NEW Distance Education Classroom

Title III grant Keleka’a Ho’onā’auao, in collaboration with the University of Hawai‘i West O‘ahu, is funding the design and construction of a new Distance Education (DE) classroom on the 2nd floor of the Learning Resource Center.

- 2022 - Benjamin Woo Architects are scheduled to complete the architectural design.
- 2022-2023 - Construction of the room will be underway.

The outcome will be a state-of-the-art DE hub dedicated to increasing and supporting residents of Kaua‘i, especially Native Hawaiian students, as they attain online degrees from UH Institutions.

Kaua‘i CC Kūpuka Center

What is a kūpuka? A kūpuka is an area of land that is surrounded by lava flows, creating an “island” within a sea of lava. The forests within the kūpuka serve as a refuge for native plants and animals.

Our Title III Kūkulu A’e grant will create a student-focused kūpuka that mimics the rich resources of a natural kūpuka. The center will offer students diverse supports that assist them with finding comfort, community, and academic success. For example, the Kūpuka center will include tutoring, peer mentoring, academic advising, and more!

Hā-Breath Highlight: Sense of Responsibility

Ma ka hana ke ‘ike, ma ka ‘imi ka loa’a
In working one learns, through initiative one acquires

“ I willingly carry my responsibility for self, family, community and the larger society. A sense of Responsibility is demonstrated by a commitment and concern for others. I am mindful of the values, needs and welfare of others.”

Wāhine Power

March is Women's History Month! We celebrate the many influential wāhine whose legacies have contributed to Lāhui. Do you know of these leaders below?

Jamaica Heolimeleikalani Osario

Born and raised in Pālolo Valley, O‘ahu, Jamaica is an artist, activist, author, and 3 time national poetry champion. She earned her PhD in English (Hawaiian Literature) from UH Mānoa. Her book, Remembering Our Intimacies: Mo`olelo, Aloha, Aina, and E'a, detangles aina from the effects of colonialism and occupation, dives into Indigenous queer theory and feminism, and seeks to recuperate Native Hawaiian concepts and ethics.

Mehana Blaich Vaughn

Mehana grew up in the rural Hale‘eloa district on the island of Kaua‘i. She developed aina based education programs on Kaua‘i, as well as trained teachers in culturally grounded education. Mehana is currently an associate professor at UH Mānoa in the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management. Her research and outreach focus is on nurturing community care and governance of land and waters in Hawai‘i.

Aletha Kawelukawahinehololiiolimaloa Goodwin

Aletha is a lifetime resident of Waimea whose ancestry is traced back to Kaumuali‘i, sixth generation. The preservation of Hawaiian culture & artifacts has been a passionate lifelong interest of hers. She is currently the President of Friends of King Kaumuali‘i and manages the West Kaua‘i Visitors Center. Past roles include State of Hawaii Librarian, a renown Hawaii Cultural Consultant, and a lecturer at Kaua’i CC.

Isabella Aiona Abbott

Isabella of Hana, Maui, became the first Native Hawaiian woman to earn a doctoral degree in the field of science (PhD Botany, UC Berkeley). She has been credited with discovering over 200 different algal species. Many were named after her including a genus of the red algae family, Abbottelia or Little Abbott.