The world’s largest resource faculty for Asian and Pacific studies resides in the School of Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific Studies (SHAPS) at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, where 300 faculty members offer more than 600 courses related to Hawai‘i, the Pacific and Asia. The School pioneered the study of Japan in America and is home to the oldest and largest Korean studies program outside of Korea.

**KEY INITIATIVES**

SHAPS was awarded $2.7 million in U.S. Department of Education National Resource Center (NRC) grants for East Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands. SHAPS is the only NRC for the Pacific Islands.

Through the SHAPS Short-term in Hawai‘i program, 200 college students from the U.S. continent come to Hawai‘i to be trained in Asian and Pacific Studies.

SH APS received $400,000 from the Ford Foundation for the “Moving Cultures” project; it was one of only 18 out of 250 applicants to receive funding.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded the Center for Hawaiian Studies $333,280 as part of Institutions Assisting Communities Program; the center was the first Native Hawaiian academic program to receive a HUD grant.

**SHAPS PROGRAMS**

Center for Chinese Studies
Center for Hawaiian Studies
Center for Japanese Studies
Center for Korean Studies
Center for Pacific Islands Studies
Center for Philippine Studies
Center for South Asian Studies
Center for Southeast Asian Studies
Committee for the Preservation and Study of Hawaiian Language, Art and Culture

**ACADEMIC FOCUS AREAS**

- **Asian Studies**

  Asian Studies is concerned with the people and countries in the broad arc of Asia extending from Afghanistan in the west to China, Japan and Korea in the east and including the Philippines and other islands and peninsulas of Southeast Asia to the south. All students are encouraged to study the language of that country or region up to and beyond the second-year level. The master’s program in Asian Studies takes students out of the narrow confines of a single discipline where the focus is usually on methodology and instead focuses study on a particular geographical and cultural region of Asia. This allows a student to take a whole range of courses that would be impossible while restricted within a discipline.

  - The mission of the **Hawaiian Studies Program**, as enunciated by a statewide council of Hawaiian educators in their Ka‘u report of 1986, is “to achieve and maintain excellence in the pursuit of knowledge concerning the Native people of Hawai‘i, their origin, history, culture, language, literature, religion, arts and sciences; their interactions with the oceanic environment and other peoples; and to reveal, disseminate and apply this knowledge for the betterment of all peoples.” Through student services, instruction, research and community outreach, the Center dedicates itself to serving the Native people of Hawai‘i from Ni‘ihau to Hawai‘i Island.

  - **Pacific Islands Studies** brings together people and resources to promote understanding of the Pacific Islands and issues of concern to Pacific Islanders through teaching, research, dissemination of information and community involvement. The Center seeks to develop cooperative relationships with institutions in the region and around the world that share its concerns.

**PROminent FACulty AND STUDENTS**

Professor in Hawaiian Studies **Haunani-Kay Trask** represented the Hawaiian Nation at the United Nations, in Geneva, Switzerland.

Professor of Asian Studies **Barbara Andaya** received the 1999 Guggenheim Fellowship for her research on gender issues in Southeast Asia.

Professor of Asian Studies **Dru Gladney** is interviewed frequently on China and Central Asia issues by the Washington Post, Time, Newsweek, LA Times, CNN and other news organizations.

Professor of Asian Studies **Michael Aung-Thwin** received 1998 CHOICE Outstanding Book Award for Myth and History in the Historiography of Early Burma: Paradigms, Primary Sources, and Prejudices.

The work of **Vilsoni Hereniko**, Pacific Islands Studies professor and playwright, has been featured in four national and international film festivals.

Asian Studies graduate student **Bryce Beemer** awarded the Western Association of Graduate Students Best Thesis Award.

For more information, please contact Interim Dean Edgar A. Porter at (808) 956-8922 or edgara@hawaii.edu

www.hawaii.edu/shaps