

NĀ LAU LAMA

A Statewide
Collaboration
to Improve Outcomes for
Hawaiian Students



Holomua E-news bulletin

August 2007

Pūpūkāhi i Holomua. Unite in order to progress. (Mary Kawena Pukui)

Nā Lau Lama is a private-public partnership of more than 70 organizations focused on our public schools. The objective is to create meaningful, relevant connections that engage children using culture-based and place-based educational strategies. The purpose of this e-newsletter is to share information relevant to Nā Lau Lama, bringing research-based, culturally healthy and community educational practices together to advance learning and public education.

This summer has been a busy time for everyone! In this month's newsletter we feature several updates to keep people informed.

Transitions

Mahalo a nui, aloha and best wishes to **Anita Bruce** for your outstanding contributions to Nā Lau Lama; we will miss you greatly. Mahalo for your clarity and eloquence in communicating a complex project to numerous audiences, for facilitating connections among diverse stakeholders, and best wishes for continued success in your future adventures.

Anita has just completed a year-long DOE contract to represent the DOE as a participant on the planning committee and as a liaison to aid in the expansion of the Nā Lau Lama initiative in the department. As the planning phase is completed, the DOE is in the process of identifying a new liaison to provide for continued coordination and implementation of Nā Lau Lama activities.

Nā Lau Lama Community Report & Workbook

After a short delay, work is resuming on the Nā Lau Lama Community Report and Workbook. In order to identify pathways that reduce the educational disparities between Hawaiian students and their peers, working groups gathered valuable mana'ō from the Hawaiian education community and cultural practitioners.

- **Teachers** will benefit from the descriptions of what culture-based education looks like and how it works from the ground up.
- **Administrators and policymakers** will benefit from recommendations that are both research-based and actionable.

- In the end **students** and **families** will benefit from the creation of educational environments that embrace culture-based teaching and learning strategies.

The Community Report and Workbook is expected to be completed in the next 4-6 months. Regular updates will be sent out via Holomua e-news bulletins. For more information contact Brandon C. Ledward, Strategic Planning & Implementation at Kamehameha Schools, phone: (808) 541-5325.

Culture-based Education

Hawaiian Cultural Influences in Education is a collaborative research project being done by Kamehameha Schools and the Hawai'i Department of Education to better understand the range and impact of culture-based teaching and learning strategies in schools around the state.

- **Participants:** 62 schools, 604 teachers, 3,108 students and 2,539 parents/caregivers.
- **Preliminary findings:** Teachers in schools reporting higher use of culture-based strategies to engage students also incorporate research-based “best practices.” In effect, findings suggest a “double-win”, where students benefit both from Western best-practices in teaching and also from the use of Hawaiian indigenous strategies in the classroom.
- **Final report:** To be released in 2008 with analyses of student achievement, cultural knowledge and practice, connection to family and community, school engagement and self esteem.

For more information, contact:

Shawn Kana'iaupuni, project director, (808) 541-5365, (email) shkanaia@ksbe.edu
Brandon Ledward, project manager, (808) 541-5325, (email) brledwar@ksbe.edu

Nā Lau Lama presentations at the NIEA 38th Annual Convention



Nā Lau Lama’s educators and researchers will provide presentations and workshops on practices which positively influence teaching and learning to Native Hawaiian students at the NIEA 2007 convention, to be held in on October 25 – 28. The event will be held at the Hawai`i Convention Center.

The convention will feature exemplary programs developed by and for Native Hawaiians, American Indians, and Alaska Natives and include technical assistance

sessions, professional development, classroom teaching strategies, and successful cultural integration models, among other topics.

Convention details may be found online at www.hawaiiiconvention.com.

Hawaiian Culture Online Class

Deep in the lush, green valley of Nānākuli, 15-year-old David Hubbard completes a homework assignment for his Hawaiian Culture class and submits it to his teacher through a computer.

Home schooled by his mother Eva since kindergarten, David signed up to take this online course offered by Kamehameha Schools' Virtual Strategies and Distance Learning Branch. It's one of several classes comprising the 'Ike Hawai'i Distance Learning Program, which is available statewide to public and charter high school students.



Dave Hubbard, Distance Learning student

"It's a very good program that has taught me a lot of things about my Hawaiian culture that I had no idea about," said David Hubbard. "I would encourage my friends to try it. It's really easy to use."

The program offers classes in Hawaiian History, Hawaiian Culture, and English with a Hawaiian Pacific Literature focus, as well as Kumu Lecture Series courses. Students receive a Kamehameha Schools 'Ike Hawai'i Distance Learning semester credit upon successful completion of each course. Students need to check if their respective schools accept the credit.

Kamehameha Schools is currently accepting applications to the spring 2008 semester of the 'Ike Hawai'i Distance Learning Program. The semester runs from January 28-May 30, 2008. Applications are due by September 29, 2007.

For an application, call 842-8800. To download an application, visit www.ksbe.edu/admissions. For more information about the program and the admissions process, visit <http://ksdl.ksbe.edu/ikehawaii> or call (808) 842-8877.

We hope this e-newsletter will inspire new participants to connect with us as we work together to keep everyone informed about the work of Nā Lau Lama Hawaiian Education Initiative; we invite you or your educational organization to send in "Holomua" e-news to Elizabeth Aulsebrook at elaulseb@ksbe.edu. Me ke kākō`o mau.

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Nā Lau Lama Hawaiian Education Initiative Planning Committee

Hau`oli Akaka
Lui Hokoana
Maggie Hanohano
Keoni Inciong
Kū Kahakalau, PhD
Lilikalā Kame`eleihiwa, PhD

Shawn Malia Kanai`aupuni, PhD
Keiki Kawai`ae`a
Colin Kippen
VerlieAnn Malina-Wright, PhD
Kanoë Nāone
David Sing, PhD

**Aloha Science, Hawaiian Studies, Careers
&/or Special Education Teachers!**

If you would like **extra help and free resources** to make your courses more interesting and accessible to all students, especially **Hawaiians &/or students at risk** of school failure, you may be interested in joining our curriculum development project in its field test year in 2007-08.

Who We Are – Ka Hana 'Imi Na'auao (the seeking of scientific knowledge) is a three-year US DOE grant project being developed by: researchers and educators from UH-Mānoa's College of Education; community members (Hawaiian kūpuna, role models, employers, & 'ohana); cultural experts from ALU LIKE; and DOE high school teachers.

What We Do – So far we have worked with 5 teachers and about 175 students on O'ahu (Waialua, Nānākuli and Honolulu). Together we have developed a **culturally responsive science curriculum and resource** package which prepares students for **science-related college programs and careers**. Our materials are intended for grades 11-12, but may be useful to students in grades 9-10 as well.

What's in it for You & Your Students – We can come to your school this spring or summer to discuss options to help you integrate valuable resources to the courses you are teaching, including:

- 🌸 science, cultural and career-oriented **field trips**
- 🌸 science, cultural and career experts as **guest speakers**
- 🌸 projects to develop **foundational skills** for science & careers
- 🌸 hands-on activities to develop **career specific science skills**
- 🌸 adapted, culturally responsive **lessons and readings**
- 🌸 **films** made by, for & about **Hawaiians in science careers**
- 🌸 **teacher-friendly assessment** aligned with HCPS III & National Career Development Guidelines

We also will **help fund** activities and supplies as much as possible.



Ka Hana 'Imi Na'auao – A Science Careers Curriculum Resource

What's in it for Us – We want your input! We are looking for 10 teachers from all islands to field test the materials we've developed and simply tell us what works. **We welcome veteran and new teachers** of all ethnicities who work at rural or urban schools where the Hawaiian population is high. We will need a little help collecting student data (i.e. three 20-minute surveys, 1 parent consent form & the aid of your school registrar) to prove our materials can help all of our students improve their educational & career outcomes.

Our Shared Goals – We believe learning in Hawai'i must be grounded in the values and teaching/learning methods and styles of the host culture. If links are made, through such methods, between **traditional Hawaiian sciences** and **current, locally-relevant scientific study**, we think students will be inspired to seek the kind of help we can offer them. Our hope is to see the next generation of students, both Hawaiians and other local groups, become active participants who **use science to create a positive future for Hawai'i** – one with lōkahi (balance & harmony) and mālama (caring).

How to Join Us in 2007- 08 – For more information please contact:

Lisa Galloway, Coordinator

lisa.galloway@hawaii.edu

(808) 358-6751 (cell, 8am-4pm)

Kelly Roberts, Co-Principal Investigator

robertsk@hawaii.edu

(808) 392-9009 (cell, 4-8pm)

Other Cool Options – FREE DOE Professional Development Courses

We will offer our 4th **free 3-credit courses** to teachers in 2008. Join the ...

🌸 **Maui** PD Course #1940 beginning January 7 & 8, 2008

🌸 **NOTE: *Kaua'i* teachers please inquire about a possible course on your island in Spring 2008 or to get funding to join the Maui course**

These courses will help teachers integrate culturally responsive materials from *Ka Hana 'Imi Na'auao: A Science Careers Curriculum* &/or 2 previously published curricula: *Science in Hawai'i: Nā Hana Ma Ke Ahupua'a Curriculum*; and *Kukulu Nā Upo: Building Bridges*. To participate, check the PDERI master calendar at: <http://fms-web2.k12.hi.us/pderi> or contact us at the address above. See participant responses at "Chat" www.SciHI.hawaii.edu

Request Our Free Final Products – Ask for our binder sets, CD, DVD, VHS available after September 2008, & look for the website next spring!



Ke 'Aha ~ a symbol for Sustainability in Hawai'i ~ Past, Present & Future