Welcome back to the Spring 2022 semester! Here are a few highlights from Arts & Humanities, Language Arts, Math & Science, Social Sciences, the Kīpuka, Native Hawaiian Center at Puʻuloa, and the Office of International Programs.

First, I would like to recognize the Arts & Sciences faculty who answered the call to offer more face-to-face and once-a-week hybrid courses last semester for our students. After so many semesters of mostly online instruction, it was great to see so many more students walking around campus throughout the day. As one faculty member noted, “…students enjoyed being back in the classroom and interacting with their professors and peers again.” Linked [here](#) is a list of those courses and faculty with hopes that this list is even longer next fall!

In coordination with the Office of Policy, Planning and Assessment, the AA Liberal Arts Program Coordinator Jeremiah Boydstun conducted an assessment of the AA in Liberal Arts Program during the Fall 2021 semester and found that a majority of Leeward students are meeting Program Learning Outcomes. For more details, check out their [ARPD](#).

The new Teacher Education Program Coordinator Michael Cawdery reports that:

- In 2020-2021, awarded $217,566 in tuition stipends to APC in SPED Candidates; $79,866 in tuition stipends to 3+1 Bachelors of Science in SPED Candidates; and $126,937.66 to Special/Inclusive Education Certificate of Competence candidates.
- Graduated 48 new licensed SPED teachers in the 2020-2021 academic year from the Advanced Professional Certificate in SPED.
- In 2021, transferred 16 students to complete their final year of their 3+1 Bachelors of Science in SPED.
- In December, held a new student orientation to welcome 14 new Career and Technical Education (CTE) teacher candidates.
- Completed the first annual National Accreditation Report for the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP).

From Math & Sciences:

- The ICS program continues to grow due to the increasing demand for trained professionals in the industry. In response to industry needs, the program added a new specialization in Cloud Security and a new specialization in Data Science.
- Dr. Helmut Kae and Dr. Kabi Neupane mentored an IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) student and 3 Math & Sciences faculty members mentored 8 students that served as either undergraduate researchers or peer mentors to other students in the NSF funded Bridge-to-Baccalaureate: Strategic Transfer Alliance for Minority Participation (B2B-STAMP).
● Dr. Daniela Elliott and Dr. Paula Mejia Velasquez published their OER "Botany in Hawai’i" textbook that discusses introductory topics of Botany through examples of the native and introduced plants found in Hawai’i. It includes anatomy and physiology of seeds, roots, leaves, stems, fruits and flowers and covers the main plant groups from nonvascular to flowering plants.

● The Pre-Engineering Education Collaborative (PEEC II) program has been extended for one more year. In Summer 2022, PEEC II students will take a calculus course and complete an engineering research project with Bryson Padasdao and Jennifer McFatridge.

In developmental math, 8 co-requisite learning communities of MATH 100, MATH 103, and MATH 115 were offered in Fall 2021 as synchronous DE classes for students who placed one or two-levels below college-level. 63% of these students completed the co-requisite and college-level math courses in one semester and 76% of students who placed two-levels below college-level on the STEM track, successfully completed the course.

In developmental English, the Transitional English Pathway (ENG 16 to ENG 22 & ENG 100) is in its fourth year. The experimental ENG 98B is now the permanent course ENG 16, which is designed for students placing two-levels below college level English with the inclusion of peer mentors and counseling support.
From Social Sciences:

- **Anika Gearhart-Edwards** was awarded the OER Modification grant, which will be used to add narration and culturally relevant learning examples to a psychology textbook. She also created an OER version of an introductory Biopsychology course, creating the first step in the path to an education in neuroscience more accessible for students at Leeward CC.

- **Dr. Ashley Biddle** was selected to participate in the competitive [Open Ed Research Group Fellowship](#) and also received [SEED](#) grant funding to further develop her teaching methods of having students collaborate using Open Pedagogy to increase the diversity of openly-licensed photographs available relating to Psychology topics.

- Leeward CC’s **Certificate of Competence in Substance Abuse Counseling** program has been awarded a $2.2 million, 4-year HRSA grant that will support the launch of a *Hawai‘i Behavioral Health Training Institute*. With Dr. Gwen Williams serving as the Co-PI, this grant will provide approximately 22 annual awards of up to $3000 tuition and a $5000 fieldwork stipend for students who will be recruited state-wide.

The **Kīpuka, Native Hawaiian Center at Pu‘ulōa**, continues to provide valuable support services to all our Leeward CC students while maintaining program integrity for First-Year and non-traditional students in our **Lauhoe** and **Kahua Ho‘omau Ola** programs. Kipuka also manages grants that support Native Hawaiian students and supervises personnel employed by those grants. Recently, there were two **U.S. Dept of Education** Title III grants that were awarded additional funds:

- **Waʻa Kaulua**, which supports students at the Pearl City campus and at the Waiʻanae Moku Education Center, received an additional $550,000, totaling $2.5 million.

- **Ke Ala ʻAnuʻu**, a consortium grant between LEE CC and UHWO to encourage Native Hawaiian students to transfer from LEE CC to UHWO in STEM-related, received an additional $385,286, totaling $2.6 million.

This past fall, the **Office of International Programs** (OIP):

- Welcomed new students from **Colombia, Japan, Peru, South Korea, Turkey**, and 3 exchange students from the **University of Niigata Prefecture**.

- Successfully completed the **Department of Homeland Security Student Exchange Visitor Information System** (SEVIS) recertification process, which allows the College to continue hosting F-1 international students from overseas.

  - As part of the recertification process, an “ESL Pathway Program” has been added as a new program which will allow international students from the non-credit **English Language Institute** (ELI) to transition to credit bearing **English as a Second Language** (ESL) courses and to directly enroll in credit bearing ESL courses.

- During **International Education Week** in November, the OIP and Leeward CC students volunteered with a local non-profit organization, Mālama Maunalua, and removed about 700 lbs (317 kg) of invasive algae from Maunalua Bay ([see video here](#)).
Thank you to all of the Arts & Sciences division chairs Jim West, Kathryn Fujioka-Imai, William Albritton, Eiko Kosasa and program coordinators Eric Matsuoka, Jenny Watada, Brandi Reyes, Ann Inoshita, I-Chia Shih, Mike Bauer, Michael Cawdery, Lu'ukia Archer, Momi Kamahele, Aya Hara-Joesting, Gwen Williams, Jeremiah Boydstun, and all faculty and staff for their great work and commitment to student success!