

Kapiolani Community College, HI

ABSTRACT

Strengthening a New Ecology of Engaged Teaching and Learning for Student Success

Kapiolani Community College (the College), the second largest of ten public universities and colleges in the University of Hawaii (UH) system, provides high quality liberal arts and career programs serving diverse Native Hawaiian and multi-ethnic students and communities. From 1988 to 2008, the College experienced a solid growth in headcount enrollment from 5,372 to 8,221 diverse, multi-ethnic students. From fall 2005 to fall 2008, the enrollment of Hawaiian students increased from 789 (10.8% of total enrollment) to 1,042 (12.7 % of total). The College is nationally recognized for creating a new ecology of learning, linking classrooms, centers, campus, community, and cyberspace through integrated technology, increased student, staff, and faculty collaboration and engagement, and a sharp focus on student success.

With successful accreditation in 2006, new strategic planning for 2008-2015, and a growing commitment to a culture of evidence for improvement the College has identified one Title III Activity, **Developing, Assessing, and Improving Pathways to Success in Student Services and Academic Programs**. This Activity will address 5 institutional goals and 17 performance measures through 3 Major Component Objectives:

- 1) Through improved support services and 4 Kahikoluamea Academies, increase rates of course success, persistence, and re-enrollment to degree applicable courses to 80 percent for first year, full-time, enrolled Hawaiian and All students.
- 2) Increase the number of Hawaiian students completing associate degrees from 63 to 105 per year and transferring to baccalaureate institutions from 59 to 85 per year, and increase the number of all students completing associate degrees from 641 to 885 per year and transferring to baccalaureate institution from 561 to 828 per year;
- 3) Increase faculty, staff and student use of research based best practices, strategies, and principles, and appropriate and advanced technologies to achieve strategic goals and student-centered performance measures in Components 1 and 2.

These objectives will help solve 10 academic problems that contribute to high student attrition resulting in significant losses in tuition revenue for fiscal stability. In addition, these objectives will result in stronger integration of planning, research, assessment, improvement and budgeting processes in institutional management. Communities of Practices, uniquely defined for our campus, will provide more opportunities for faculty and staff leadership ensuring the effective preparation of a new generation of leaders working collaboratively for strong academic programs and fiscal stability, and sound institutional management.

The proposed Title III Activity will result in the comprehensive integration of research-based best practices in student support and high impact practices in student learning across the College's continuum of developmental education to degree-applicable course work, associate and baccalaureate degree completion, and success in careers and community engagement. Overall, this investment by the USDE Title III, Part A program will have a significant and positive impact on the future of Hawaii, Hawaiian students and their communities, and the nation.