

# **International Conference**

## **The Future of Education**

**It's a Cultural Thing: Helping College Students  
Successfully Navigate the Higher Education Landscape**

**Florence, Italy**  
**30 June 2016**



# Presentation Outline

- **Introduction**
- **Graduation rates of higher education institutions**
- **Culture of higher education**
- **Institutional learning outcomes**
- **Implementation**
  - Administrative
  - Department
  - Faculty levels
- **Conclusion and Q & A**





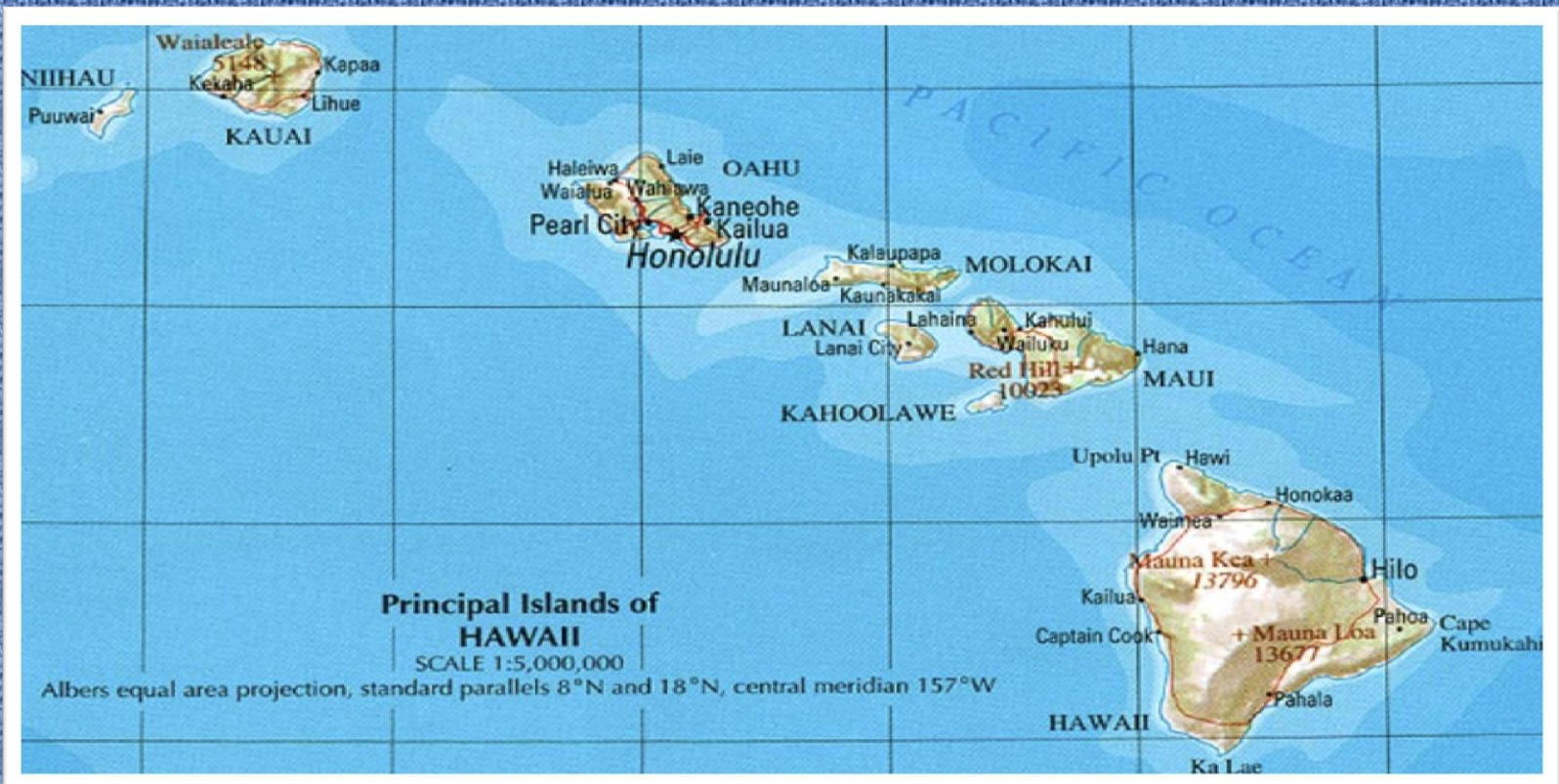
# **University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Education**

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# Hawai'i



# Overview of University of Hawai'i System

- The UH System is the only public higher education institution in Hawai'i.
- Over 60,000 students
- 10 campuses across 4 islands
  - 4 Universities
  - 6 Community Colleges
  - Numerous educational, training, and resource centers throughout Hawai'i



# Graduation Rates

- **Graduation rate of American institutions of higher education: 59%**
- **Graduation rate at UH Mānoa: 56%**
- **Graduation rate of UH Mānoa Special Education Department: 90%**
- **Employer satisfaction rate:**
  - **Knowledgeable: 93%**
  - **Caring: 91%**
  - **Effective: 87%**

# Factors in College Success

- A certain level of academic ability is critical to success
- Higher education cultural knowledge and behavioral expectations of higher education

Faculty expectations of students:

independence

self-management

appropriate communication behaviors

# Competencies Required in Higher Education and Beyond

- **Critical thinking**
- *Problem solving*
- *Interpersonal understanding*
- *Written communication*

*"Drive the need to looking beyond academic success to the development of learning the culture of higher education"*



# Institutional Learning Outcomes

American Council of Colleges and Universities (ACC & U; 2005) identified four learning outcomes:

- (1) Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Natural and Physical World
- (2) Intellectual and Practical Skills
- (3) Personal and Social Responsibility
- (4) Integrative Learning

# Implementation of ILOs


ILOs must be:

- Crafted to cover generic professional behaviors expected
- Clearly stated and explicit
- Operationalized to be specific and observable
- Acknowledged at all levels
- Enacted at all level





# Institutional Administrative Level

- Engages the university community in development and acceptance of ILOs
  - Disseminates draft ILOs to the different units and seeks input from entire community
  - Once finalized, departments encouraged to identify specific skills, teaching and learning activities relative to ILOs
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# Department Level

- Must have opportunities to discuss how ILOs relate to the discipline and program of study
- Must transmit ILOs through program documents and course syllabi
- Must have opportunities to embrace their role in the enculturation process







# Faculty Level

**Faculty needs time and support to incorporate the ILOs into their courses syllabi and instructional plans**

**For enculturation to occur, faculty must provide:**

- exemplars of desired behaviors**
- opportunities for practice with peers and faculty**
- directly teach the desired behaviors**
- foster students' use of the desired behaviors**



# Faculty Responsibilities

## Instructional Faculty

- Not enough to provide information and check for understanding
- Must create a class culture based on the ILOs
- Identify their own expectations within their class and their discipline
- Operationalize, teach, provide practice and motivate

## Student Affairs Faculty

- Goal is to provide activities to engage student and support learning
- Operationalize ILOs to teach and model use of these behaviors to enable student success
- Stimulate discussion around cultural behaviors and practice standards of the discipline



# The Bottom Line



- It takes the entire higher education community – from administration through all faculty – to employ these practices
- Active faculty engagement in the enculturation process leads to successful student outcomes in higher education and beyond

THANK  
YOU



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***Mahalo!***

