

Long Range Budget Committee
Campus Proposals for Recruitment/Retention/Graduation
12/3/2014

Student Proposals

Category	Description	Proposal
Recruitment	Visit high schools	Visit high schools, mainly focusing on talking to the seniors and persuade them to come to UNiversity of Hawaii Hilo over other university but also talk to Juniors to have them start thinking earlier about the university. Also show them the compare of other university in Hawaii.
	Advance site visitations for prospective students	Give students opportunity to fly over fom there homeland and come visit the campus a. Couple of days and let them have tour of what the campus life is and an experience of what it's going to be like. Also set them to have small classes within those
	Communicate/advertise —traditional and social media	Posters, flyers, and Facebook and tweets are also great way to go out
	Better Photos on Website	I am a tour guide on campus and one major thing I hear is "wow, this looks so much better than the photographs" I think it is important to update the website so students(who can not come see the school in person) see how renovated our campus has become.
	Promote WUE	There are a lot of high school student that don't know the financial benefits to going to University of Hawaii Hilo. As a student on the WUE Scholarship it is about \$10,000 cheeper for me to go here, transportation included, then go to an UC 10 minutes up the road with instate tuition. Thats one major point to make while advertising.
	Invest in Recruiting	Another point to be made is recruit. I found UH Hilo it didn't find me, however HPU did find me and they where very accomodating in answering any of my questions. If it was not for the split social environment I might have ended up there. By investing in recruiting students out of high-school and potential transfer student the wider mass of application can raise the academic bar higher, which means finding students more dedicated to their academics. This school is known for being a diamond in the rough for science degrees. If they want to expand its time this diamond gets publicized

	Stop rumor of "local stigma"	while looking at this school a friend told me their was a local stigma against the university student and that I need to keep my whits about me on the street. This is half true but it depends on how your approach the culture and if recruiting is able to acknowledge but debunk this rumor it would be very advantageous. "The rumor is true to a small degree but if keep an open mind to the culture the community is very accepting."
--	------------------------------	---

Retention	Four-year plan of courses as guideline for 'big picture' instead of making unplanned course selections	Another idea could be to set a four-year plan of courses for each department, semester-by-semester, from freshman to senior year. This "degree" plan of course would be only a guide that would allow the student to either follow it, or, tweak it to his/her liking or area of interest. It would be posted to each department's website as well. I think this idea would probably be more successful because it is more practical. In this way students have "the big picture" in their mind well before graduation, instead of meandering along and making last minute decisions about what courses to take.
	Good advising early; Advising position in each department	I think that UH Hilo students sorely lack good advising early on and many wait too long to get advising or don't get any at all. Our campus needs to educate our students about the importance of advising or make it mandatory that the first advising session be completed before classes start...at least one session per year. Maybe creating an advising position in each department solely dedicated to that one purpose would greatly increase retention and graduation rates. It accomplishes two very important goals: the first is that we are preparing our students according to their educational and real-world needs; and second, we are communicating how important our students are to us. When considering recruitment, what better way to achieve this than to communicate to our students that we have their back, that we care about their futures
	Scholarship workshops. Too many loans, bills too high	My suggestion would be to hold scholarship and grant writing workshops. Something similar to what Alex is doing with the internship fair, in that they hold workshops that build upon each other. My mistake has been taking out too many loans because I have no idea where to look, when to look, how to start, if I'm doing it correct and the list of concerns goes on. Sometimes just being unsure is enough to make it seem financially impossible to go to school/ finish school. I've left school twice because my bills were piling up. This time I have to finish because I have a little girl, but my student loan repayments are currently at an estimated \$300 a month with a year and a half to go. If the university does decide to go in this direction please contact me. This would be a project I would enjoy assisting with and one that could ensure my graduation.

Child Care Center	An idea for enrollment retention would be some sort of child care service for students with children. I feel like a lot of parents would be able to stay enrolled long enough to complete a degree if they were supported in this. Also, as the Senator for CoBE serving on the Enrollment Management Implementation Team I am curious what ideas have been submitted in order to see how UHHSa might be able to support/play a role in implementation. Is there a way I could have a meeting of this nature with someone in your office way
More library hours, Increased computer access	<u>Facilities:</u> Expansion of library hours, increase computer access
Single student fee	<u>Costs:</u> Students feel as if they are being nickel and dimed. A few expressed that more and more things require a separate fee (like airlines). Maybe there is some way of avoiding separate fees? They would rather pay a single price upfront
Interim financial aid for students until their aid arrives	Some way to support students until their financial aid shows up. For example, they are not threatened to be kicked out of housing.
Award deans' list merit scholarship \$2-3k	Any one who makes the deans list is given some amount of scholarship the following semester say 2-3 thousand dollars
Campus is scary at night; needs a café or someplace to hang out open after 6 pm	The campus needs a cafe where students can hang out or meet up with friends. Somewhere that's open after 6pm. One of the biggest drawbacks at UH is the lack of facilities in the evenings and daytime for meeting up. It also makes the campus quiet and scary at night. I'm an international student my campus back home has two night clubs, three cafes, a grocery store, a news agents, two restaurants, two bars, a hairdresser, post office, theatre, art gallery, three banks. Of course UH has an alcohol restriction but more could be done to improve the social scene. The current dorm based activities are a little juvenile and more suited to school aged children
Schedule to avoid time conflict for courses needed for completion	One idea that may help retain students is making sure the classes that the student needs are available each semester. For me, this spring semester, the classes I need are all T/Th at the same time. This is not helpful and it discourages me from pursuing my academic career at UH Hilo
Make SLC fee optional	Additionally, the \$78 that goes each semester to the life center, should be a choice. I would rather use that money for printing cost. It has been my experience that other University's allot a specific amount t

Enable public transportations choices	Lastly, ensuring public transportation to/from UH Hilo campus continues is a must. Students need reliable transportation to get to and from school when they do not live on campus. Perhaps some of the \$78.00 life center fee could be used towards ensuring the students can get to campus, on a consistent basis, would be money better spent towards printing costs for each student per semester
Green bike program, if fitness is a campus priority	However, if fitness of the student is a concern, while visiting Washington State University, I saw a green bike program. I believe the funds for this program came from a grant. The idea is throughout campus over 100 bikes are available for a current student to check out. It would be great if we had something like this here
Reduce tuition and fees	Lower tuition and fee's. I believe college is unaffordable for most students who are currently attending and those who are unable to attend due to the high cost. Over the past 15 years, cost of attending UHH has risen 4 fold. Correct me if I am wrong but last year, there was around \$27million in federal loans given out to UHH students. The cost of education is creating a huge burden on students which greatly affects their ability to attend. Even if you don't necessarily see it in your data, it is greatly affecting them and forces many to not attend. YOU MUST BREAK THIS PARIDIGM. The state is ever increasingly cutting funding to the university while the university is increasingly having to add administrative cost. In the end, the student is stuck with the bill. To get out of this paradigm, there has to be a massive effort to lobby at the federal level to pay the entire cost of education or at the very least, the majority of it. There are different ways to go about this but without administration and faculty understanding what is really needed in order to create affordable college for all, it will be a losing battle
Offer courses in shorter modules	I believe breaking up classes would help. I would encourage keeping the two semester sequences, but I would also encourage a four semester option as well. That would make it easier for students to pass.

Tuition cost is so high	A friend of mine showed me your mass email. I'm currently a HawCC student, who spends a lot of time on UH Hilo's campus and has thought long and hard about attending UH Hilo. I can say without a doubt, the biggest factor in whether or not I will attend your institution depends on if I can afford it. I'm barely able to cover my significantly lower expenses at the community college as it stands and it's very discouraging to see tuition costs continuing to rise. Each time I see the numbers go up, the hope that I'll be able to attend your institution without going into significant debt seems farther and farther away. If you truly want to see an effective change in the span of one to two years you need to offer free, or greatly reduced tuition. It's the biggest road block in getting a quality education, which I can see your facility offers. I like UH Hilo: your courses, your professors, the events on campus. But I, like many others, have to realistically consider if a college degree from your institution is worth taking on a hefty mountain of debt that can never be forgiven. It's a bitter consideration, because I love college. I love to learn. I love seeing so many
Fund the Arts	Plough more money into the Arts!!!! We live in the most beautiful, artistically inspiring place in the world and artists of every sort should be flocking here. Instead our facilities are appalling, our equipment broken and archaic, our access limited and our faculty restricted by lack of staff and insufficient classroom space, and our student mad to feel second rate. As artists are an easily pleased bunch, this would not take a great deal of funds. I have repeatedly suggested that the current facilities could be brought up to an acceptable standard with few alterations. (renting the entire structure for the paint studio, instead of forcing the HCC maintenance Dept. to share it with us for example.) I would LOVE to be actively involved in a venture such as this, so if there is any possibility of our suggestions being realized, please do not hesitate to contact me.
Cross listing of courses	More cross listing classes could be helpful in fulfilling requirements for degrees, so if one class is not offered for a year or two, another class could count as a fulfillment for that requirement
Mandatory Dorms for Freshmen	#####

Create School Spirit	Create school spirit: In my home town, the University of Alaska Fairbanks(UAF) is the main campus for miles. They are in our PacWest sport conference, so are about the same size as our school. Even though our school is very similar to theirs one thing is very different, school spirit. Students spend their Friday nights cheering on the basketball team, decked out in blue and gold. In their tuition price there is 50 dollars set aside for a season pass to every sports game, calling it an activity fee. This then becomes a "free pass" for every game. Making it so students are cheering on other students rather than drinking on a Friday night. This is a great way for students to feel connected to the school.
On Campus Activities	Hilo isn't the biggest town and coming from somewhere like California it might seem like there is nothing to do. I think it is important to have monthly activities to bring the student body together. A concerts, dances, scholarly speakers, motivational speakers, video game playing, bonfires, "spring fest" game week. The list could honestly go on for ever.
Job Connections	As being a senior, I have seen a lot at the school during my years. I really don't like how the school has no connections and jobs readily available with local corporations. It is more than impossible to find a job after college out here. I think it would prove beneficial for the college to advertise that they are affiliated with most businesses on the islands and their drive is to get their students working in Hawaii.
Trade GE cores for upper division classes	Of course, I speak from my own perception and experience and job market research here. A BA in Biology and life science makes me well qualified for field research. There are many jobs out there like this. I think it would be very attractive to students like me who have an idea what they want to do to offer an option of trading out some core requirements for high end bio and stats classes. I have looked at requirements and applications of contractors who hire for federal biology jobs. I saw one that wants you to list all your bio and stats related classes along with grades. This would offer a more comprehensive education opportunity that would compete with schools like Hawaii Pacific University and many more like it on the west coast due to the fact that these schools are at least 3 times the price. It would add attraction to people who have set there goals on marine biology. Example: I firmly believe that a 300 level bio or stats class would have an undeniable greater value to me than public speaking class
Variety of Suggestions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replace all of the current vending machines at both campuses with healthful food and drink product choices. 2. Fix all of the dead electrical outlets in the Art Studio Building on the Manono Campus. 3. Provide quiet fans in the Art Studio also.

4. The food services contractor should provide the workers at Deja Brew open-air kiosk with a real sink and drain, and quiet fans too.
5. We need more parking spaces especially during peak student hours, at both campuses, Upper and Lower.
6. Install high-end, high-tech, filtered, drinking water fountains at a few locations at UHH and HawCC campuses. I think there is one at the Student Life Center, already. I will check it out my next visit.
7. Install more “real wood” picnic tables and benches, some with roofs, covered from the Hilo rain, throughout both campuses. Build them from real wood not that black and grey (gray) recycled material like we currently have on the Mookini Library Lanai; those fake wood (plastic) designs are really lame and ugly too.
8. A “Shuttle Service” of some kind servicing both campuses and Hilotown. (This is my father's idea). When and where do students need to go places on and off campus?
9. Open up food services at both campuses. We need competition. We need at least 10 new “mom and pop” food kiosks, (mini food services or shops) to offer a greater variety of hot and cold food choices and add diversity at our two schools, UHH and HawCC. Kill the monopoly. A single choice is simply inadequate. It's a jip for the students and faculty. We need a variety of Japanese, Korean, Chinese and other food places on campus.
10. Provide the UHH Art Department with a computer graphics lab (big monitor PCs, computers, and printers) including tutoring services for Photoshop CC 2014 and other state-of-the-art software suites.
11. The school needs a drinking bar and restaurant. Yes, we need a bar, for age 21 and older. How about a bar that serves good beer like IPA Ale and delicious local kine pu pu. There is no decent bar in Hilo. Why not create one at UHH? The school could make a lot of money and perhaps re-channel revenues from such an establishment into other school improvements. Name it: “The Student Bar Center.” Bottoms up! :-). The Star Garden Restaurant at the Imiloa Astronomy Center could be remedied. All of the required permits are in place; it has substantial kitchen amenities but the food served there is so-so.
12. Sell an improved inventory of products at the school bookstore like decent shoelaces, and plain tank tops and shorts like they sell at Wal*mart but are always sold-out.
13. Clear the stinky plumbing P-traps in the shower drains in the Student Life Center Men's Locker Room and replace the cheap shower curtains with a higher quality design.

Graduation	Not able to get classes needed for graduation	What I hear most often from my classmates (and I agree as well) is that they are not able to get the classes they need for graduation in a timely manner, and in some cases, have had to delay graduation for one or two semesters. This means that students have had to incur costs that may not have been planned for (i.e., making more student loans). I think that each department should be tracking their students' progress "in anticipation of" what upper division courses will be needed and when. I realize that this need will be based on the numbers, so that if fifty students need three or more upper level courses to graduate in the next year, then enough courses should be offered to afford them good choices. Maybe offering more independent studies courses that will enable the student to showcase his/her talents in their field, or, allow them to improve their research skills, could be a viable alternative to structured courses.
-------------------	---	---