UH Manoa Faculty Ambassadors Program Report for 2006-07

Executive Summary

The Faculty Ambassadors Program was established by the University of Hawaii at Manoa Faculty Senate in 1997. The original purpose of the Faculty Ambassadors Program was to establish a bridge between the University of Hawaii and K-12 schools in the state. The program continues to maintain this objective and has evolved and grown on various levels since inception. Funding, coordination and administrative support for the program has shifted from University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) offices to GEAR UP Hawaii. GEAR UP is a federal program to help low-income students prepare for success in college. In order to build a sustainable program beyond the federal grant cycle, GEAR UP seeks to gain support from the University of Hawaii (UH) to make progress towards the goal of having a viable, long-term UH Ambassadors program.

During the 2006-2007 academic year, the program has expanded significantly and several important improvements have been made. The number of students served, faculty/staff involved, and assorted activities all increased greatly. Approximately 1,300 students from 30 elementary, middle, and high schools on Kauai, Hawaii, and Oahu were served, compared to approximately 400 students served in 2005-06.

To accommodate requests from schools, the UH Manoa Faculty Ambassadors Program was expanded to include non-faculty from Manoa and other UH campuses. Thirty-one Ambassadors based at UH Manoa, Kapiolani Community College, Honolulu Community College, Hawaii Community College, UH Hilo and UH West Oahu participated in the program in 2006-07. This represents an 82% increase in faculty/staff participation from the previous year (increased from 17 to 31 participants) and a two-year increase of 500% (increased from 6 participants in 04-05). Thirteen of the Ambassadors participated in more than one activity in 2006-07.

This past school year, Ambassadors were involved in various types of outreach activities including mentoring, in-class presentations, career fairs and UH campus visits. School staff benefited from the Ambassadors program as well by receiving teaching and curriculum development assistance. Participating UH faculty and staff included professors, instructors, counselors and graduate assistants.

In 2006-07 outreach efforts to establish relationships with schools and Ambassadors were expanded. Examples of outreach and communication efforts include a Faculty Ambassador Start-Up Meeting in August 2006, production and distribution of program flyers to all high schools in the state in September 2006, a presentation to the UH Manoa Faculty Senate in February 2006, redesign of the Faculty Ambassadors website and the launch of the Ambassador Newsletter, Leo Kulana in August 2007.
While the Faculty Ambassadors Program has grown and evolved significantly, GEAR UP the organization that manages the program is a temporary, federal grant with a limited budget and staff. In order for the program to have long-term viability and reach students across the state more effectively, the program needs to become institutionalized within the UH system, with resources allocated to the project provided by a more sustainable source. The relationships developed by UH Ambassadors with schools, teachers and students provide a vital link for local communities with the state’s only public institution of higher education. The program seeks support from UH offices to keep the connections to the communities we serve strong and healthy.

*Full report available at hawaii.edu/uhmfs/faculty_ambassadors or by request to GEAR UP Hawaii, 956-5443*
Make a Difference Today!
Join the Faculty Ambassadors Program!

Encourage students to pursue higher education by:
- Conducting presentations at local high schools;
- Meeting with students who are interested in your career/research and;
- Working with teachers to strengthen and enhance their lessons.

As a Faculty Ambassador you will:
- Provide a valuable service to the community;
- Gain recognition in the Faculty Ambassadors Newsletter, Leo Kulana and;
- Have letters of appreciation sent to your dean and department chair.

Faculty Ambassadors
...building a bridge between the University and Hawai'i’s schools
For more information on becoming a Faculty Ambassador, visit
http://www.hawaii.edu/uhmfs/faculty_ambassadors/
or contact:
Faculty Ambassadors Program
956-3771
uhvisit@hawaii.edu

Kathy Ferguson
Dept. of Political Science & Women’s Studies
956-6933
kferguso@hawaii.edu

Music department graduate assistant, Chadwick Pang, has an impromptu jam session with Stevenson Middle School students.

Mari Ono, Student Services Specialist of the Department of Social Work, shares her experiences as a social worker.

Steven Labrash of the Willed Body Program at the John A. Burns School of Medicine, talks to Anuenue’s students about the funeral industry.
Mahalo Ambassadors and Schools

Listed below are faculty ambassadors and the schools they visited in the 2006-07 school year.

Renee Auld, Akina Arakawa
Graduate Asst., Ocean & Resources Engineering
- Kealakehe High

Monique Clyba
UH Mānoa, Math
- Kaliu Intermediate
- Steverston Middle

Malani DeAguilar
UH West Hawai'i, Educational Talent Search
- Kealakehe High

Tani Durland
Kahului CC, Counseling
- Kealakehe High
- Nanawaena High
- Stevenson Middle
- Waimea High

Kathy Ferguson
UH Mānoa, Political Science
- Assets School

Jannette Frandsen
UH Mānoa, Ocean & Resources Engineering
- Kealakehe High
- Stevenson Middle

Sheri Goo
UH Mānoa, Medical Technology
- Farrington High
- Kapa'a High
- Roosevelt High
- Waialua High
- Waianae High
- Waimea High

Adriana Guererro
UH Mānoa, Office of Multicultural Student Services
- Farrington High
- Fern Elementary
- Kaliu Intermediate
- Kealakehe High
- McKinley High

Jan Hathaway
Kapalani CC, New Media Arts
- Stevenson Middle

Jeananne Iwamoto
UH Mānoa, Academic Support Services
- Arroyo School

Stephen Ito
UH Mānoa, Information & Computer Sciences
- Stevenson Middle

Daniel Jenkins
UH Mānoa, Molecular Biosciences & Biotechnology
- Kaliu Intermediate
- Stevenson Middle

Sachi Kaahakulau
UH Mānoa Speech Pathology & Audiology
- Kapi'olani High
- Kamehameha High
- Waialua High

Mark K. Kinumara
Honokaa CC, Marine Education & Training Center
- Nanawaena High

Steven Labrasa
UH Mānoa, Biochemistry & Physiology
- Anuenue School

Pui Lam
UH Mānoa, Physics
- Kape'a Middle

Gerald Lau
UH Mānoa, Information & Computer Sciences
- Fillmore High
- Kaliu Intermediate
- Kona Elementary
- Waimea High
- Waiaku High

Kens Lowry
UH Mānoa, Urban & Regional Planning
- Stevenson Middle

Jodi Ann T. Nakaoa
Kapalani CC, Radiologic Technology
- Kaliu Intermediate

Warren Nakamoto
UH Mānoa, Center for Oral History
- Kailua High

Katrina Oliveira
UH Mānoa, Hawaiian Language
- Kaliu Intermediate

Mori Ono
UH Mānoa, Social Work
- Amama High
- Kape'a High
- Waimea High

Chadwick Pang
Graduate Asst., Music Dept.
- Stevenson Middle

Guyalaine Poisson
UH Mānoa, Information & Computer Sciences
- Assets School

Melia Rivera
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
- Kaliu Intermediate

Mark Rognstad
UH Mānoa, Hawaii Institute of Geophysics & Planetology
- Hawaii Underwater Robotics Challenge

Kawakoe Sellers
UH Mānoa, Brawll Industry Management
- Hilo High
- Kaliu Intermediate
- Waimea High

Kathryn Sims
Asst. Professor of English, UH Center West Hawaii
- Kaliu Intermediate

Richard Linn Stevens
UH West Hawai'i, History
- Hawaii Exploration Academy
- Hānakai Elementary
- Naaleh Academy
- Nanawaena High

John Stimson
UH Mānoa, Zoology
- Kape'a Middle

Sharon Sussman
Kapiolani CC, New Media Arts
- Leilehua High
- Nā‘ālu‘u High

For more information on the UH Ambassadors Program, visit http://www.hawaii.edu/uhms/faculty_ambassadors or contact:

Of All UH Hawai'i campuses:
Joel Bailey, Coordinator
1(800)658-2727

Ewa Community College
Ambassadors,系tates Taff Program
Levi Lelei'a Coordinator and Assistant Professor
1(808)895-7806

UH West Hawai'i
Ambassadors, Kula Campus
Richard T. Iwamoto, Coordinator
1(808)898-6000 Extension 62808

UH Hilo
Ambassadors, Center West Hawai'i
Richard T. Iwamoto, Coordinator
1(808)974-7215

Leo Kulana
"Ambassador News"

Aloha, Welcome to the Faculty Ambassadors Program!

In this inaugural edition of the Leo Kulana, Ambassador News, you will see a sampling of the Faculty Ambassadors activities in the past year. In 2006-07, over 1,300 K-12 students and teachers on O'ahu, Hawai'i, and Kaua'i benefited from the University of Hawai'i Ambassadors Program. Ambassadors from UH West Hawai'i, UH Mānoa, UH West O'ahu, Honolulu Community College, and Kapi'olani Community College delivered engaging activities to students in elementary, middle and high schools. Ambassadors participated in school presentations, career fairs, college awareness events, discussions, workshops, mentorship, student project assistance, hikes, and campus tours. See page four for the full list of UH ambassadors and schools who participated in 2006-07.

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Faculty Senate established the Faculty Ambassadors Program in 1997 to establish a bridge between the University of Hawai'i and schools in the state. Intersted UH faculty and staff are matched with schools to communicate the exciting opportunities that the university offers to students. Ambassadors seek to make the university accessible, to put a friendly face on classes and subject matter and enable students to imagine themselves in college.

To learn more about the program, visit www.hawaii.edu/uhms/faculty_ambassadors or call one of the FAP contacts listed on page four.
Supporting Public School English Teachers

"Having Kate in the classroom benefited me as well as the students," Ar-Jay Swangel, 7th grade English teacher at Kealakehe Intermediate School (KIS), stated after Faculty Ambassador Kate Sims had worked in his classroom for two weeks. "I learned how to modify my lessons to make them more effective, and the students had the advantage of two teachers in the room to work with."

Kate Sims, Assistant Professor at UH Center West Hawai'i, worked with two Department of Education English teachers during the Spring semester. Sims has collaborated with Swangel in planning units for essay and poetry writing. Swangel and Sims worked with an accelerated class using various techniques, including Read Around Groups and Group Response. They modeled the latter of these techniques for the KIS America's Choice coach and the KIS principal.

Sims also worked at Kealakehe High School with English teacher Shirley McCoy, sharing materials, developing a poetry unit, and teaching narrative poetry to McCoy's 10th grade class. "It was great for me to see what's happening in the public schools," said Sims.

"It gave me more of a feel for where our students at the Community College are coming from, and I know that we will all benefit from the relationships that developed between our schools."

An Early Peek at College Life: Elementary and Middle School Students Visit UH Campuses

Ar-Jay Swangel, 7th grade English teacher at Kealakehe Intermediate School (KIS), valued the opportunity for his students to see what college is like as they toured the UH Manoa campus on March 10. "It was a great opportunity for them to get a feel for what college is all about," he said.

Approximately 150 students and teachers from Kula Kaiapuni O'Anuenue's first career and community day event visited UH Manoa. Students were able to learn about the various majors offered at the university and the process of applying to college.

Sharing Hawaiian History with ESSL students written by Malani DeAgular

Working with Jennifer Wolf-Moon's Modern Hawaiian History class was such a joy. Her class consisted of 25 students with varied ethnic backgrounds. There were students from Samoa, Mexico, Kenya, Yap, Chuuk, and the Philippines. It was an English as a Second Language Learner class (ESLL).

On the first day, I did some icebreakers with them, so I could learn more about who they were and they could learn about me too. I immediately learned that oral history was very important to them because they wanted to hear stories and learn songs or chants. Because it was a Modern Hawaiian History class, I told them the shortened version about Kamehameha's birth and childhood. To my amazement, they listened with rapt attention.

A few weeks later, when I returned for the next class, I was extremely impressed that they all remembered every detail of the story collectively. I asked pointed questions and each student was able to volunteer information using their wonderful memory. I was quite excited, because there were no notes that they could have referred to, just themselves.

So, I shared about battles that Kamehameha fought and other important bits of history. I also shared pictures and other insights about Hawaiian values. Eventually, I taught them all a chant that they grew to love. We played games and they won prizes for giving the right answers.

I thoroughly enjoyed working with this class. The students had a chance to share their cultures with me and we looked at similarities and differences of languages and cultures. It was also great working with Jennifer. She participated with the students and we all had an educational wonderful experience.

Ambassadors Present at Career & Community Day Event

Kula Kaiapuni O'Anuenue's first career and community day event showcased UH Mānoa's Nursing Program, John A. Burns School of Medicine and School of Social Work.

Joanne Iano delivered a presentation about educational requirements, job outlook, and general information regarding Nursing. Currently, Joanne is the Director of Academic Support Services and previously was a long time faculty member of UH Mānoa's Nursing Program.

Steven Labrash, of John A. Burns School of Medicine, is a faculty member who oversees the Willed Body Program. Steven's presentation included the history of funerals, educational preparation, licensure requirements, and various employment positions within the industry.

Mali One, Student Services Specialist, shared her expertise in the field of Social Work and informed students of various employment settings, responsibilities, and income. Additionally, she shared her personal experiences and referenced local community figures who, unbeknownst to the students, were social workers.