

# *Ka Lono* **Hanakahahi**

*"News of People Working Together"*

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO

VOLUME 20, NO. 9, MAY 2005

## Mayor will headline spring commencement as keynote speaker

by Ken Hupp

The Honorable Harry Kim, mayor of the County of Hawai'i, will deliver the keynote address at UH Hilo's spring commencement on Saturday, May 14, at Hilo's Edith Kanaka'ole Tennis Stadium. Commencement begins at 9 a.m.

A total of 412 students representing the College of Arts and Sciences (349), College of Business and Economics (32), College of Agriculture, Forestry & Natural Resource Management (18), and Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language (13) are candidates for degrees or certificates.

Kim was born in Ola'a (Kea'au), where he worked on the family's farm, lauhala business and kim chee business. He graduated from Hilo High School in 1957 and attended UH Hilo before entering the Army in 1962. Following his discharge from the Army, Kim enrolled at Southern Oregon State University where he earned a bachelors degree in education and a masters degree in social science (economics).

Kim began his professional career as an educator. From 1967 to 1971, he taught at Honoka'a and Hilo High Schools and was a lecturer at Hawai'i Community College before becoming director of the Law Enforcement Assistance Agency (LEAA) in 1971. The LEAA was a federal and county funded agency which developed needed programs in many areas for educational, public safety, judicial organizations and social agencies.

But it was the time he spent as administrator of Hawai'i County Civil Defense that made Kim a household name throughout the Big Island and much of the State. Appointed to the post in 1976 by then-Mayor Herbert T. Matayoshi, Kim supervised a top to bottom re-organization of the agency, which included the relocation from the old Hilo Hospital on Rainbow Drive to modern state-of-the-art facilities in the Hilo Public Safety Building and development of a highly effective system

*Commencement - continued on page 2.*

## SPOTLIGHT

### West uses Hubble to study 'cannibal galaxies'



*Michael West*

Dr. Michael West, UH Hilo professor of astronomy, has been approved for coveted viewing time with the Hubble Space Telescope for a study titled "Archaeology of Fossil Galaxy Groups." West has been principal investigator on six Hubble projects in the past seven years, more than any other astronomer in the State of Hawai'i during that period.

West leads a team of five astronomers from the U.S., Canada and Australia that will receive nearly 10 hours of viewing time with Hubble as it orbits 375 miles above the Earth. He will also receive a monetary grant from the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, Hubble's administrator. Viewing time on the orbiting telescope is at a premium. This year there were 485 requests from astronomers to use Hubble, however only about 20 percent of them were granted time.

"I'm delighted to be given access to Hubble's sharp vision again," said West. "I love using Hubble because it provides such exquisitely detailed images of the sky, which is especially important for the research that we're doing."

West's research will focus on three giant galaxies that are believed to have "cannibalized"

*Spotlight - continued on page 9.*

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## Commencement

*Continued from page 1*

for emergency preparedness, response and recovery during times of disaster.

Kim earned widespread praise for his crisis management skills in overseeing a number of disasters with no loss of life, including the lava inundation of the Royal Gardens and Kalapana communities, earthquakes, numerous drought-induced brushfires, the February 1986 windstorm, various hurricane threats and the tsunami warnings of 1986 and 1994.

His disaster management skills made him a highly sought after expert. Kim served as a resource and advisor on disasters following the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens in Washington State, and Hurricanes Iwa and Iniki, which hit Kauai in 1982 and 1992. He was invited to speak and participate at the United Nations emergency management conference in Nagoya and Kagoshima, Japan, and was selected by the UN for the development of an emergency management handbook. Kim was later enlisted by the government of Honduras to assist that country in the development of a civil defense system shortly after his retirement in 2000. But retirement didn't last long.

In July of 2000, he officially entered the Big Island Mayor's race, and easily swept aside the field in both the primary and general elections. As Mayor, Kim has focused on rebuilding public trust in government, ensuring development doesn't outstrip the island's infrastructure, improving basic services like police and fire protection, and catching up on overdue maintenance of county facilities. He has also led the so-called "War on Ice" by convening two Big Island ice summits, hiring an assistant to direct a coordinated strategy and working with U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye to secure important federal funding. Last year, Big Island voters rewarded Kim by overwhelmingly electing him to a second term.

Karlen Suga, a communication major, will serve as the student speaker. Suga was born and raised in Hilo, graduated from Waiakea High School, and enrolled at UH Hilo in the fall of 2000.

Suga has compiled a lengthy record of service in the areas of student activities and campus affairs. She was a member of the UH Hilo Congress from 2001-2002 when she served as a student representative for the College of Arts and Sciences. Suga was a UH Hilo student association volunteer from 2001-2003, and later served as an executive senator from 2003-2004.

Suga, who carries a 3.03 GPA, has earned a number of academic honors. Named to the National Dean's list for 2004-2005, Suga was twice selected to "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, and is a member of the Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society Hilo Chapter.

"Inspiration" will be the main theme of Suga's address. Suga, who plans to pursue a career in college student services, sees commencement as a time to reflect on the people and experiences that inspired the class of Spring 2005 and draw from it to inspire those around them. For more information

on commencement, contact Haunani Bernardino at x47705 or email [haunani@hawaii.edu](mailto:haunani@hawaii.edu). For special accommodations, contact Susan Shirachi at x30816 (V) or x47335 (TTY). Requests for special accommodations should be made at least 10 business days prior to the event. ☎

*(Editor's note: Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)*

## Parking changes!

Auxiliary Services informs the University community that new parking permit applications have been distributed campuswide, while students may pick up their application from the Parking Office beginning Monday, May 2. Permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

The critical changes include:

- 1) Everyone **MUST** provide a copy of their current vehicle registration and driver's license along with a completed parking permit application and payment.
- 2) If driving someone else's vehicle, a written waiver from the owner must be provided.
- 3) Daily parking passes are going up from \$2 to \$3, but the semester and year parking permits will remain at the same price.
- 4) The free short-term parking stalls will be eliminated, but people leaving campus within 30 minutes of buying a daily pass can get a refund.
- 5) Starting the Fall 2005 semester, University programs can "sponsor" parking costs of invited guests with validation stickers purchased from the Parking Office.
- 6) Most of the narrow parking stalls will be widened, and remaining stalls under 8'6" will be labeled as "compact."
- 7) Lesser used State vehicles will be relocated.

New parking permits will be distributed right before the start of the Fall semester, and everyone is encouraged to apply early. ☎

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## UH Hilo faculty demonstrate high-tech teaching tools

It was high-tech heaven at UH Hilo March 9 as faculty from various departments on campus shared their knowledge and experience with online courses and online course supplements at the Faculty Technology Showcase. The showcase was sponsored by UH Hilo's Office of Technology and Distance Learning.

"This faculty-oriented event represents how technology has made learning and teaching more efficient and accessible for many UH Hilo students and faculty," said Dr. Robert Chi, OTDL program director. "Some of the technology demonstrated include Internet Streaming Media, Web CT, Wireless and online tests."

Dr. April Komenaka, professor of English and CAS assistant dean, demonstrated her use of streaming video lectures and on-line student discussions to teach children's literature and English grammar to students in Hilo, on the neighbor islands and on the U.S. Mainland.

Dr. Nina Buchanan, professor of education, uses combinations of real-time and online streaming video and web posting that enable working professionals and students to engage in specialized education programs without having to leave their jobs or home.

Dr. Cecilia Mukai, assistant professor of nursing and nursing department chair and director, has spearheaded the Nursing Department's use of computer technology to enhance nursing students' learning, their involvement in the community and their experience in the growing field of nursing informatics.

Dr. Kevin Hopkins, professor of aquaculture and interim director of the Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resource Center, makes presentations by researchers in the field accessible to students with his series "Online Aquaculture."

The series "Equine Technique Online" by the late Professor of Agriculture Dr. Michael Collier incorporates a team-teaching approach and makes systematic and diversified equine knowledge continuously available to students.

Keola Donaghy, assistant professor at Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language, uses computers and the Internet to make the Hawaiian language accessible to students everywhere. Through streaming video, students share classroom experiences, listen to native Hawaiian speakers, and practice speaking the language themselves.

Drs. Errol Yudko, Cheryl Ramos, and Dawna Coutant, all assistant professors of psychology, are among faculty delivering the B.A. in psychology to students across the state. Using a mix of WebCT, streaming video, CD delivery, the Psychology Department is in the process of making classroom lectures and discussions available to students in both real time and online.

In addition, Chi said, OTDL has also established Internet Streaming Media service at the Library Media Center for faculty and students. This state-of-the-art facility is available for UH Hilo faculty to create and deliver high-quality distributed learning materials for their students. One-on-one hands-on and online short courses are available for faculty. Requests for topics that may be of interest should be sent to rchi@hawaii.edu. The follow-up short courses will be made available after all the requests have been collected.

The following is a list of Short Courses and Faculty Resources :

### Web CT

- FD 100 How to create (start) an on-line course for students (2 hours)?
- FD 101 How to use the communication tools of Web CT (1 hour)?
- FD 102 How to construct an on-line test (1 hour)?
- FD 103 How to develop a Hybrid course (working with content) (1 hour)?
- FD 104 How to manage your Web CT course (1 hour)?


### Internet Streaming Media

- FD 200 How to use Tegrity to record a lecture (1 hour)?
- FD 201 How to use ScreenWatch to record a lecture (1 hour)?
- FD 202 How to integrate Internet Streaming Media in your class (1 hour)?
- FD 203 How to narrate PowerPoint slideshow (1 hour)?
- FD 204 How to use Camtasia Studio (1 hour)?
- FD 205 How to manage your Internet Streaming Media (1 hour)?

### Basic Computer Skills

- FD 300 Windows XP (1 hour)
- FD 301 Macintosh OS (1 hour)
- FD 302 Webcam communication (Audio/Video) (1 hour)
- FD 303 Use of PowerPoint I (Create a PowerPoint presentation) (1 hour)
- FD 304 Use of PowerPoint II (Multimedia integration) (1 hour)
- FD 305 Use of PowerPoint III (Web and Kiosk slideshow) (1 hour)
- FD 306 Adobe PhotoShop I (Create digital images) (1 hour)
- FD 307 Adobe PhotoShop II (Import and export images) (1 hour)
- FD 308 Introduction of Adobe Premier I (Create movie) (1 hour)
- FD 309 Introduction of Adobe Premier I (Edit movie) (1 hour)
- FD 310 Introduction of Web-page development tools (1 hour)
- FD 311 Create CD-ROM (1 hour)
- FD 312 Use of digital video camera (1 hour)

### Instructional Design and Academic Technology

- FD 400 Survey of Academic Technology (1 hour)
- FD 401 Instructional Design I (Content and Task Analysis) (1 hour)
- FD 402 Instructional Design II (Learning Objective) (1 hour)
- FD 403 Instructional Design III (Teaching Strategies) (1 hour)
- FD 404 Instructional Design IV (Learning Evaluation) (1 hour)
- FD 405 Developing Distributed Learning Environment (1 hour) 

## CSAV expands internship program

For the summer of 2004, the Center for the Study of Active Volcanoes (CSAV) at UH Hilo introduced a new student internship program that allowed geology majors the opportunity to work at the U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (HVO) on research projects. Building on this success, CSAV is now expanding its internship program to allow UH Hilo geology majors the chance to work with observatories in foreign countries.

For the summer of 2005, Steve Clegg will be working at volcano observatories on the South Pacific island of Vanuatu, and at Arequipa, Peru. Clegg gained experience using a gas monitoring device known as SkySpec in his research on Kilauea volcano that was initially sponsored by a Space Grant project managed by the Geology Department.

Because the SkySpec, which measures the amount of sulfur dioxide in the atmosphere, is relatively lightweight and inexpensive, it is ideally suited for the rugged terrain of Vanuatu, where Clegg will join scientists in monitoring three Vanuatu volcanoes. In addition, he will be travelling between villages conducting hazards education for the locals. In Peru, Clegg will be welcomed by scientists from the Arequipa Observatory, whom he met during CSAV's International Training Course in Volcano Hazards Monitoring held at UH Hilo in 2003 and 2004. Clegg will demonstrate SkySpec, collect baseline data, and participate in the day-to-day volcano monitoring operations of the observatory scientists.

Visit the CSAV Web site at <http://www/uhh.hawaii.edu/~csav/coop/intern.php> for details.



Steve Clegg using SkySpec.



Chancellor Rose Tseng was among five noteworthy individuals at the "Facilitating Extraordinary Accomplishments in Hawai'i's Youth" workshop on Friday, April 8 at the Hapuna Prince Hotel. Pictured from bottom left are Dr. Earl E. Bakken (co-founder of Medtronic, Inc.), Jim Thompson (founder and executive director of Positive Coaching Alliance) and Dr. Art-Ong Jumsai Na Aydhya (director of the Institute of Sathya Sai Education). Top are Dr. Harumitsu Inouye (executive director of the Shinnyo-en Foundation), Chancellor Tseng and event facilitator Dr. Randy Hirokawa (UH Hilo Dean College of Arts and Sciences).

## Healthcare conference on tap

The UH Hilo BSN Nursing Program hosts the second annual Pulama I Ke Ola (Hold Life Precious) Healthcare Conference May 19 and 20 on the UH Hilo campus with the theme "Valuing our Future and our Past."

The conference uses a unique format with health promotion activities interspersed; a corollary high school conference promotes an investigation of health careers.

Contact Dr. Cecilia Mukai at x47760 for program and registration information. 📞

## Don't forget!

UH Hilo's Alumni and Friends Association invites you to join its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament on Saturday, May 7 at the Hapuna Prince Golf Course. Tee-off is at 8:30 a.m. for the two-man scramble format.

"We'd like to invite one and all to come join us for this great Mother's Day weekend," said Marketing and Alumni Director Yu Yok Pearing. "We've arranged for special hotel room rates, we have fantastic prizes, and it'll be a wonderful opportunity to come out to relax and have fun!"

To register or for more information, call x47501 or x47643. 📞

# Hats off to...



Jean Ippolito

**Jean Ippolito**, Assistant Professor of Art, had her paper "Dare to Be Digital: Japan's Pioneering Contributions to Today's International Art and Technology Movement" accepted for publication in this year's annual *SIGGRAPH Art and Animation Catalog* (published by the Association for Computing Machinery), due out in August.



Bruce Mathews

**Bruce Mathews**, Professor of Soil Science, was appointed by the American Society of Agronomy to a two-year term as associate editor for the journal *Forage and Grazinglands*. Also, Mathews had the paper "Phosphorus in Hawaiian Kikuyugrass Pastures and Potential Phosphorus Release to Water" accepted for publication in the July-August 2005 issue of *Journal of Environmental Quality*. The paper was co-authored with Jim Carpenter (UH Manoa), Lynn Sollenberger (Univ. of Florida), and Stephanie Tsang (Iowa State Univ.).



Drew Martin

**Drew Martin**, Assistant Professor of Marketing, had two manuscripts accepted for publication in peer-reviewed academic journals: "Export Promotion and FDI Attraction in Japan: The Impact of U.S. State Based Industrial Policy," *International Journal of Management Practice*, Vol. 1, no. 2, with T. Wilkinson and M. D'Amico (Univ. of Akron), and "Contemporary American Magazine Ads: Our Ads 'R Us," *Qualitative Market Research: An International Journal*, Vol. 8, no. 3, with C. Okigbo (North Dakota State Univ.) and O. Amienyi (Arkansas State Univ.).



Keith Miser

**Keith Miser**, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, has a chapter on "Student Activism: A View From an Administrator" in the recently published book, *Student Freedom Revisited, Contemporary Issues and Perspectives*. The chapter reviews student activism from the 1960s until the present time as an important instrument in the development of student freedom.



Wayne Miyamoto

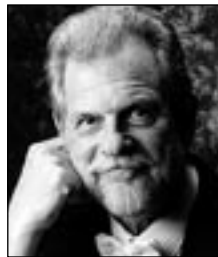
The book is published by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.

**Wayne Miyamoto**, Professor of Art, has been invited by the Educational Testing Service to review advanced placement applications in the visual arts, College of New Jersey, Ewing, in June. Readers for visual arts review portfolios of work from high school students throughout the U.S.



John Hamilton

**John Hamilton**, Instructor of Physics & Astronomy, authored a recently published CD on GALACTIC CENTER WORKSHOP @ GC 2002, "The Central 300 Parsecs," which was held in Kailua-Kona, HI in November 2002. The CD contains edited audio of the summary and discussion sessions for each scientific presentation as well as a photo documentation of the workshop. The CD is a companion to the Conference Proceedings Galactic Center Workshop 2002, *Astronomische Nachrichten Supplement 1/2003*.



Ken Staton

**Ken Staton**, Chair of the Performing Arts Department, will conduct the Kona Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, along with vocal soloists from the Mae Z. Orvis Opera Studio in Honolulu, in a concert entitled, "An Afternoon at the Opera," on May 22 at 4 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the King Kamehameha Hotel in Kona. Selections will include music from *Carmen*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *La traviata*, *Prince Igor*, and *Nabucco*.



Philippe Binder

**Philippe Binder**, Associate Professor of Physics, had his paper "Determinism test for very short time series" published in the March 2005 issue of *Physical Review E*. The paper has three undergraduate co-authors: Ryu Igarashi; William Seymour and Candy Takeishi.

**Harald Barkhoff**, Assistant Professor of Health and Physical Education, had his paper "Mood of a World Champion vs. a 'Training Champion' in Artistic Roller Skating" accepted for

Hats off - continued on page 6.

## Hats off

Continued from page 5



Harald Barkhoff



David Miller



Ron Amundson



Eric Sanchez

presentation at the 11<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Sport Psychology, to be held in Sydney, Australia in August. The paper is co-authored with Ian Pagano (Cancer Research Center, Honolulu) and Elaine M. Heiby (UH Manoa). Barkhoff will also give a talk at the University of Stuttgart, Germany, in June.

**David Miller**, Professor of English, has been appointed to chair the UH Hilo Humanities Division beginning June 1.

**Ron Amundson**, Professor of Philosophy, had his paper on "Disability, Ideology, and Quality of Life: A Bias in Biomedical Ethics" published as a chapter in *Quality of Life and Human Difference*, a Cambridge University Press anthology edited by David Wasserman. His recent book, *The Changing Role of the Embryo in Evolutionary Thought*, is currently available.

**Eric Sanchez**, Assistant Athletic Director of Academic Support, received an NCAA grant to attend the Diversity Education Sessions at the 2005 NCAA Gender Equity and Issues Forum held last month in New Orleans, LA. The sessions help student-athletes, coaches and athletic administrators understand why diversity is significant for success.

**Craig Severance**, Professor of Anthropology, was an invited panelist at the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee meeting held last fall on Maui. He gave a presentation on "Supporting Marine Protected Areas in the Western Pacific." Severance was also an invited panelist at the Managing Our Nation's Fisheries II Conference in Washington, D.C. in March where he served on a panel on Individual Fishermen's Quotas. His short paper on "Defacto Individual Fishermen's Quotas in the Northwest Hawaiian Bottomfish Fishery, Who's Criteria Apply?" will appear in the Conference Proceedings.



Craig Severance



Cheryl Ramos



Walter Dudley



Linda Golian-Lui

**Cheryl Ramos**, Assistant Professor of Psychology, had her following presentation proposals accepted for the Society for Community Research and Action 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference, to be held next month at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign: "Expanding Higher Education Opportunities in Rural Hawai'i Communities" (symposium presenter); "Going the Distance: Teaching Community Psychology Online" (symposium organizer); and "Teaching Community Psychology via Distance Learning" (symposium presenter).

**Walter Dudley**, Professor of Oceanography, has been chosen to address the plenary session of the annual meeting of the National Marine Educators Association, to be held on Maui in July. The theme for the plenary session is "Cutting Edge Technologies," and Dudley's address is entitled, "Tsunami Warnings ≠ Eliminating False Alarms and Fatal Responses." He will also be conducting a workshop for teachers on tsunami education featuring experiences in Hawai'i and what tsunami specialists have learned from the devastating December 26, 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

**Linda Golian-Lui**, University Librarian, last month was selected as one of 51 outstanding librarians for 2005 by the *Library Journal*. The honorees were selected from more than 150,000 librarians in the U.S. and Canada. Golian-Lui was nominated for her passion for the library science profession, her service to the American Library Association for supporting fund raising events for student scholarships, and her willingness to mentor and inspire beginning librarians. ☺

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## Kalima Administrative Affairs Employee of the Quarter

by John Burnett



Susan Kalima

Susan Kalima has been named UH Hilo Employee of the Quarter for Administrative Affairs. Kalima has served since 1978 at UH Hilo, rising from clerk-stenographer to become secretary to the Division Chair of the Business and Economics Division in the College of Arts and Sciences in 1986. She assumed her current position as secretary to the Vice Chancellor of Administrative Affairs in 1993.

In a dozen years at her current post, Kalima has served four Vice Chancellors: Edgar Torigoe; Kerwin Iwamoto (interim); Dr. Jack Whittaker and current Interim Vice Chancellor, Dr. Bill Chen.

One nominator wrote that Kalima "has provided excellent service to the University with dignity, respect, integrity, dependability and loyalty that is not found in many people." Another wrote that she "deals with irate public, faculty, staff and students with compassion and understanding."

"I think my biggest job challenge happens when my boss is away and people come in who are upset about something," Kalima acknowledged. "The challenge is to say the right thing to them to calm them down and to get them answers. We really do want everybody at the University to have a good experience here."

Kalima, who says she loves both her job and "the people I work with," called the award "an honor and a privilege."

"I wouldn't have gotten this award if it weren't for the people who have helped me do my job, like Dr. Chen and all the support people through this department," she said. "They all deserve some kind of recognition, too, because everybody does their job to help things go well."

In her 27 years at UH Hilo, Kalima has seen the school evolve from a small, sleepy campus to a dynamic university experiencing an unprecedented and prolonged growth spurt.

"The biggest change, physically, is all the new buildings," she mused. "There are a lot of new buildings on campus. There's such a large enrollment now and there are always new faces, young faces."

"It's a most exciting time for me, being here now, because of the many projects coming up, like the Mauna Kea Astronomy Education Center, the U.S.-China Center, all of those things. We didn't have that much here 27 years ago, but look at what we have now. The University is an exciting place to work, especially now." ☺

(Editor's note: John Burnett is a public information officer.)

## UH Hilo's Senior College Program renames itself the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)

In May 2004, UH Hilo was one of 48 institutions nationwide to receive a \$100,000 grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation to fund the development of courses and programs for Hawai'i's adult learners. Initially, the program called itself the Senior College at UH Hilo. However, with the rapidly-growing national presence of the OLLI programs - now numbering 61 and increasing - the UH Hilo program has re-named itself the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UH Hilo. The new name connects UH Hilo's program to its benefactor, the Bernard Osher Foundation and to its sister programs and schools at universities throughout the nation.

"A name change is essential," said Dr. Margaret Haig, dean of the College of Continuing Education and Community Service, whose office oversees the grant she authored. "There are now OLLI programs from Maine to Hawai'i, and we are a part of this expanding network."

OLLI at UH Hilo began offering courses during Spring 2005 with a roster of programs at various sites across the Big Island. Only months old, the OLLI program, whose purpose is to develop lifelong learning opportunities for Big Island residents, anticipates ongoing growth in the coming years and invites the participation of adults throughout the island. There are no tests, grades, or papers - just learning for pure enjoyment, personal growth and intellectual stimulation.

The mission of OLLI at UH Hilo is to provide intellectually and socially enriching classes to diverse communities of lifelong learners, with a focus on those 45 years old and over. Spring 2005 offered courses ranging from golf and mahjong lessons to Hawaiiana and ukulele classes, as well as a zoo docent training series and a seminar on Kilauea's gas emissions.

OLLI partners with Big Island art centers, theatres, libraries, school, and clubs, as well as federal, state, county and community organizations and businesses.

Call x47664 for more information. ☺

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*Ka Lono Hanakahi* is published by the Office of University Relations on the first of the month during the academic year for the faculty and staff of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. News and submissions are welcome. Deadlines are on the fifteenth of each month for the following first of the month publication. Contact Alyson Kakugawa-Leong, Director Media Relations, College Hall 9, (808) 974-7642 or email [alyson@hawaii.edu](mailto:alyson@hawaii.edu). ☺

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## Special visitor precedes MKAEC July 1<sup>st</sup> event

by Dr. Marlene Hapai

The ambitious schedule planned for the general construction of the Mauna Kea Astronomy Education Center (MKAEC) continues to be met with a July 1, 2005 date set for its dedication and blessing. This event will be accompanied by open houses of all observatory base facilities in the Park and numerous exhibits, displays and activities to help celebrate the special occasion. Although general construction will be completed, more time is needed to finish the main exhibit hall, planetarium and restaurant, which will open their doors toward the end of the year and be accompanied by a grand opening celebration. Once again, as in last year's dedication and blessing of the construction site, the public is invited to come and enjoy these festivities.

On March 30<sup>th</sup>, U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye made a special visit to MKAEC and invited observatory administrators and numerous business, community and University leaders to join him there to reaffirm their support for the Center and become actively involved in the fulfillment of its mission, that of being "a place of life-long learning for residents and visitors alike where the wonders of astronomy and the power of cultural traditions come together to provide inspiration and hope for the next generation of scientists and astronomers."

Chancellor Rose Tseng, who is also Principal Investigator for the close to \$28 million in NASA grants provided to fund the construction of the Center, welcomed the Senator and reaffirmed the need for continuous support of the astronomy, business and University communities to bring the Center's mission to fruition. I provided an update of the Center's progress and opened the floor for discussion as to how organizations represented saw themselves working together with the Center to fulfill its mission. This was followed by a tour of the facility and refreshments.

July 1<sup>st</sup> will also culminate the Summer Science ASTRO-



L-R: Director of Development Margaret Shiba, Senator Dan Inouye, MKAEC Director Dr. Marlene Hapai, and Chancellor Rose Tseng.

Vaganza, which includes two week-long courses for teachers who will be coming from Hawai'i, other states and the Pacific islands. These teachers will share activities they learn during the course with "kids," young and old, during the afternoon's festivities. Teachers will be treated to astronomy-related activities, the science and culture of Mauna Kea, tours of the observatories, Polynesian navigation, teaching technologies, star-filled evenings both in Hilo and at Hale Pohaku, the use of story telling to teach science, and be provided information and activities to incorporate NASA's Deep Impact Mission into their teaching repertoire. The Deep Impact Mission is scheduled to be seen around 8:30 p.m. Hawai'i time on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and teachers will be invited to participate.

So, July 1<sup>st</sup> promises to be a real ASTRO-Vaganza in Hilo with UH Hilo's University Park of Science and Technology putting on its best for all to enjoy the many astronomy base facilities located there, as well as witness the untying of the maile lei to celebrate the completion of the construction of the Mauna Kea Astronomy Education Center and the many fun activities, exciting displays and exhibits that will highlight this event. 🍷

(Editor's note: Dr. Marlene Hapai is director, MKAEC.)

### Legislative initiatives to highlight *Focus on UH Hilo* spring finale

A discussion of University initiatives at the legislature will be featured this month on the spring semester's final telecast of *Focus on UH Hilo*. The program is hosted by Chancellor Rose Tseng, and airs Wednesday evenings during the instructional year from 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. on Channel 55.

Gerald De Mello, director of university relations, will appear on the May 4<sup>th</sup> telecast. De Mello will discuss how various initiatives have fared during the 2005 legislative session and update various capital improvement projects.

*Focus on UH Hilo* highlights UH Hilo programs, up and coming developments and the University's partnerships with various community organizations. 🍷

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## Spotlight

Continued from page 1

-- essentially annexed through gravitational force -- their smaller galactic neighbors.

"Galaxies are a gregarious bunch," West explained. "You usually find them near other galaxies. What makes these three big galaxies that we're studying with Hubble so unusual is that they are very isolated. We think they probably got that way by devouring galaxies around them over billions of years until there was none left. But we don't know for sure."

The astronomers hope to unravel the mystery of these "fossil galaxy groups" by studying hundreds of compact star clusters that swarm around them like bees around a hive.

"These star clusters typically have as many as a million stars in them," West elaborated. "They're very dense, and held together tightly by gravity. Even if their parent galaxy gets consumed by a larger one, these star clusters survive. So they provide a record of how many galaxies and what kinds of galaxies were cannibalized. Just as archaeologists are able to piece together a picture of human history from relics that they find today, we hope to use the star clusters we see in these galaxies today to reconstruct their pasts."

The galaxies under examination are: NGC 6482, 80 million light years from Earth; NGC 1132, 326 million light years from Earth; and ESO 3060170, 490 million light years from Earth. Viewed from such enormous distances, the star clusters surrounding these galaxies are nearly a billion times fainter than the human eye can see, which pushes even the Hubble Space Telescope to the limits of its capabilities.

"It's challenging, but exciting work," said West. "This is the first time that these extreme galaxies have ever been studied in detail, so we're looking forward to learning something new."

Part of the monetary grant West and his colleagues receive will be used to buy the most updated computer hardware and software needed to accomplish their viewing and analysis. Even just planning the observations is complex, said West.

"It's not like being up on Mauna Kea where you can control the telescopes in real time. Everything has to get uploaded to Hubble and then software tells Hubble what to do. This has to be done months in advance, and then different researcher's observations are scheduled at different times to use Hubble most efficiently.

"So my collaborators and I have to provide lots of technical details about which objects we want Hubble to point at, which instruments and filters we want to use, how long we want the exposures to be, all sorts of details like that. Plus we need to do the observations in the most efficient way possible, without wasting even a second of Hubble's precious time."

And that's just the beginning; once West's team receives the pictures from Hubble, they will spend months analyzing them.

West's research could provide an important piece of

the puzzle in the search to discover the origins of the Universe.

"One of Holy Grails of astronomy is to make a coherent picture of how galaxies came into existence," West noted. "There are lots of details that still need to be fleshed out.

"For example, how common is galaxy cannibalism and how has this shaped the present-day galaxy population that we see? There is good evidence that cannibalism may be common. Our own Milky Way galaxy is known to be a cannibal. It's in the process of devouring a smaller galaxy right now. The fossil groups that we are studying with Hubble are the most extreme examples of this phenomenon, where a galaxy has consumed all of its neighbors. By looking at these galaxies, we hope to learn more about the role of galaxy cannibalism in general over the 14-billion-year history of the Universe." 📷



**Hawai'i Island Pa'u Unit** Pictured from L-R: 'Alohi Gronquist (former student at Nāwahī); Niniau Kawaihae (Gr. 11 Nāwahī); Niniau Simmons; Sen. Clayton Hee; Mona Shintani (Nāwahī); Asst. Professor Larry Kimura; Kanoë Kanaka'ole ('Aha Pūnana Leo). This was an all-Hawaiian language unit with immersion students, UH Hilo employees, and supporters of the Hawaiian language.



## Campus Events

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### May

4	Last day of instruction	14	UH Hilo Commencement, 9 a.m., Edith Kanaka'ole Tennis Stadium
	Last day to completely withdraw with a "W"	16	Interim Summer Session begins
	<i>Focus on UH Hilo, 8 p.m., Channel 55</i>	17	Final grades due in MyUHPortal at noon
5	Chancellor's 2005 End of the Year Celebration & Recognition Ceremony, 3 p.m., UCB 127		Spring semester ends
7	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual UH Hilo Alumni and Friends Scholarship Golf Tournament, Hapuna Prince Golf Course	19, 20	"Valuing our Future and our Past" Healthcare Conference, UH Hilo campus
9-13	Final examinations	30	Holiday: Memorial Day 🇺🇸