

Consider Kapi‘olani Community College through 20/20

Representatives from Kapi‘olani Community College, the second largest campus in the University of Hawai‘i System, and PBR Hawai‘i and Associates, Inc, presented the college’s Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) to the Kahala Neighborhood Board on Thursday, Feb. 18. The presentation highlighted the campus-community planning process throughout the previous fall semester and the preferred master plan for campus landscaping, facilities development, parking and transportation, as well as community amenities, such as gardens and the Saturday Farmer’s Market.

The college has experienced major student enrollment growth from 7,500 in 2007 to 9,000 in 2009, much of which has been accommodated through popular online course. However, all indicators point to continued enrollment growth, estimated at one percent per year through 2020, and the college is planning ahead for future demand. Key 21st-century career programs in culinary arts (the college came in first place in the American Culinary Federation’s national student competition in 2009), hospitality, nursing, health science, business and information technology, remain essential to the college’s offerings.

In recent years, nearly \$3 million from the National Science Foundation has supported a very successful two-year science degree and UH Mānoa transfer program, and the large liberal arts program maintains high student success rates at UH Mānoa. In the last five years, nearly \$8 million has been garnered from the U.S. Department of Education to renovate campus buildings, all of which are more than 20 years old. These funds are also creating jobs in a very difficult economy. Selected areas of excellence in student support services, Hawaiian studies, course-embedded community service, workforce development, and international education attract a richly diverse student population and prepare future citizens to be both competitive and collaborative in the global economy and environment.

The college has recently completed its strategic plan for 2008-2015, and a successful six-year accreditation and three-year midterm accountability process. These documents, as well as the LRDP presentation, are all available for public viewing on the college’s website (kcc.hawaii.edu). The strategic plan lays out a realistic and ambitious set of outcomes and performance measures that will enable the college to play a major role in meeting the workforce and economic development needs of the state, and drive innovations in a new diversified, knowledge-intensive and sustainable economy and environment.

For more information, contact Dr. Robert Franco, director of the Office for Institutional Effectiveness at Kapi‘olani CC, at 734-9514 or email bfranco@hawaii.edu.