Under Neil’s leadership, the following programs were created:

‘Āina Ulu Program

The ‘Āina Ulu Program collaborates with community-based Native Hawaiian-serving organizations statewide to manage Ke Ali‘i Pauahi’s legacy lands for cultural, educational and community stewardship access. It was developed by a broad coalition of educational, conservation, economic, cultural professionals. Over the past 15 years, ‘Āina Ulu provided land-based educational opportunities to learners on its agricultural and conservation lands, in native forests, water resources, coastal habitats, and cultural landscapes.

- Supports community-based stewardship and education activities at 18 partner sites statewide serving 9,947 students on six islands in FY 14-15
- Community partners leverage over $5 million annually in grants, donations and in-kind services toward education and restoration projects on KS lands
- Actively manages 2,000 acres of KS land for community-based stewardship and education

First Nations Futures Program

The First Nations’ Futures Program is a fellowship focused on first nations’ community capacity-building through values-based leadership and integrated solutions for managing first nation resources. It was established by an international alliance between Kamehameha Schools, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Stanford University, Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu, and First Alaskans Institute/Sealaska. The program vision is to develop well-balanced first nation leaders who serve their people through important work in community, public or professional roles.

- Tenth year of programming with an alumni network of 115 international emerging leaders (55 Hawai‘i, 47 Aotearoa and 15 Alaska)
- Projects include: defining new paradigms towards sustainable tourism, sustainable food systems, ahupua‘a vision planning, growing farmers, educational strategizing and community based management

Wahi Kūpuna Program

CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

The Wahi Kūpuna Program focuses its cultural resource management activities on the protection, care and enhancement of wahi kūpuna (cultural resources) through knowledge collection, interpretation, and restoration of sites while cultivating cultural practices and ‘āina-based learning.

- 39,266 acres of increased knowledge of wahi kūpuna
- Completed 82 studies and documented 1,132 wahi kūpuna sites
- 73 interns trained and completed six field schools and internship programs in Hawaiian studies, archaeology and other fields

Mālama ‘Āina Program

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

The Mālama ‘Āina Program works to identify, protect, and preserve important native ecosystems on KS lands across 139,000 acres and five islands. These unique ancestral landscapes enhance and sustain educational opportunities, traditional practices and Hawaiian well-being.

- 138,850 acres of land managed to improve ecosystem health
- Habitats protected for 192 rare native plant and animal species
- One fifth of Hawai‘i’s high-yield watersheds are on KS lands

Hawaii‘i Investment Ready Program

The HIR Program supports both for-profit and nonprofit ventures with scalable solutions to regional and global challenges. It focuses on companies integrating a Hawaiian islands worldview – with impact themes like culture and language, resource conservation, family, community, and education – into their core business.

- More than $6 million raised by first cohort, jobs created and a multitude of social outcomes specific to each organization
- Capacity building: creating the capacity within each organization to strengthen their sustainability and increase impact
- Ecosystem building: bringing together an ecosystem of investors and entrepreneurs in Hawai‘i to solve social issues