LIKE NO PLACE ELSE ON EARTH
Our university was established in 1907 to respond to the growing educational needs of an expanding world. At the beginning of the 20th century, Hawai‘i was a newly annexed U.S. territory—charting the unknown, participating in a world being transformed by science and technology.

Today, we pursue a similar journey into a new millennium, along the frontiers of far-reaching technological advances and globalization. We now address the educational needs of a world made smaller by instantaneous communication, interdependent economies and interconnected environments.

In 100 short years, the University of Hawai‘i has grown from a fledgling agricultural college located in one of the farthest flung outposts of higher education to become a major center for higher learning where East meets West.

The state’s only public, comprehensive educational system, the University of Hawai‘i comprises 10 campuses and dozens of education and research centers across the Hawaiian archipelago. We are:

- a research-intensive doctoral campus at Mānoa in Honolulu
- two baccalaureate campuses in West O‘ahu on the island of O‘ahu and Hilo on the Island of Hawai‘i
- seven community colleges offering training and academic advancement through a wide range of liberal arts studies and vocational and technical programs on Kaua‘i, Maui, O‘ahu and Hawai‘i.

Hawai‘i is a special place.
You can see it in our people, geography . . . and our university.
The University of Hawai‘i System reflects our islands’ diversity and uniqueness.

University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
University of Hawai‘i at Hilo
University of Hawai‘i West O‘ahu
Hawai‘i Community College
Honolulu Community College
Kapi‘olani Community College
Kaua‘i Community College
Leeward Community College
Maui Community College
Windward Community College

Mechanical engineering students design a Formula racing car. Aeronautics maintenance technicians train at the only FAA-certified facility in the Pacific Basin.

A PACIFIC CENTER FOR LEARNING, A GLOBAL UNIVERSITY
UH has groomed generations of government, business and community leaders who have played major roles in our state, our nation and the world; supported and educated groundbreaking pioneers in science, medicine and technology; and helped raise the quality of life of citizens in Hawai‘i and around the globe.

Our faculty members are at the heart of what we do. Passionate about their disciplines and their responsibility, our faculty strives to create the most conducive environment for learning and achievement. They provide the foundation for academic excellence through their knowledge and experience. Exceptional, caring teachers guide students on a path to becoming well-rounded and productive citizens. They provide a level playing field and equal opportunity for anyone willing to study and work hard.

With more than 50,000 students pursuing academic degrees and 30,000 engaged in non-credit studies, we are the largest higher education institution in the state of Hawai‘i. People turn to us to help them achieve their dreams of creating a better future for themselves, their families and their communities.

Counselors and professors share responsibility for helping students succeed. The university celebrates their service through annual teaching and service awards.
EXPLORING PHYSICAL WORLDS AND ENGAGING THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE

Designated as a land-, sea- and space-grant institution, the University of Hawai’i is home to research centers involved in groundbreaking work in a wide range of fields. Their research attracts state, federal and private funds totaling more than $367.6 million and results in significant social, economic and environmental advancements and improvements.

Not surprisingly, the university attracts world-renowned scholars and researchers. Our islands’ clear, dry mountain summits; reefs and deep ocean waters; active volcanoes; unique flora and fauna; and multi-cultural society provide ideal “laboratories” and boundless opportunities for research and discovery.

A collaborative spirit pervades our research centers, not only among our disciplines and between campuses, but also in conjunction with our national and international colleagues. We are committed to expanding our research enterprise and increasing opportunities for commercialization, technology, employment and education.

Our outreach programs touch the community far beyond campus boundaries. Partnerships with government and community organizations provide critical support to individuals, families, communities and institutions in our own backyards and across the world.
There is only one American public university located in the middle of the Pacific. Tropical and marine ecosystems and the surrounding natural environment provide as diverse a setting for research and study as you’ll find anywhere. But there is more to our uniqueness than mere location.

From the world’s most advanced land-based astronomical observatories to a fleet of research vessels and submersibles exploring the depths of the Pacific, our students learn in a “classroom” like no other and, in the process, receive an education like no other.

Hawai’i’s multi-cultural population provides a distinct Western/Asian/Pacific perspective, both to the state and the state university. Our faculty is one of the most ethnically diverse among U.S. universities. Together with students from 70 countries, 5 continents and all 50 states, they create the rich cultural stew pot that is our greatest strength.

In a world where national borders are becoming less significant and cultural understanding more critical, Hawai’i’s generations-long experience with a multi-cultural society places us one step ahead of the rest of the changing world.
There is nothing like residing on an island 2,000 miles from the nearest landmass to make one understand the importance of and absolute need for living in harmony with one’s surroundings.

Hawai‘i’s commitment to conservation, cooperation and sustainable measures is reflected in the indigenous people’s concept of malama ʻāina (taking care of the land). By caring for and establishing a life in balance with the ʻāina, we ensure our own future. Through education, research and service activities, the university works diligently to incorporate new and innovative ways to promote sustainability in all that we do.

Our island perspective also gives us keen insight into the larger view of Earth as an island in space and how we are all bound by our common humanity. Our longstanding international education programs have allowed us to establish exchange agreements and to connect with partner institutions from around the world. We offer both students and faculty members opportunities for overseas study, teaching and research in diverse fields.
We believe in active learning and discovery, where students have access to hands-on experience and learning opportunities. Field study, internships and career and vocational programs, as well as problem-based curricula and service learning are utilized throughout our programs and campuses. Such learning inevitably leads to an energetic and lifelong pursuit of knowledge.

You’ll find our faculty members as volunteers and board members in numerous community, professional and non-profit organizations. They carry their commitment into the classroom, encouraging their students to become involved as well. As a result, many of our students learn in the classroom and in the community, while gaining a better understanding of their connection to the rest of the world.

Being connected involves the creation, preservation and dissemination of knowledge. In the 21st century, these activities are increasingly dependent on modern information technologies. The University of Hawai‘i uses technology in innovative ways to support teaching, learning, research and the administration of our programs.
Meaningful learning occurs when faculty and students challenge themselves to expand the body of knowledge and prepare for the future. We support innovative thinking and intellectual rigor. Along the way, our students and faculty garner local, national and international awards and distinctions.

While our high-quality programs are offered at a competitive cost, the University of Hawai‘i is committed to increasing accessibility by substantially expanding financial aid. A wide range of scholarships, grants and tuition assistance packages are offered to students with varying degrees of need through the University of Hawai‘i Foundation and the individual campuses and programs.

Once on campus, UH students can participate in a broad range of social, cultural, intramural, civic and professional clubs and activities.

Athletics has been part of the mix almost from the university’s inception. The football team played its first intercollegiate game in 1920 and its first mainland game in 1923; the women’s program dates from 1972. Today UH Mānoa fields the only Division I-A athletics program in the state, with 450 student-athletes participating in more than a dozen men’s sports and women’s sports. UH Hilo competes in 13 NCAA Division II sports.

A UH alumna, the late U.S. Rep. Patsy T. Mink spearheaded passage of the Title IX Equal Opportunity in Education Act. The federal law requiring gender equity in education opened intercollegiate athletic opportunities to women across the country.

International programs encourage study abroad. Army and Air Force ROTC programs serve students statewide. Clubs foster professional and personal development, recreation, service and social justice.
Commitment is a two-way street. Not only is UH dedicated to serving this place we call home, but many in the islands are committed to the university. Belief in our programs and potential generates donations large and small from individual citizens, private businesses, community organizations and national foundations.

From the Shidler College of Business and John A. Burns School of Medicine to Kaua‘i Community College, alumni and other benefactors create a foundation for a better university through private-public partnerships.

The Hawaiian concept of aloha implies an encompassing respect for all people. It embraces our collective history, traditions and cultures and treats them equally as treasures that enrich all of our lives.

Aloha requires proactive concern—a healthy compassion and commitment to share, through education, the opportunities and benefits we were afforded. It shapes our sensibilities and makes us special.

Beautiful campuses, inspiring academics, research excellence and commitment to service … these make us a university of note; it is the shared spirit of this special place that makes UH unique.
The Hawai'i Tumor Registry at UH’s Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i was ranked first place and awarded the Data Quality Award from the National Cancer Institute for two consecutive years. This award recognizes Hawai'i’s tumor registry as the best in the country and, for all practical purposes, the best in the world.

UH researchers uncovered a new indicator to help predict coral health. The discovery will contribute to the conservation and protection of ecologically important corals in Hawai'i and elsewhere.

Students provide general dental care and cleanings through the Maui Oral Health Center for low-income families; the center also dispatches a Mobile Care Dental Van into hard to reach, economically challenged communities to assist residents in need of dental services.

International student services staff assists about 1,600 foreign students who come from about 90 countries to study; a substantial private gift supports study abroad for UH community college students.

Academy for Creative Media students have screened their films at prestigious festivals from Atlanta to Shanghai.

Recent campus construction projects have been designed to obtain LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification for high performance green buildings. This includes Windward Community College's Library Learning Commons, UH Mānoa’s Pear Hall dormitory and John A. Burns School of Medicine facility and UH Hilo’s Student Life Center.

Culinary Institute of the Pacific students operate casual and fine dining restaurants alongside name chefs at Kapi’olani, Leeward and Maui Community Colleges.

A partnership between the university and IBM allows students direct access to super computing capabilities that will prepare them for employment in the technology field. The Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training, a not-for-profit consortium of the UH Community Colleges, provides training in advanced technology applications that enhances state and regional economic and workforce development initiatives; its recent in-kind gift valued at $327 million from Siemens PLM Software includes software, training and support.

UH Mānoa hosts area studies centers focusing on China, Japan, Okinawa, Korea, Pacific Islands, Philippines, South Asia and Southeast Asia.

A team led by a UH graduate student found the first evidence for deposits of chloride salts in numerous places on Mars, evidence that water was once abundant, thus where evidence of Martian life may exist.

The University of Hawai'i is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.