

University of Hawai'i Center at West Hawai'i Update

The new Hawaii Community College – Palamanui Campus is currently over 80% complete. Planning and coordinating for occupancy in Fall 2015 is currently underway, with intensive meetings and collaborations underway between Hawaii Community College Administration, UH Community Colleges, UH Office of Capital Improvements, Hawai'i County Administration, and the State of Hawai'i Department of Accounting and General Services.

The Director's Advisory Panel on community messaging has developed a draft communication plan for publicizing the new Campus and maximizing interest and enrollments.

Lead Faculty Kate Sims and Director have been working with VCAA and Deans, Student Services and Registrar to solve data needs for identifying West Hawaii Students. This will be important for providing baseline data for enrollments and understanding the impact of the new Campus on enrollments, as well as for normal operations such as class scheduling and student advising assignments.

Through the UHCWH, Hawaii Community College has also joined a West Hawaii collaboration, along with Kamehameha Schools, UH Hilo, Hawai'i County, Dept of Education, and The Learning Coalition to support development of West Hawai'i youth. For details on the launch of this project, see <http://www.hawaii.edu/news/2015/02/18/collaborative-west-hawaii-youth-program-launched/>.

On Sunday, March 1, a second West Hawaii Wahi Pana was held. This one, Wahi Pana o Palamanui, was again lead by Hawaiian Lifestyles Faculty Pua Lincoln, and supported by Lead Faculty Kate Sims, and Lecturer Richard Sims. About twenty faculty, staff, students and community members spent the morning navigating down the Palamanui trail from the dryland forest towards the Campus site, learning about significant cultural and natural sites and related histories and protocols. Thanks for supporting this event to Palamanui LLC, and Dr. Greg Chun.