Aloha and Happy New Year! The unprecedented investment in modernizing our campus facilities continues unabated as construction projects will dominate the landscape for the next several years. As reported to you during the Fall 2011 Convocation, the College received more than $26 million in new Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds from the 2011 State Legislature for several major facility upgrades, including construction of the new education building. The campus has nearly 40 construction-related projects worth approximately $50 million on-going at the present time. Here are a few of the most notable and visible projects that will be taking place this semester...

Education Building...
A total of $19,013,000 has been appropriated for the construction and furnishing of the new education building. Construction bids from ten different construction contractors have been received and the construction contract will be awarded in January 2012. Groundbreaking for the new building is expected to occur prior to April 1, 2012. The education building will be the College’s first major facility to be built since 1979 – more than 30 years ago – when the automotive complex was completed.

Learning Commons and Coffee Shop...
Demolition work has begun on the 1st and 2nd floor renovations to the library building as it begins its transformation to our new Learning Commons. When completed later this year, the Campus Computer Lab and the Testing Center will be located on the 1st floor and the Learning Resource Center will be located on the 2nd floor. The 2nd floor will also be the location of our new coffee shop concessionaire – KimoBean. During construction, complete library and disability services (KI) are available on the 3rd floor of the library building. The Learning Resource Center has been temporarily relocated to BE-101.

GT-105 Update...
Construction continues on the renovation and modernization of GT-105. Interior finishing and audio/visual work is in progress. GT-105 is to be designated as the campus’ primary conference, seminar, and workshop meeting space and will feature a high-tech environment with flexible table and seating configurations. Reservations for use of this space will be announced later this semester. Estimated completion is for the March-April timeframe of 2012.

Waiʻanae Campus Update...
Addressing the long- and short-term educational facility needs of the Leeward coast is a high priority for the campus and the UH system. On a short-term basis, more than 2,600 square feet of critical additional facility space has been leased on the 1st floor of the Waiʻanae Education Center building and will be available for student, faculty, and staff use beginning this spring. This additional space will help alleviate the severely overcrowded conditions that presently exist. On a long-term basis, negotiations on a permanent educational facility are continuing and on-going. Periodic updates will be provided to the campus as the negotiations move forward.

This is only but a sampling of the many projects that are in various phases of planning, design, or construction. A comprehensive list of the campus’ facility projects is available on the College’s intranet website and periodic updates on imminent facility construction projects are provided to the campus via faculty-staff email.

Mahalo for your patience, understanding, and cooperation as we move forward on these facility upgrades.