

Hawaii Community College -Palamanui Update

The moving season is finally nearing a close in Kailua-Kona as we prepare for the oncoming Holiday Season, and a fresh start under slightly more normal circumstances in the New Year.

The WH Culinary Program is finally fully moved in at the new Campus. Instruction is proceeding, however we are still working on some final items toward getting a permit to serve meals, as there was a mix-up by the architect and their kitchen consultant in not providing full drainage specs needed to both a teaching and public food service site. We are working to have this rectified in time for Spring Semester.

Science Labs at Palamanui will not be ready in time for the start of Spring Semester. We must move out of Kealakekua before then, so we are finalizing an agreement to hold our required science lab sessions at the nearby (to Palamanui) facilities of the Natural Energy Lab of Hawai'i Authority (NELHA). We hope to have equipment to complete the Palamanui labs delivered and installed during the Semester.

The main parking lot is open again as construction and painting of the canopies is being completed. However, we are still in need of an overflow lot to accommodate vehicles during peak class times. The main lot capacity is 60, and we have counted up to 100 vehicles at the Campus.

Much work has been done toward vacating Kealakekua, including lease obligations to restore for some of the landlords. College Administration and its POM team, as well as Academic Computing have been a great help in coordinating this work. We have handed back Buildings 2 and 5, have already been handed back. Buildings 3 & 4 are undergoing final details for handback this week. After Science instruction is finished this Fall, Building 1 will have its lab cabinets removed, and then be ready for final handback.

We have set the date for our 'hard' opening, which will call the Dedication for Friday Feb 26th, and this will be an invitation event. We will also hold a Public Open House Event on Saturday Feb 27th. Planning is currently underway. Invitations will go out after January 1st.

The first Semester Ho'ike at our new home was held on Wed Dec 2nd. Photos of our students presentations and performances can be seen at the College Flickr site: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/53092216@N07/sets/72157661850734351>

Speaking of the Holiday Season, we will hold our Palamanui Campus pot luck lunch on Friday Dec. 11th.