Communicating the Value of Your Degree through Institutional Learning Outcomes

Wendy Pearson, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Amy Schiffner, Associate Professor of Theatre & Dance
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Overview

- Using Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) to Communicate Our Value to Various Constituencies
- UH Mānoa, est. 1907
  - Land-, Sea-, Space-Grant Institution
  - Research Extensive, Comprehensive University
  - Strengths: Research and Asia-Pacific orientation
  - Hawaiian Place of Learning
- What do these facts ***mean***?
- The lens through which we approach our ILOs

UH Mānoa and ILOs

1. Know – Breadth and Depth Knowledge. *Students develop their understanding of the world with emphasis on Hawai'i, Asia, and the Pacific by integrating:*

- General Education
- Specialized study in an academic field (the major)
- Understanding of Hawaiian culture and history

2. Do – Intellectual and Practical Skills. *Students improve their abilities to:*

- Think critically and creatively
- Conduct research
- Communicate and report

3. Value – Personal and Social Responsibility. *Students demonstrate excellence, integrity, and engagement through:*

- Continuous learning and personal growth
- Respect for people and cultures, in particular Hawaiian culture
- Stewardship of the natural environment
- Civic participation in their communities

Implementation

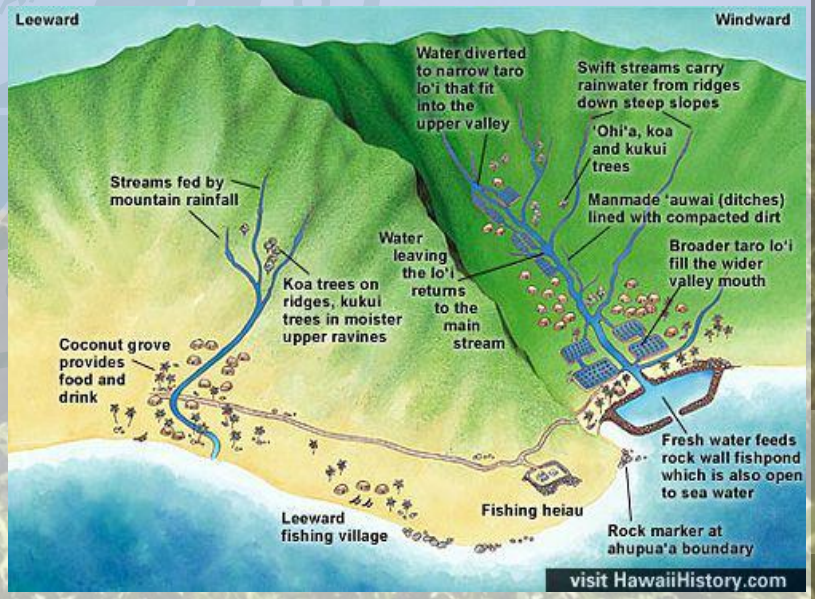
Communicating the Value

- Telling our story.
- Why should students choose Mānoa? Why should their parents support that choice?
- Why should employers want to hire a Mānoa graduate? Why should the state (re)invest in Mānoa?
- ILOs represent who we are as an institution.
- ILOs can help us articulate more effective answers to these questions.

Stewards of the ILOs

- Program assessment and mapping
- Guiding curricular and instructional choices
- Faculty kuleana
- Ahupua‘a: A ecological system of management that emphasizes relationships between people, places and practices.

- The livelihood of one part is dependent upon the other part.



Students

- The decision to pursue a degree is a commitment for the student as well as their ohana.
- Too many choices, differences not apparent, value called into question.
- Time-to-degree issues. Degree requirements do not always make sense to students.
- ILOs an opportunity to communicate the difference and advantage of the lens through which our ILOs are approached/engaged.
- Engagement is a choice. We choose it when we see value in it.

Meet “Kelli”

Incoming freshman

Kelli's First Year

Courses	Experiences	ILOs
Fall, Year One Intro to Biology I General Chemistry I Applied Calculus I English Composition I	• Meets with advisors and explores general education options. • Receives Financial Aid, qualifies for Federal Work Study. • Joins Residential Learning Community for Health Professions.	KNOW-Breadth & Depth: General Education DO-Intellectual & Practical Skills Think critically and creatively; Communicate & report.
Spring, Year One Intro to Biology II General Chemistry II Intro to Sociology Culture and Cuisine	• Enjoys Sociology course, considers a Sociology minor.	KNOW-Breadth & Depth: DO-Intellectual & Practical Skills
Summer, Year One	• Participates in the Summer Cancer Research Internship for High School and Undergraduate Students at the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i	DO-Intellectual & Practical Skills Conduct research

Kelli's Second Year

Courses	Experiences	ILOs
Fall, Year Two Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Organic Chemistry I Geography & Contemporary Society Elementary Hawaiian	Begins Federal Work-study position as a Lab Assistant in a Chemistry Lab. Applies and is accepted to the Medical Student Mentorship Program	KNOW-Breadth & Depth: Specialized study (major); Hawaiian culture & history. DO-Intellectual & Practical Skills VALUE-Personal & Social Responsibility Respect for people & cultures
Spring, Year Two Cell & Molecular Biology Organic Chemistry II College Physics I Elementary Hawaiian Survey of Psychology	Joins Mortar Board Honor Society Joins the Biology Club and participates in community service activity with the Waimea Audubon Conservation Project.	KNOW-Breadth & Depth: DO-Intellectual & Practical Skills VALUE-Personal & Social Responsibility Stewardship of the natural environment; Civic participation
Summer, Year Two	Service Learning Experience - Nutrition Education to native populations, emphasis on eating locally and organically.	KNOW-Breadth & Depth: DO-Intellectual & Practical Skills: VALUE-Personal & Social Responsibility

Kelli's Third Year

Courses	Experiences	ILOs
Fall, Year Three Concepts of Genetics Biotechnology & Ethical Issues College Physics II Intermediate Hawaiian	MCAT and Med School Applications - Attends application workshops and study courses through the Medical Student Mentorship Program.	KNOW-Breadth & Depth: DO-Intellectual & Practical Skills VALUE-Personal & Social Responsibility
Spring, Year Three Research & Ethics Biology of Micro-organisms Principles of Effective Public Speaking Intermediate Hawaiian Principles of Sociological Inquiry	Decides to pursue Sociology Minor	KNOW-Breadth & Depth: DO-Intellectual & Practical Skills Think critically and creatively; Communicate & report VALUE-Personal & Social Responsibility
Summer, Year Three	Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program: "Anticancer compounds from Hawaiian fungi."	VALUE-Personal & Social Responsibility Continuous learning & personal growth

Kelli's Final Year

Courses	Experiences	ILOs
Fall, Final Year Principles of Biochemistry Human Anatomy & Physiology Women and Health Survey of Sociology Aging Survey of Medical Sociology	Applies to Medical School, takes the MCATs.	KNOW-Breadth & Depth: DO-Intellectual & Practical Skills: VALUE-Personal & Social Responsibility
Spring, Final Year Ethology Natural History - Hawaiian Islands Introduction to Indigenous Studies Analysis in Field Research Methods	Accepted to Medical School	KNOW-Breadth & Depth: DO-Intellectual & Practical Skills: VALUE-Personal & Social Responsibility
Graduation BS in Biology, minor in Sociology (cum laude) Accepted to Medical School. ***** Kelli's resume highlights the skills and experiences gained through engaging with the ILOs.***	KNOW-Breadth/Depth Specialized study in Biology; Hawaiian culture and history. DO-Intellectual/Practical Skills Think critically and creatively; Conduct research; Communicate and report.	VALUE – Personal & Social Responsibility Continuous learning/personal growth; Respect for people and cultures; Stewardship of natural environment; Civic participation in community.

Kelli's College Plan

The "Kelli" model serves three primary purposes:

1. Kelli shows how General Education and the major map to ILOs.
2. Kelli shows how ILOs can *guide the choices* of students. With ILOs as a framework, students can make **purposeful** choices regarding their courses **and** co-curricular activities.
3. Kelli shows how the *entire undergraduate experience* shapes a Mānoa graduate.

Employers

- Students can market themselves based on the skills they've gained through engagement with the ILOs.
- **Know:** Major, General Education, Hawaiian Culture &History
- **Do:** Critical Thinking, Conduct Research, Communicate/Report
- **Value:** Civic Engagement, Stewardship, Respect

The State (Legislators)

We can use **assessment results** to quantify statements:

- **Know:** "90% of Mānoa students graduate with an understanding of native points of view regarding Hawai'i's role in the Pacific and relation with other economies of the world."
- **Do:** "4 out of 5 Mānoa undergraduates conduct and report on original research by time of graduation."
- **Value:** "80% of Mānoa students are civically engaged in their communities through service learning and volunteer opportunities in the major."

Brand our University

- Articulate what is unique about Mānoa.
- Through assessment, provide evidence of what we do.
- Remember our lens of engagement.
- Use our ILOs to articulate:
  - Why students should choose Mānoa.
  - Why the state should support Mānoa.
  - How what we do benefits our community.
- That becomes our brand.

THE MĀNOA EXPERIENCE

Explore Our Mānoa

UNIVERSITY of HAWAI'I®
MĀNOA

ALOHA KAKAHIAKA

As dawn breaks, students arrive at Waikīkī Beach after a morning run.

EXPERIENCES
& PERSPECTIVES

—

The highly qualified educators at UH Mānoa bring a wealth of experience and perspective to the classroom whether it's indoors or outdoors.

"My psychology professor is super friendly and he can really relate to us."

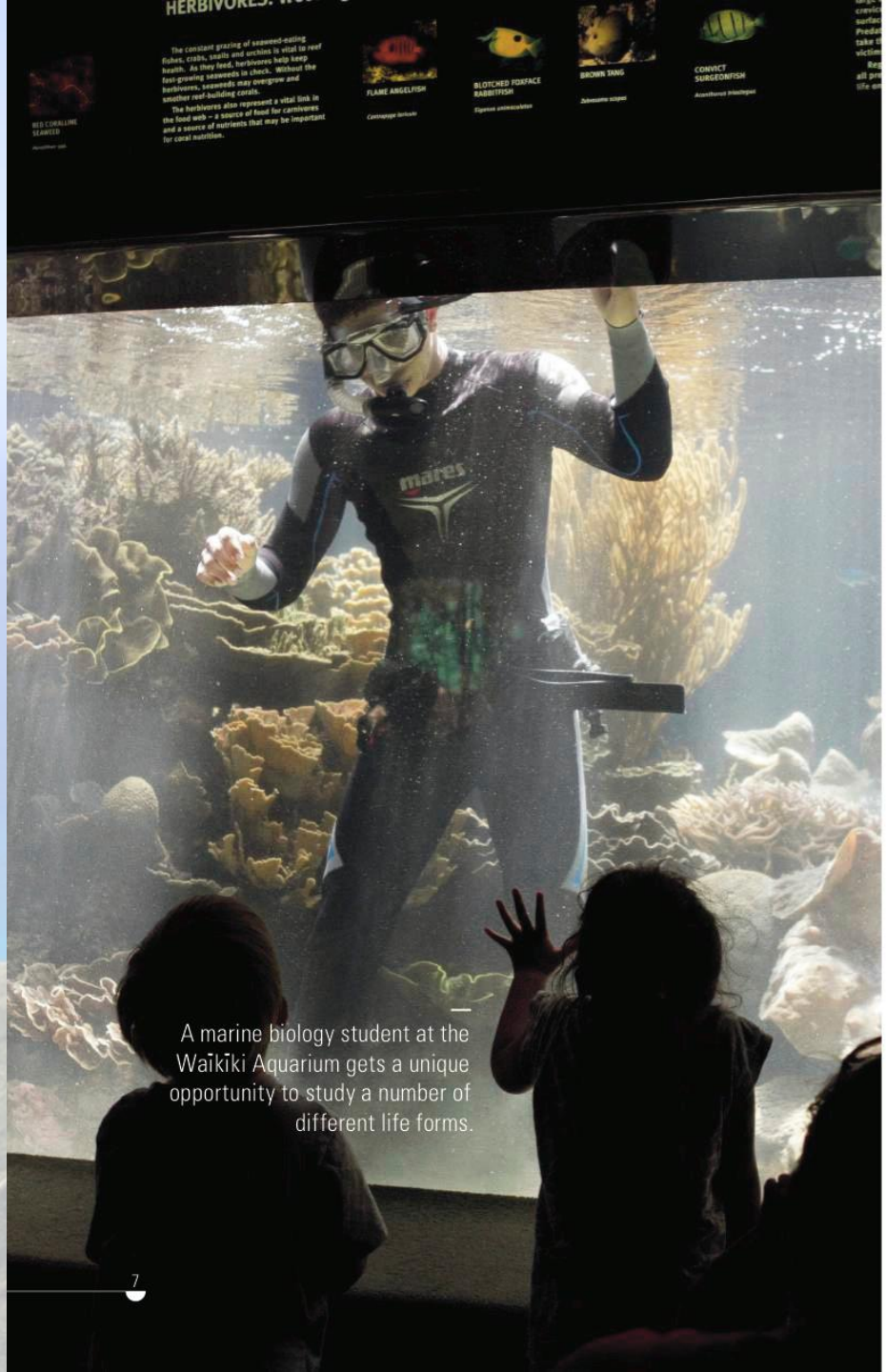
Zach, Junior

—

Going to class may involve a classroom or lecture hall, but it may also include time in the field, in a *lo'i* (taro patch), or even an aquatic laboratory.

You have to be willing to take the risk that your idea may not be the best or perfect but you can't let the fear of critique stop you from taking that risk.

Caleb, Junior



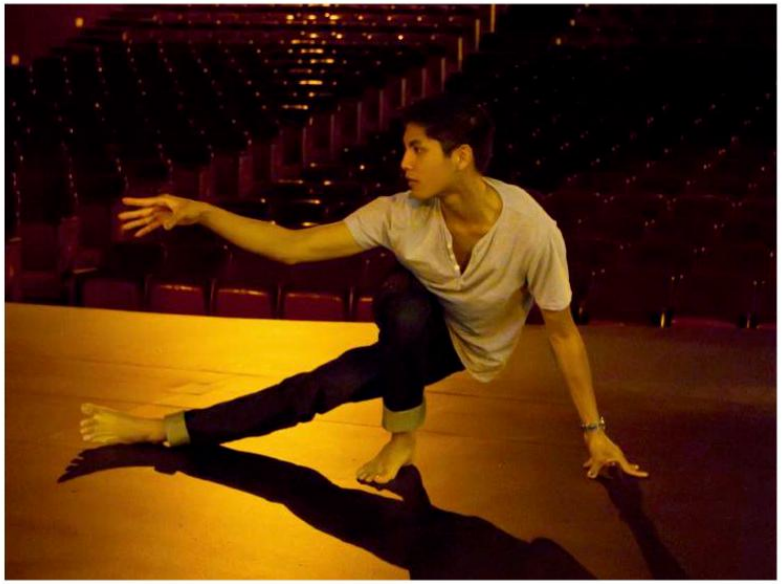
A marine biology student at the Waikīki Aquarium gets a unique opportunity to study a number of different life forms.

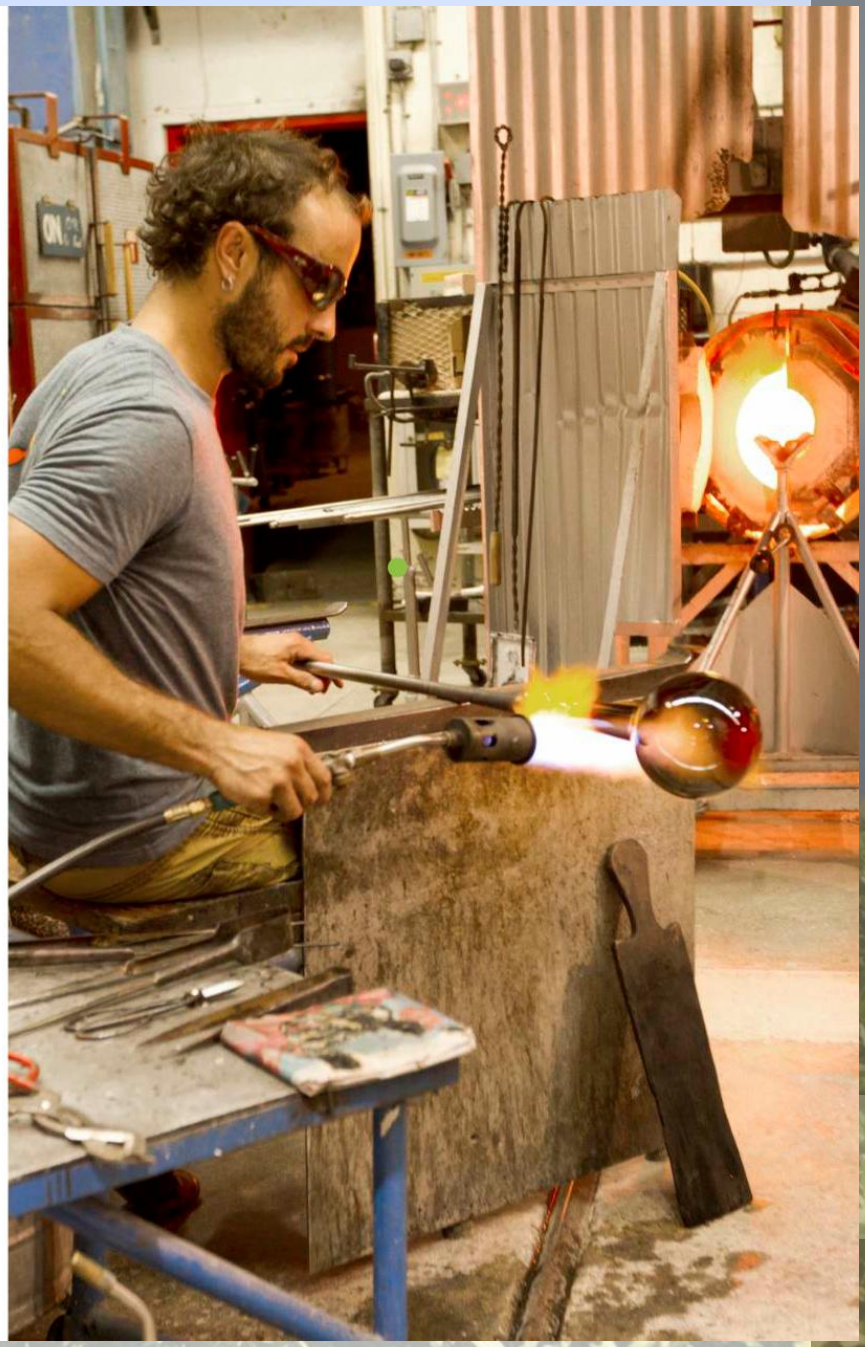
OWN YOUR
EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Students are encouraged to participate in a wide range of experiences found in our unique course offerings.

Professors are really good about office hours, you get a lot of one-on-one time."

Sueo, Sophomore





At UH Mānoa, students receive not only quality education, but they actively participate in creating their own educational experience. The possibilities are endless through a wide variety of degree programs as well as the opporunitity to design your own major.

PROFESSIONAL
& ALUMNI MENTORS

—

Shidler College of Business students are mentored by professionals and alumni who generously guide and prepare them for future careers.

—

Students **build their networks** at a dinner party specifically organized for them to meet business professionals.

Photos courtesy of Shidler College of Business

...the warm lights of Mānoa welcome you home.
Come make this your Mānoa.

Mahalo