

KS ALUMNI HOST FAMILY NETWORK

Each fall, as KS graduates head for the mainland and neighbor island colleges, the alumni unit of PAR (Parents & Alumni Relations) connects them with alumni “host families” living in their college area. Host families provide a “home away from home” for our young graduates. During the 2000-2001 school year, 60 students were placed with host families, a significant increase from the four students placed when the program began during the 1997-1998 school year. Not all students requesting host families are placed due to distance, areas where no alumni are living, or work schedule conflicts with prospective host families. Alumni Relations’ Gerry Johansen says, “We make every attempt to place students requesting a host family and to match them as closely possible to their Hawai’i family.”

Parents interested in having a host family for their student going away to college should contact Gerry at (808) 842-8445.

Rachel Asuncion ‘00 attends Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash., and writes: “I am so grateful to our KS Alumni Relations Office for having such a program.

Stephanie Dang Bell ‘68 and her husband Mike were assigned as my host family. They are wonderful and loving people who live in a beautiful house on their farm. They have adopted my friend, **Albert Paki Shidaki III ‘00**, who attends



Rachel Asuncion ‘00 (far right) with host family Stephanie Dang Bell ‘68, husband Mike and friend, Albert Shidaki III ‘00.

Whitworth College which is 10 minutes away from Gonzaga. We surely enjoy the home-cooked meals the Bells prepare for us, and having a place to hang out with people who have Kamehameha ties.”

Rhoda Lum Garth ‘70 and her husband Bill are members of the host family for **Kimberly Makahilahila ‘00** while she attends St. Andrew’s College in Laurinburg, N.C. Rhoda lives two hours from St. Andrew’s College; yet, she takes the time to drive the distance in order to spend time with Kim and treat her to some good old-fashioned home-style grinds. **Judy Burge Enszer ‘65**, has joined forces with Rhoda and together they are a team as part of the host family network.

Lenore Torris Hedlund ‘65 hosted **Eden-Marie Kruger ‘99** when she left Hilo to attend Eastern Oregon University. Eden’s mom was concerned that her daughter would be in a strange place for the first time with no support from anyone. Upon arriving in Portland, Eden would have to wait at a bus stop after midnight to catch a bus to LaGrande with all her luggage and boxes. KS Alumni Relations contacted Lenore to see if she could help. No problem. Lenore would meet Eden at the Portland airport, host her overnight and then take her to the bus stop the next morning. As a mom, Lenore had a change of heart and decided to drive the four hours to LaGrande, Ore. – she wanted to make sure



Host family member Judy Burge Enszer ‘65 (left) with Kimberly Makahilahila ‘00 and friend David Miyamoto on the campus at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian College.

Eden got to the campus safely. How is that for going “beyond the call...?”. Mahalo, Lenore.

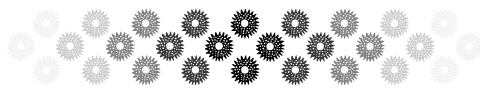
COLLEGE CAPERS

Congratulations to **Kelly Frasco ‘95** who graduated from University of Hawai’i at Mānoa with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education. Kelly is currently employed in the JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching Program) in Osaka. She teaches English to middle and high school students. Kelly enjoys traveling throughout Japan.

Raenelle Kwock ‘97 is a senior at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa and is interning at the *Des Moines Register*. During the summer she interned at the *Honolulu Advertiser*.

KS graduates **Mikel Okouchi ‘97**, **Shanon Makanui ‘98**, **Clinton Alexander ‘98**, **Shanell Kawasaki ‘99**, **Laila Apostol ‘99**, **Tamara Shiota ‘99**, **William “B.J.” Awa Jr. ‘99**, **Chelsea Gacusana ‘00** and **Amanda Hegerfeldt ‘00** send their greetings from Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore.

Nicole Bento ‘00 is pursuing her goal to become a journalist and has started writing for Chapman University’s weekly *Panther* newspaper. She and **Wesley Freitas ‘00** give daily tours of the campus to prospective Chapman students. Wesley is currently on the set of Chapman University’s *Nightcap* television production. He is the first and only freshman to ever be given the opportunity to host *Nightcap*. Recently his evening guests included Debra Wilson of *Mad TV* and Scott Devine, whose works include *Shark Attack 1, 2, and 3*. KS ‘00s **Nicole Bento**, **Jamie Sitch**, **Keoki Kanakaokai**, **Everett Lacro**, **John Balauro**, **Scott Kekua** and **Heather Imai ‘99** were in the audience during Wesley’s debut performance. Wesley also hosts a weekly radio show for Chapman’s KNAB station.



COLLEGE CLOSE-UP



The University of Puget Sound's Chad Mahoe '99 and Jacob Pacarro '97.



KS '00 classmates at Gonzaga University include Justin Camarillo (front) and (from left) Helen Nahoopii, Rachel Ascuncion and Leah Peterson.



Liana Lum '00 with KS College Counselor Amy Sato at the natural amphitheater on the grounds of Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania.

KS graduates attending colleges in Washington State gathered for Thanksgiving dinner at **James Ka's '00** home for laulau, kālua pig, lomi salmon, pipi kaula, poke and poi. Enjoying the good food and company were **KS '00s Maleko Taylor** (University of Santa Clara), **Jon Apo** (Seattle University), **Haku Lovell**, **Justin Akuna**, **Deryk Kepono Labuguen**, **Aaron Maluo** (Oregon State University), **James Ka** (Pepperdine University), **Kanoe Marciel** (Washington State University), and **Leah Peterson** (Gonzaga University).

The University of Puget Sound closed its football season on a winning note. Not since 1987 had UPS experienced a champion football season. Two graduates from Kamehameha contributed to this feat: **Jacob Pacarro '97** (defensive

back) and **Chad Mahoe '99** (running back). During the football season, Chad received several awards, including athlete of the week from his region and later from the Northwest Conference. His 114 yards rushing and one touchdown contributed to the upset of last year's champs, Willamette University with a final score of 17 to 14. At the end of the year football banquet held at UPS, Chad received the Most Valuable Running Back Award.

Liana Lum '00 sends greetings from Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania where she was recently visited by KS College Counselor Amy Sato.

Rachel Puanani Asuncion '00 sends us news from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash., where she and other KS graduates enjoyed the winter snow and are having a great college experience.

KS graduates are all members of the Hawai'i Pacific Islander's Club. **Helen Nahoopii '00** works in the Admissions Office, **Leah Peterson '00** is majoring in special education, **Justin Camarillo '00** is actively involved in church activities. Rachel and **Lamont Dabbs '98** are Gonzaga cheerleaders.

Kimberly Makahilahila '00 attends St. Andrew's College in Laurinburg, N.C. where she is majoring in pre-med. She is a member of the women's volleyball team and reports that between the classroom and the playing court there is hardly any time left for "extras." She misses local food, local folks and not seeing the ocean.



Students at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore. From left, Shanell Kawasaki '99, Chelsea Gacusana '00, William Awa '99, Laila Apostol '99, Tammy Shirota '99, Shanon Makanui '98, Mikel Okouchi '97, Amanda Hegerfeldt '00, Clinton Alexander '98.



Wesley Freitas '00 (far right) with co-hosts Kelli Stavast and Debra Wilson of *Mad TV* and movie writer Scott Devine on the set of Chapman University's *Nightcap*.



KS '00 students attending Washington state colleges gather for Thanksgiving. From left, Maleko Taylor, Jon Apo, Haku Lovell, Justin Akuna, Kepono Labouguen, Aaron Maluo, James Ka, Kanoe Marciel and Leah Peterson.

KS CAMPUS COLLEGE FAIR

On Dec. 27, 2000, 55 colleges and universities were represented at the Sixth Annual KS Campus College Fair held in Kalama Dining Hall. KS graduates served as facilitators for their respective campuses and shared their college experiences with students (in grades 9-12) and parents. A student panel and a parent panel contributed insights into the “do’s and don’t’s” of going away to college. The fair is modeled after the Hawai’i State Career and College Fair held every year at the Blaisdell Center in November. KS graduates **Lawrence Kekaulike ’87**, **Cherie Loveland Andrade ’88**, **Michelle M. Park ’91**, **Johnelle Pua Low ’90**, and **Bronson Pono Lopez ’96** represented Hawai’i Pacific University, Chapman University, and Whitworth College at the fair. (Lawrence, Cherie, Michelle, and Bronson have also worked the KS Campus College Fair.)



Hawai’i State and College Fair representatives, from left, Lawrence Kekaulike ’87, Cherie Loveland Andrade ’88, Michelle Malia Park ’91, Johnelle Pua Low ’90 and Bronson Pono Lopez ’96.



Bill Gates Millennium Scholarship recipients Betty J. Noelani Iokepa ’92 (left) and Yvonne Kaulukane Leftcourt at Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Va.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Betty J. Noelani Iokepa ’92 and **Yvonne Kaulukane Leftcourt** were two of three Native Hawaiians to receive the Bill Gates Millennium Scholarships during the 2000-2001 academic year. B. J. is a doctoral candidate in educational leadership through the University of Southern California. Her mentor is **Teresa Makuakane-Drechsel ’71**. B. J. is also a Hawaiian immersion teacher at Pūnanaleo o Kawaiāha’o.

Yvonne is a doctoral student in education at the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa. Her mentor is **Kerri-Ann Hewett ’76**. Yvonne teaches first grade at Kapunahala Elementary School in Kāne’ohe.

Both recipients attended the inaugural GMS Leadership Seminar in Chantilly, Va. The first of its kind for graduate students, the seminar was designed to provide opportunities for scholars to participate in career development, skills building, and networking.

For the 2000-2001 school year, the Gates organization received 62,000 scholarship applications. Of that number 4000 scholarships were awarded to undergraduate and graduate students. Only 217 graduate students from 39 states were awarded grants. Bill and Melinda Gates have committed \$50 million dollars per year for the next 20 years to assist minorities in completing college. For more information log onto <http://www.gmsp.org>.