they teach the students how to transform them into something beautiful.

One student couldn’t take his quilt home because his father wouldn’t approve,” said Donald during his Board of Regents presentation at WCC in August. “But he left it with us to show others what is possible.”

Their journey began this past January. Piecing together tattered scraps of fabric, Donald made more than just his first quilt. He made a connection – a means through which his students could learn and express themselves in new ways.

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"(But) I’ve never been involved with such a great group of guys,” she said.

Anthony Cabato, who began sewing in January, finds similarities between working with quilts and cars. He said both tasks require planning and a lot of patience. He’s set his hopes on earning a degree and continues to improve his sewing skills.

"Someday, I’ll be good enough to sew (car) interiors,” Cabato said.

Donald and Melissa invite anyone to participate, to increase the fellowship and feeling of ‘ohana in their classroom.

Unfortunately, that “classroom” was the HCC body shop, and without a permanent place to set up, the students needed to pack up the sewing equipment after every session.

Now, ETC’s Auto Body Repair and Finishing program is being integrated on the WCC campus, bringing Body and Sew with it. They can now be found in ‘Iolani building, located behind Hale Pālanakila, in a more permanent home.

Body and Sew relies heavily on the generosity of others and is grateful for any donations — from fabric to sewing machines.

Most of the quilts made during the voluntary sessions are donated to the Ronald McDonald House for families of seriously ill children.

If you’re interested in helping Body and Sew or joining them for some lessons, please contact Donald or Melissa Frost at 734-2422 or email at info@bodyandsew.com.
Myanmar’s cry for freedom silenced

by Bali Ferguson
Ka Ohana Staff Reporter

It was a scenario not unlike what happens in Hawai‘i regularly: an increase in fuel prices. While Hawai‘i drivers may complain about government regulations such as the gas cap, a very different price has unfolded in Myanmar recently, a country of approximately 48 million people located in Southeast Asia, bordering India, China and Thailand.

On Aug. 15, the military regime of Myanmar doubled the price of fuel in this poor country, which the United Nations rates as “least developed country” in 1987, meaning the median capita income is less than $750 annually. The price hikes hit the more impoverished people hard, causing a run-up in prices of everything from rice to cooking oil.

The Burmese people, not having democratic representation, have no alternative but to turn to the streets in protest. Pro-Democracy demonstrators filled the streets of the largest city, Rangoon, and other towns across the country. The regime began to crack down by making arrests and using force, which upset the country’s Buddhist monks. They demanded the government apologize for using force on Sept. 17.

After the deadline passed with no apology, the country’s Buddhist monks, who are the moral and spiritual leaders in this country, became disgusted and decided to stop accepting alms from the rulers. This is very significant in that it denies the regime the appearance of being charitable and legitimate rulers.

Daily protests grew very large, as thousands of monks from the country’s many monasteries joined in the protests. A group called the Alliance of All Burmese Buddhist Monks issued a statement on Sept. 21, describing the military government as “the enemy of the people.” They added they would protest until they had “wiped the military dictatorship from the land of Burma” and called on the people of Burma to join them.

Thousands of people responded and formed a huge protest in Rangoon, including members of the National League for Democracy Party. After several days of apparent restraint against the non-violent protesters, the regime crushed the protests with results in which nine confirmed deaths and probably many more, and the arrest of thousands of monks and civilians protestors.

According to BBC reports, police squads conducted pre-dawn raids to drag away suspected protesters and monks, to be imprisoned and tortured.

The response from the international community has been one of little action, only words of condemnation, with no discernible effect for the people of Burma, who are very angry and continue to live in fear.

WCC political science professor Roy Fujimoto suggested the United States should take strong action to protect the Burmese people’s right to a democratic government.

“The [Burmeses] military doesn’t take too kindly to people who express their desire for democratic freedom...they do so at great risk,” he said.

“This is an opportunity for the U.S. to take the moral high ground and hold them (the regime) to account. We can do it, because the U.S. is still considered #1 in the world politically and militarily.”

Fujimoto cautioned against thinking this is an isolated situation with no relevance to us in Hawai‘i. “Whatever happens in Burma will impact us. If the junta exterminates a lot of people, it’ll be blood on our hands because we know what’s going on. It will encourage other dictators to do the same,” he said.

However, the probability of U.S. intervention in Burma is slim, says Fujimoto. “We’re so focused on Iraq – everything else has taken a tertiary role.”

Democracy has been suspended in Myanmar since 1962 when the military led a coup and violently suppressed democracy demonstrations in 1988.

In a 1990 election, Nobel Prize-winning democracy activist Aung San Suu Kyi and her National League for Democracy Party won with over 60 percent of the vote, while the military-backed National Unity Party won less than 2 percent of the vote.

Rather than step down, the military regime placed Suu Kyi under house arrest and has ruled the country ever since.

“Pressure should be kept up in the world media,” said Fujimoto. “The world needs to speak with one voice to put an end to this.”

Myanmar, also known as Burma, is strategically positioned in Asia.
Strategic plan to improve UH campuses

by Kristen Payton
Ka ‘Ohana Staff Reporter

Nursing, teaching, information technology, social work and tourism — those are some of Hawai‘i’s high-demand career fields for college students in the next decade.

The question is, can the UH system supply enough graduates for those fields and will those graduates be willing to stay in the islands?

UH strategic planners are visiting every campus in the system to spur thinking on how to address what they see as “a leaky educational pipeline” and a gap between workforce supply and demand.

WCC’s meeting last month focused on the success rate of UH graduates and what happens to them after they earn their degrees.

Academic Planning and Policy Vice President Linda Johnsrud pointed out, “(Hawai‘i) does not have enough graduates to fulfill Hawai‘i’s workforce. They either drop out of college or if they do graduate, they leave the islands.”

According to Economic Modeling Specialist, Inc., Hawai‘i’s projected islands.”

According to WCC Chancellor Angela Meixsell, the college has completed the process of updating its strategic plan for 2008-2015. She said the current strategic plan is on the college website and has been critical for setting college priorities for both budgets and programs.

“There is a hierarchy,” said Meixsell. “First there is a UH system plan. The community college system plan comes under that, and then the individual college plans.

“Our current plan uses the same overarching goals as the community college system.”

Strategic planning consultant Dr. Julie Sark was at WCC Oct. 9 – 11 to work with a group of students, faculty and staff on mapping the college’s future. That group will work with others at Windward to discuss issues affecting campus priorities, programs and resources.

A plan to encourage students to complete college is an important consideration for all the strategic plans. According to Johnsrud, “Six years is the new norm for students to finish college at a four-year university -- three years at a community college and three more years to a bachelor’s degree.”

With that in mind, the UH system wants to promote a better college experience for students at all the campuses.

Transferring to UH-Mānoa: A student’s guide

by Boli Ferguson
Ka ‘Ohana Staff Reporter

After their time at Windward Community College, some students go on to jobs, A.A. degree in hand, others to the mainland, and many go on to get a bachelor’s degree from UH-Mānoa.

Unfortunately, despite the University of Hawai‘i being a system, the community college to four-year college experience isn’t totally seamless. This article will help you navigate through some of the kinks.

Explore http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/ to get started, or follow the steps below:

Eligibility: UH-Mānoa will take applications from WCC transfer students with at least a 2.0 GPA and 24 credits (12 completed, 12 in progress is ok).

Your GPA will be used for admission purposes but does not transfer. Your GPA starts calculating from whatever classes you take at Mānoa only (but the WCC grades will still be on your permanent transcript).

Get Counseling: Don’t delay if you are planning on going to UH. Start looking up your bachelor’s requirements right away so you can plan ahead. On the website above, click “Admissions Program Core Sheet”.

This gives an overview of the credits you need for a bachelor’s degree at Mānoa. Look up the program core sheet for the academic year you entered the UH system.

For example if you entered in Fall 2007, you would get the 2007-2008 sheet, if spring 2007, you would get the 2006-2007 sheet.

The WCC A.A. fulfills all the UH general education requirements, but it’s good to start looking now at what you need for your bachelor’s to make sure you have all the lower division pre-requisites for the upper-division classes you want to take at Mānoa.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: Make an appointment with one of the UH advisors to meet in person and to help plan your transfer and answer your questions. Go to http://www.advising.hawaii.edu/artsci/.

Research/Choose a Major: Tired of telling people you’re majoring in “liberal arts”? Then it’s time to choose a major. You will have time to change it, but at least put something down for your application.

Many students waste time in college by changing majors once they are at the upper-division level and end up graduating with more credits than necessary, so why not start exploring now and save the time?

Browse the list of majors, minors, and certificates offered. Click on the ones you like, and go to their individual sites, check out the classes they offer, the requirements, and applicability.

TIP: If you think you’re bad at math and/or science, consider getting a bachelor of arts, where you can escape math by taking Philosophy 110 (Introduction to Logic) with our very own Ron Loo. This fulfills the quantitative reasoning requirements.

However, bachelor of business and science degrees require high-level math, so best to stick with Math 100 if that’s where you want to go!

Don’t let indecisiveness stop you. You can change majors at any time (hopefully before graduation so you have time to do all the requirements for the major without re-doing).


Deadlines: You should apply the semester before you intend to start taking classes at UH to meet the deadline.

The priority date for entering in fall is Feb. 1 and final deadline is May 1. The spring priority date is Sept. 1 and final deadline is Oct. 1. There is a $50 application fee.

You can be concurrently enrolled in UH and WCC, so if you want to get a head start on your major courses at UH you can apply now and do both simultaneously rather than an abrupt, total transition that may leave you wishing you were back at WCC.

You can either fill out the application online, or do another UH System application form at UH Mānoa. UH will evaluate your transfer credits and send you confirmation once they have accepted your credits. Go to http://www.hawaii.edu/admrec/apptr.html.

Director of Vocational and Community Education Bernadette Howard and Interim Dean of Instruction Elizabeth Ashley discuss the UH strategic plan with Linda Johnsrud (right).
F or many students, one of the most difficult challenges they face is financial. While they may have a fairly good idea of where the barriers to student success lie, they are often unsure of how to overcome them.

To create a more solid culture of evidence, the University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges (UHCC) have developed the Dream Initiative, a national initiative aimed at understanding how to provide colleges with support in developing strategies to close achievement gaps and help more students succeed, particularly low-income students and students of color. Community colleges in particular serve as one of the main connectors between high school and employment. More than half of all students in the University of Hawai‘i system are enrolled in community colleges.

As community college students are one of the primary targets of the Dream Initiative, educators will be able to identify which groups of students are at risk. The basic premise behind Achieving the Dream is that by focusing resources and research on student achievement, colleges will be more able to identify why certain trends are occurring.

“We have been in the system for a long time and have not yet seen a plan of action,” said Hokuona. “The Achieving the Dream initiative challenges educators to take the next step in order to specifically, it emphasizes the use of data to drive change.

“The challenge goes beyond Windward,” said Hoe. “We should be expanding our view so that we are looking at the money needed to pursue history and the future, rather than just internally.”

According to Hoe, Hawai‘i in particular has a history of tension with the educational system in Hawai‘i. Historically, education was valued throughout Native Hawaiian communities; however, within the past 100 years, their relationship with the educational system has become conflated, almost adversarial.

The goal, said Hoe, is to reconnect Hawaiians with those values. Under the leadership of UH Vice President for Community Colleges John Morton, representatives from each of the seven community colleges within the University of Hawai‘i system, including Hokuona and Hoe from WCC, will work with Achieving the Dream coaches and data facilitators on multiple fronts, including research, public engagement and policy. Launched in 2004, the Achieving the Dream initiative is a collaborative effort between accreditation agencies, state and federal governments, funders and institutions across the country.

During the five years of UHCC’s involvement in the initiative, the Office of Hawai‘i Affairs and Kamehameha Schools have committed to contributions totaling $1.5 million. The seven UH community colleges are among 24 institutions in eight states joining Achieving the Dream this year.

“As a college, we need to ask ourselves how we can respond to the needs of our students,” said Hoe.

The hope, he said, is that by learning from the achievements of other institutions UHCC will be better prepared to help provide students with the education and skills needed for success.

An important part of this initiative, however, is that students are a part of the dialogue.

Helping students succeed

The academic underprepared and enroll in at least one remedial/developmental course. Sixty-two percent of first-time students placed into remedial math and English classes in the University system in Hawai‘i in fall 2006. The WPG found that not every first-time student who places into remedial/ developmental classes registered for below 100 courses during their first semester of school. However, those who did register for remedial/developmental classes were successful. Sixty-eight percent of students placed into remedial math classes were successful in college level courses after two semesters. Likewise, 85 percent of students placed into remedial English classes were successful. According to Korey-Smith, the UH system is examining programs of other mainland community colleges to improve success rates in Hawai‘i.

Such plans target not only first-time students but also those who took remedial prerequisite math and English classes. The WPG’s goal is to improve the success rates of students in remedial classes.

The WPG found that most incoming first-time UH community college students are academically underprepared and enrolled in at least one remedial/developmental course. Sixty-two percent of first-time students placed into remedial/developmental classes registered for below 100 courses during their first semester of school.

Nevertheless, one of the biggest challenges is the fact that students may not be aware of their options. According to Korey-Smith, “Students don’t really have to meet with the counselor if they don’t want to and they are following a path that we would not recommend for them.”

If a student received academic advising, perhaps there could be an intervention before the student gives up and drops out of college completely.

“Kids drop out for many reasons,” said Korey-Smith, “and of the 49 percent who do, only one-third of them drop out for academic reasons. Students don’t feel connected to classes, they have full-time jobs or a family — there are many reasons.

It’s an institutional problem. We (UH community college faculty) need to be counselors and reach out to first-time students to make sure students return for their second year,” said Korey-Smith.
A Homegrown Celebration!

Family and friends gathered for food, fun and entertainment at WCC’s 7th annual Windward Ho’olaule’a Sept. 22. The event, sponsored by the college and the Kaneohe Business Group, drew people from all parts of the island. Activities included a new silent auction, keiki games and face painting by WCC student volunteers. Local artists and vendors showcased island crafts and ‘ono food, including garlic shrimp, waffle dogs and more. The Imaginarium and Gallery ‘Iolani welcomed visitors while some of Hawai‘i’s leading entertainers and Windward halau graced the center stage on the Great Lawn.

Crowds (left) gathered on the Great Lawn for food and entertainment.

Diana Bowman (far left) of Hands of Hawaii helped Taryn Watanabe dip her pink wax hand.

WCC staff member Jedd Ramos (below) roasts corn for hungry customers at the ETC culinary tent.

The musical stylings of Kapena capped the evening’s entertainment line-up (above).

Keiki rides (right) kept the younger crowd entertained while Halau Hula O Napunauhulanapua from Ben Parker School in Kāne‘ohe performed (below).

Mayor Mufi Hannemann, City Council chair Barbara Marshall, WCC Chancellor Angela Meixell, Libby Young and Michael Pili Pang.

Clara Dias of Hardware Hawaii with volunteers Emily Seulipio-Fujiwara and Sierra Burke helped paint chairs for the silent auction.

WCC’s gyotaku painting (above) was popular as were the handcrafted ‘ukuleles by David Hanawahine and canoe carvings by Nick Pagano (right).
Do-it-yourself Horror Film Festival

by Karen Suda

Let's face it — Halloween in the islands can be a drag if you're not a kid. You can't go trick-or-treating and the March of Dimes hasn't hosted a haunted house in ages. If you're not into the “costume parties” held in Honolulu dance clubs where mini-skirts get you in (free — what else are you going to do? If your answer is stay inside and watch the same monster marathon that plays every year, listen up. This year, why not host a horror film festival in the comfort of your own living room? We've selected eight blood-curdling flicks from around the world for a night of spine-tingling fun! So dim the lights and cozy up to your sweetie. Here's our list of hair-raising Halloween films, in no particular order:

Halloween (1978)

The original “Halloween” is the archetypal slasher film. It laid the groundwork for “Friday the 13th” and “The Texas Chainsaw Massacre.” “Halloween IV: The Return of Michael Myers” is by no means perfect, but it’s a campy B-movie that Michael Myers escapes from the sanitarium and heads back to Haddonfield. It's a series that is worth checking out, especially for the costumes and make-up. In short, the series is a love letter to 1970's slasher films.

Shaun of the Dead (2004)

This is the ultimate zombie-themed romantic comedy. Shaun has no career ambition (he's a low-rung appliance salesman), no interest in high culture and his best friend Ed is a big sport buffoon than he is. Naturally, his girlfriend Liz is dissatisfied with the groove house and pop music. Ala Moana Center. Shaundance II.

Dead Alive (1992)

An extreme zombie-comedy (with a romantic subplot). Jackson laces the film with so much slapstick, it's impossible to resist. The film is in danger of being devoured by the undead. Consequently, the Groovy hero Ash, who gleefully dispatches zombies with either a chainsaw or his trusty double-barreled, sawn-off shotgun with a hair-trigger.

Evil Dead II (1987)

The original “Evil Dead” is an extreme zombie horror-comedy (with a romantic subplot). Jackson laces the film with so much slapstick, it's impossible to resist. The film is in danger of being devoured by the undead. Consequently, the Groovy hero Ash, who gleefully dispatches zombies with either a chainsaw or his trusty double-barreled, sawn-off shotgun with a hair-trigger.


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The movie gives upsetting examples of how the military was ordered away during times of great need and how lack of troops and bad timing caused significant harm. We’re also told that Donald Rumsfeld and others who gave lip service in the media knew next to nothing about the actual situation and seemed unwilling to listen to those with more expertise. One of the most shocking disclosures was that instead of seasoned experts, recent college graduates were sometimes sent to Iraq to do official business without any experience or expertise.

The assumption is that they were from families who gave large donations to the Republican Party. Visit the “No End in Sight” official website: www.noenntsightmovie.com.

Add the movie to your Netflix queue.

It seemed like every Spanish-speaking resident on the Windward side had converged on El Mariachi. I couldn’t understand the banter between the servers and the regulars, but it was just as stimulating as the romantic Latin music flowing from the speakers.

Now I’m not an expert on Mexican food. I have to admit that I’ve spent more time in the Taco Bell drive-through than in genuine Mexican dining. I’m trying to change that.

Thankfully, I’m blessed to have a well-traveled kau kau companion who knows all about authentic Mexican food. As always, I let her order.

We started the meal with a complimentary basket of chips with salsa. This simple, delicious appetizer made a wonderful first impression. The salsa was made with fresh ingredients, a good sign of what was yet to come.

Our first course was El Mariachi’s take on the Chile Relleno. It’s a feast for the eyes as well as the stomach. It’s a technical marvel, too.

Fresh Anaheim chile roasted, peeled, battered and deep-fried, then stuffed with your choice of shredded beef, chicken, carne asada or cheese.

We chose shredded beef and found it to be tender and moist. This meal is designed for rolling your own and perfect for sharing.

We decide to halve El Mariachi’s grilled steak enchilada for $9.95. It’s a simple soft corn tortilla hand-rolled and stuffed with juicy steak, cheese and enchilada sauce. We also shared the pork tamale for $7.95.

All the dishes were mild and not overly salted—so be sure to ask for more of their “hot sauce.” That’s the good stuff the cooks in the back are putting on their own dinners. But use with extreme caution!

By the time the meal was over, I could barely walk out. Actually, I knew I was in trouble halfway through when I had to unbuckle my belt.

The bottom line is, the food is authentic and delicious, the portions are huge and we didn’t have to spend a fortune.

For my money, this is the best Mexican restaurant on Oahu. And it’s not just about the food. The service was impeccable.

Our friendly server Miguel was an affable young lad who treated us like long-time friends from the moment we walked in. He also gave us the low-down on his favorites, like Jarritos soda and flan, which made our meal even better.

That’s kind of service that makes El Mariachi a best-kept secret I can’t resist sharing with the rest of the island.

Our favorite was the Mariachi Fajita for $12.95. It’s grilled with fresh bell peppers, onions and mushrooms and served with salsa fresca, guacamole and sour cream.

Your choice of grilled chicken or steak is served sizzling, with a generous portion of refried beans, fresh lettuce and warm flour or corn tortillas.

We chose chicken and found it to be tender and moist. This meal is designed for rolling your own and perfect for sharing.

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We decided to halve El Mariachi’s grilled steak enchilada for $9.95. It’s a simple soft corn tortilla hand-rolled and stuffed with juicy steak, cheese and enchilada sauce. We also shared the pork tamale for $7.95.

All the dishes were mild and not overly salted—so be sure to ask for more of their “hot sauce.” That’s the good stuff the cooks in the back are putting on their own dinners. But use with extreme caution!

By the time the meal was over, I could barely walk out. Actually, I knew I was in trouble halfway through when I had to unbuckle my belt.

The bottom line is, the food is authentic and delicious, the portions are huge and we didn’t have to spend a fortune.

For my money, this is the best Mexican restaurant on Oahu. And it’s not just about the food. The service was impeccable.

Our friendly server Miguel was an affable young lad who treated us like long-time friends from the moment we walked in. He also gave us the low-down on his favorites, like Jarritos soda and flan, which made our meal even better.

That’s kind of service that makes El Mariachi a best-kept secret I can’t resist sharing with the rest of the island.
**Fine art races toward digital age**

by Mikki O’Phelan
Ka ‘Ohana Staff Reporter

Technology plays a big part in nearly everything we do — from managing finances to creating realistic scenes in movies.

In Gallery ‘Iolani’s new digital art exhibit, “DASH,” computers, scanners, digital cameras, software and printers create objects such as ink, brushes and paints — the creative tools of the digital artist.

“This is an exhibition that will highlight members of the art community who are doing significant things in digital art media,” says gallery director Toni Martin.

The exhibition will run from Oct. 26 to Nov. 16. There will be an artist reception on Friday, Oct. 26, from 4-7 p.m. During the reception, a computer graphic demonstration will be given by Stefan Meinel, one of the exhibiting artists.

Other artists to be showcased are Peter Chamberlain, Gaye Chan, Ellen Chapman, Bobby Crockett, Joan Dubanoski, Jim Egan, Chris Gargiulo, Scott Groeniger, Jan Hathaway, Diana Jeon, Kloe Kang, Violet Murakami, Arthur Nelander, Kirsten Rae Simonsen, Phil Uhl, Jay Wilson and Shige Yamada.

Some artists in the show are respected and well-known in other disciplines such as photography, painting, print-making and sculpture but have also adopted digital art as another form to express themselves.

Through advancement of technology in computers, software, archival paper and ink, these fine artists are able to explore and experience their creativity at a different level.

Adding to the excitement of this exhibition are the many recently created pieces that will be seen for the first time by the public.

This event is a collaboration between WCC Gallery ‘Iolani and the Digital Art Society of Hawaii (DASH). “It’s nice to have the opportunity to show such high-quality computer art in such a beautiful space and surroundings, such as your campus,” says exhibition coordinator Hathaway.

She says Gallery ‘Iolani is an excellent space to show such a large collection. This gives the audience an opportunity to see the diversity of the work created through technology.

In digital art, an image can be created either directly on the computer or by using other sources such as scanned photographs, images from digital cameras or drawings with vector graphics software and a mouse or graphic tablet. However, this form of art is not always looked upon as being as good as other long-established art disciplines.

“Digital art is not widely accepted as on the level of traditional art,” says Hathaway.

“Our goal is to draw attention to how much quality work is being produced. Work can be produced on a computer that can be just as strong as traditional art.”

DASH is a non-profit organization made up of artists who have established careers in the art community who are doing significant things in digital art and was established in 1988. Their mission as stated on their website (http://www.dashartfoundation.org/index.htm) is “to create greater public awareness for digital fine art through collaboration, education, and exhibition.”

Gallery ‘Iolani is located in the main lobby of the Paliku Theatre. Gallery hours will be Tuesday – Friday from 1-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m.; closed Saturdays and Mondays. For more information call 236-9155 or e-mail toni-martin@hawaii.rr.com.

**ART 260 Gallery Management: design your future**

by Noelle Enright
Ka ‘Ohana Writer

From art to zoology, WCC students have their choice of just about any subject. However, sometimes exciting and useful courses such as Art 260, Gallery Design and Management may go unnoticed.

Students walking through the Palanakila courtyard on their way to class often pass by Gallery ‘Iolani and the art exhibits on display inside, free of charge.

Art 260, taught by Toni Martin, meets once a week for lectures and information. Students then participate in “hands-on gallery procedures” at Gallery ‘Iolani. Students are required to devote 35 hours a semester to the gallery, installing exhibitions and learning concepts for design and spacing of the exhibit.

This three-credit course with no prerequisites teaches students about form, function, principles of design and color theory. Martin, the gallery director, believes students will gain experience and skills from this course that will help them in either art or business careers.

“Anyone who is interested in opening up their own business, working in an office setting or who simply wants their home to look stylish may want to learn a few concepts of design,” said Martin.

People gravitate to attractive and pleasing spaces; therefore, the arrangement of artwork, furniture and plants can affect a person’s feelings toward that house.

“Many people don’t realize how presentation contributes to the way artwork harmonizes with each other. Well-designed spaces can often make mediocre objects look outstanding whereas inappropriate design may make great pieces appear displeasing,” said Martin.

Students who have graduated from WCC after studying Gallery Design and Management have often found professional jobs in businesses, galleries and museums. This has included employment and positions at the Contemporary Art Museum, the Hawai‘i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, University of Hawai‘i’s Art Gallery, Disneyworld (Florida), to name a few.

After taking this course, a student of Martin’s went on to establish art disciplines.

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**Christmas Fantasy**

by Mikki O’Phelan
Ka ‘Ohana Staff Reporter

WCC’s Gallery ‘Iolani is looking for “high quality” work in various mediums by artists and craftspeople to sell at its popular Christmas Fantasy 2007 fundraiser. A portion of the proceeds will go to support the gallery program.

The fundraiser will be Nov. 24, 25, 29, 30 and Dec. 1-2 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

“We’re looking forward to artists/craftspeople participating with their work in this important fundraiser,” said gallery director Toni Martin.

At the last Christmas Fantasy in 2005, there were handmade jewelry, greeting cards, photographs, silk scarves, ornaments, paintings, wood carvings, mosaics, baskets and etched glass.

WCC students, faculty, staff and their families may submit work. Ceramics made in the campus studio cannot be accepted, as the Ceramic Club will have its own pottery fundraiser at WCC in December.

For applications and information, contact Audrey Chang at australia@yahoo.com or Mary Stock at 262-9433.
Residents voice concerns

The residents of Kailua were told that they had to move out earlier this year because the store didn’t fit the image Kanohe Ranch has for Kailua.

On the flip side, Kailua is becoming a prosperous town for many local businesses. The area is attracting more and more tourists every year, which benefits the local economy. According to the Star-Bulletin, Island Treasures’ sales have increased significantly.

Kailua has also become a more pedestrian-friendly town. The sidewalks have been widened, utility lines put underground, and medial strips placed on the streets. Even dog drinking fountains have been installed because Kailua is a dog-friendly town.

Kaneohe Ranch’s charitable foundation has donated large sums of money to Windward organizations. Le Jardin School received $3 million, and the foundation has also donated $795,087 to the Near Shore Marine Resource Conservation Program.

The residents of Kailua are concerned whether these changes will bring a positive outcome to everyone or just to a select few.
What are the biggest challenges you face in getting a college degree? What more can WCC do to help students succeed?

Raising two children, having a full-time job and still managing to have extra time to attend school and do homework. I feel WCC is doing a terrific job at helping students succeed.
– Leilani Au

The biggest challenge I face is financial stability. I have been working two jobs, but I dread the day my car breaks down or I have a large medical bill.
– Ashleigh Currie

Lack of study skills. There must be a science to note-taking, studying, retention and organization. I need help with all of these things. WCC addresses most of my issues, but it may be helpful to organize study groups in TLC.
– Christina Lawnes

My biggest challenge is money. I’m very grateful for financial aid from WCC. If I did not receive what I do get, I would not be here. WCC has helped tremendously in my situation. They have pointed me in the direction I need to go to achieve my goals.
– Sandi Hamilton

I have problems with computers and technological aspects in my education. I think WCC is great, the professors are nice and they are often challenging in order to prepare us for other institutions of higher learning.
– Alejandra Portillo

My biggest challenge is staying motivated and figuring out what I want to do. It would be helpful if teachers talked about possible career choices and grad schools associated with the course they’re teaching.
– Jenna Marks

The biggest challenge I face is time. I either go to school or work every day. It is sometimes difficult to juggle two jobs and 12 credits.
– Randall Rodgers

The biggest challenges I face in getting a college degree are passing required classes that I’m not so strong in, and trying to make time to see an instructor for extra needed help.
– Kuha‘o Kahalepauole

I’m one of those people who lose focus easily if something is not interesting or relevant to me. It doesn’t help having to go to work and school at the same time. To help students succeed, WCC can make sure that courses are kept interesting and relevant.
– Dayne Moya

I need more time. It’s hard to go to school full-time and work and keep up with everything else.
– Cara Stevens

I didn’t have any money for school this semester and wasn’t eligible for a grant or loan. It’s a problem for a lot of people. They really want to get their education, but they just don’t have the funds to do it.
– Valerie Sillata

My biggest challenge is child care. The public schools run on a different schedule than WCC, which means my children have different days off than me. Missing one day of class is bad but missing a week will do you in.
– Jamie Lash

One of the biggest challenges I face is scheduling. I prefer morning classes since I’m a full-time mom.
– Annie Lindsey

Thinking all of the correct courses to take and which ones will apply to transferring to a university. WCC could provide more classes for various majors.
– Ashley Padua

One of the biggest challenges students face in college is not being able to devote 100 percent of time towards school. Students often settle for passing or average grades when they have more than enough potential to do better.
– Mike Davis

From the Editor...

October is by far my favorite month, for a few reasons.

October includes the 10 best days of movie madness the island has to offer with the annual Louis Vuitton Hawaii International Film Festival. LVHIFF opened on Oct. 18 and is an international movie addict’s wet dream.

There are more than a few movie must-sees for me, including “Applesauce: Ex Machina,” “Daft Punk’s Electroma,” and Grace Lee’s “American Zombie.” Besides movies, there are seminars, Q&As, and other film-related activities that promise to ease the cinephile’s insatiable desires.

There’s nothing better than hours at the theater, surrounded by freaks like me, indulging in popcorn, Sour-Patch Kids and frozen Cokes until I want to vomit.

Except, of course, Halloween’s absolute frivolity — its sweet assurance of pounds of candy and watching every bizarre and horrific movie I can get my hands on, making October the month of psychotic bliss and fantasy.

October is the calm before the storm. It kicks off the marathon of holidays that round out the year, starting with Halloween and ending with New Year’s Eve.

There is another reason why October is important. In the wake of midterms, there is a calm moment to evaluate the close of the current year and the approaching new one.

Planning Life Strategically

WCC is doing it; businesses and governments are doing it. Why don’t we apply strategic planning to our own lives?

Strategic planning is just that — planning a strategy to achieve a goal. It’s more than picking next semester’s classes. It means selecting the next three semesters’ classes, the internships that offer the best training, and volunteer work that reinforces these options.

If you had to write a personal statement about your goals and how to achieve them, would there be any holes? If so, your strategic plan would be about filling those holes.

It means selecting the next three semesters’ classes, the internships that offer the best training, and volunteer work that reinforces these options.

If you had to write a personal statement about your goals and how to achieve them, would there be any holes? If so, your strategic plan would be about filling those holes.

My biggest challenge is doing a terrific job at helping students succeed. Then download “My Strategic Life Plan Template” from KaOhanaOnline.org and mesh the two together.

Dream big and write it down. Then, check your progress and adjust your plans based on your growth or changes.

If anything, you’ll have a sense of where you don’t want your life to end up, and that will make all the difference.

— Theresa Worden, Editor in Chief

October 2007

Ka‘Ohana

Windward Community College

It’s their school.
Let them show you around...

A guided campus tour from one of our current students is the best way to learn more about Hawai‘i Pacific University. Things to do before I die — then ask to meet with one of our friendly Admissions Counselors as well as the Faculty from the program of your choice.

Schedule Your Campus Tour Today: Call 544-0238 or go to www.hpu.edu/campustours
WCC well-represented in major exhibition

by Mikki O’Phelan
Ka Ohana Staff Reporter

The artworks of four current and three former WCC ceramic students and their professor were accepted to one of Hawaii’s major art exhibitions.

The pieces of current students John F. Driscoll Jr., Nathan Ditzler, Jean Noguchi, Carol Takashita and professor Paul Nash are being shown in the 40th Hawaii Craftsmen International Film Festival at the Hawaii Museum of Contemporary Art, Honolulu, through Oct. 28.

“The exhibition continues to Oct. 28. “For them to get into a professional juried exhibition really puts them on another plateau and solidifies their self-esteem as they approach the visual arts,” said Nash. “They have good, positive work.”

One student artist, Takashita, was hesitant about entering. She has been doing ceramics for only one-and-a-half years. However, various professors “prodded” her to enter her work.

“I was totally surprised to get in,” said Takashita. “I always thought that only professionals on a certain level got in. It’s nice that other people appreciate my work.”

Also exhibiting are three former WCC students: Virginia “Gigi” Carabelli, Joel Park and Wayne C. Turl. These three studied under Nash and went on to become professional artists and open their own ceramic studios.

The juror was John Natsoulas, an art lecturer and founder of the John Natsoulas Center for the Arts in Davis, California. Linekona Art Center is at 1111 Victoria Street. Hours are Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Sunday 1 – 5 p.m. and closed on Mondays.

NOTE: Former WCC student Bernice Akamine won 3rd place in the 3-D Category in the Honolulu Japanese Chamber Exhibition. Her name was left off in last month’s issue.

A student’s guide

Health Clearance: This is one of the quirks I was talking about. Just like when you applied for WCC and had to provide proof of TB and MMR clearance; UH asks for it again after you are accepted.

Apparently, they cannot transfer health clearance information between campuses, so hopefully you kept your documentation of TB clearance within 4 years and 2 MMR vaccinations.

If it has been more than a year since your TB clearance, you may receive a letter from UH Health Services saying you need clearance within one year. However, when transferring from a UH community college it is okay to be up to four years old. They will approve it if you can provide proof of TB clearance within four years.

Deadlines for providing health clearance: Fall semester: July 15, Spring semester: Dec. 2.

Check out http://www.hawaii.edu/shs/ or call UH Mānoa Health Services at (808) 956-8965.

Financial Aid: Go to http://www.hawaii.edu/fas/ for more information on Mānoa’s financial aid, and add school code 001610 to your FASFA.

It’s important to do this as soon as you’re accepted so you know whether you can afford it or not. Mānoa’s tuition is approximately three times more expensive than Windward’s, with a 12-credit semester costing approximately $2,500 versus Windward’s $800.

Parking: Unlike at Windward, where we have it good by comparison, parking at UH is a real drag. On campus parking is available with a permit fee, awarded by seniority, starting with grad students on down. Reportedly, one has to be at least a junior (55+ credits) and likely a senior (88+ credits) to be considered competitive for getting one of these passes.

WCC, by the way, has a UH advisor! Good luck!”

ACCJC comes to WCC

by Theresa Worden
Ka Ohana Editor in Chief

The good news is that WCC was awarded a full six-year accreditation from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) this past spring.

On Nov. 15, people from the ACCJC will be touring WCC, checking on the college’s progress.

“We really only had from January to May to prepare the response and push through the approval process,” said Chancellor Angela Meiselas.

WCC’s report was approved at the last BOR meeting, held in Hilo on Sept. 28. The approved report was due to ACCJC by Oct. 15.

Many of the recommendations were logistical, involving flow charts for decision-making and expanding the college’s strategic plan.

They also included improving strategies for student success, ensuring funding for a new library and refining the current governance structure.