

NEWS RELEASE (date)

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FAMILY FOUNDATION FUNDS UHWO VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM AND KAPIOLANI CC FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

O'AHU - Students and faculty at UH West O'ahu and Kapi'olani Community College will soon benefit from two new programs made possible by generous gifts from the James C. and Juanita Wo Foundation.

The UH West O'ahu Distinguished Visiting Scholars Program Fund, established with a \$250,000 pledge, will bring seasoned scholars and practitioners in the humanities, social sciences, and indigenous arts, traditions and cultures to the growing West O'ahu campus. This program will help UH West O'ahu build and expand its curricula and programs so it can meet the demands of a fast-growing student population.

Quote Chancellor Gene Awakuni

The visiting scholars program will also help recruit and inspire exemplary young scholars, and serve to promote the University's extraordinary intellectual, creative, cultural, and community resources.

The James and Juanita Wo Foundation has also made an investment in the faculty and students at Kapi'olani Community College. The *Kapi'olani Community College Innovations in Professional Development Fund*, established with a \$100,000 pledge, will support the development and implementation of a professional development program at Kapi'olani Community College. Ultimately this program will encourage faculty to work

together to bring about improvements in learning through applied research, practice and collaboration.

"Professional development at Kapi 'olani Community College has entered a new era," reports Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Louise Pagotto. "Abandoning the model of stand-alone workshops, faculty have developed Creative Circles for Collaborative Change (C4wards), trans-disciplinary communities of practice that form around particular areas of interest, are held together by the social commitments of the member,s and develop capabilities in the members as well as artifacts and shared practices. The Wo Foundation gift reflects Jim and Juanita Wo's commitment to invest in faculty to improve their and the students' learning. We look forward to implementing C4wards based on values and vision we share with the Wo family.

For more information on how you can support UH West O'ahu please contact Mariko Miho at (808) 956-7983 or <u>Mariko.Miho@uhfoundation.org</u>. You can also make a gift online at <u>www.uhfoundation.org/GiveToUHWestOahu</u>.

Please contact Linh Hoang at (808) 734-9570 or <u>Linh.Hoang@uhfoundation.org</u> to find out more about supporting Kapi'olani Community College. You can also make a gift online at

The University of Hawai'i Foundation, a nonprofit organization, raises private funds to support the University of Hawai'i System. Our mission is to unite our donors' passions with the University of Hawai'i's aspirations to benefit the people of Hawai'i and beyond. We do this by raising private philanthropic support, managing private investments and nurturing donor and alumni relationships. www.uhfoundation.org

UH West O'ahu became a four-year, comprehensive university when it served its first class of freshmen in fall 2007. The University offers quality education, small classes and personalized attention at convenient locations. UH West O'ahu has begun construction of a state-of-the art, new campus in the City of Kapolei. For more information, visit uhwo.hawaii.edu, twitter.com/uhwestoahu or call 454-4700 or toll-free (866) 299-8656.

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