

ABSTRACT – UHMC and KCC Cooperative Arrangement Grant, HI

Project Title: “*Lawelawe Po‘okela: Strengthening Institutional Capacity for Student Success*” (\$4,496,726 over 5 years, 2 institutions)

Institutional/Student Profile: University of Hawai‘i Maui College (UHMC) enrolls 3,809 students, and serves the islands of Maui, Molokai and Lanai, as well as two remote locations in Lahaina and Hana. UHMC enrolls 1193 Native Hawaiian (NH) students, comprising 31.3% of its total student population. Kapiolani Community College (KCC) currently enrolls 7994 students, is located on the island of Oahu, the most populous of the Hawaiian Islands. KCC enrolls 1326 NH students, or 16.6% of its total student population. Together UHMC and KCC serve over 2500 NH students, and both have significant performance gaps of their NH student populations including retention, degrees awarded, and transfer to higher levels of education.

Problems: **1) Professional development** for faculty and staff who work at Native Hawaiian-serving institutions, especially in the most isolated archipelago in the world, is limited, and system funds for professional investment have fallen significantly short in the last 4 of 5 years. To cultivate greater leadership among faculty and staff of Native Hawaiian ancestry or with an interest in Hawaiian culture, history, and language, access to high quality degree programs is required. **2) Institutional management** becomes constrained when funds management is inefficient and administrative time detracts from the core mission of teaching and learning. To relieve personnel of burdensome paperwork, more efficient, streamlined, and supportive measures are needed, which may include rethinking how business gets done.

Strategies: *Lavelawe Po‘okela*, which means “quality service,” addresses significant institutional challenges for NH student success. Working together, UHMC and KCC will 1) Support professional development, and faculty/staff fellowships to assist in attaining advanced degrees; and 2) Strengthen funds management and administrative management by creating “shared services centers.”

1) Professional Development. UHMC and KCC will provide professional development opportunities by leveraging technology to provide high-quality online courses, learning communities, and advanced degree programs. Higher education of faculty and staff translates into greater ability to provide leadership and meet the challenges of a rapidly changing workforce and society with academic programs and student support services that integrate Hawaiian tradition and culture within modern contexts. Outcomes include a 20% increase in faculty and staff pursuing advanced educational and training opportunities. This addresses Competitive Priority Preference #2.

2) Shared Services Centers. These centers will access new technologies and processes that streamline day-to-day business and personnel activities, allowing these institutions to respond to faculty, staff, and student needs in a more nimble and cost-effective manner. By focusing on management of external funds, these shared services centers will create greater institutional capacity to develop and implement innovative programs and learner-centric initiatives, thus allowing the institution to make the transitions necessary to become the indigenous-serving institutions they aspire to be. Outcomes include 20% greater efficiency in business services, 25% higher satisfaction rate of services by campus personnel, and potential cost savings in terms of more efficient use of time, staff, funding, and technology resources.