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OVER THE PAST year I have had the wonderful opportunity to visit several of the countries from which our students come and where our alumni reside. I have seen firsthand the development of the students—including this past May when Margaret and I joined the BYU–Hawaii Concert Choir in Asia. I was impressed as I observed current students and alumni serve together as ambassadors for the university.

I have seen the strength of BYU–Hawaii alumni in Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Samoa, Taiwan, Tonga, and elsewhere. Their influence is felt for good in their communities, in their wards and stakes, and especially in their families. They represent the university well. They are “genuine gold.”

As BYU–Hawaii looks to the future, our purposes will center on preparing our students to serve and be leaders throughout the world. Thank you for your support of and involvement with our students. There is much good you can do to bless their lives by helping prospective students prepare, being mentors, identifying opportunities for jobs and internships, and being powerful examples of faith and devotion to the Savior. They will then leave the BYU–Hawaii campus with even more refined character, integrity, and greater capacity to build the kingdom of God.

Mahalo,

Steven C. Wheelwright
President, BYU–Hawaii
A TIME OF REDEDICATION

Students find faith through service during the Laie Hawaii Temple closure

RUNNING a family of five from Korea to Hawaii required great sacrifice and a considerable amount of faith, but Tae Kwang Kwon knew it would be worth it. He was coming to further his education to be able to better provide for his wife and three sons. After only a short time in Hawaii, he and his family began feeling promptings to attend the temple to be sealed together. In a family home evening it was decided. They were united in their desire to make the preparations to go to the temple together.

Their desire to be sealed as a family was great, but the decision came during a somewhat inopportune time—the nearby Laie Hawaii Temple had been closed for renovations and would not reopen for another year. Although there is another temple in Hawaii, living on a student budget made the trip to the Kona Hawaii Temple almost impossible. “We thought we would make the journey, temple work did not cease; it simply took a different form. In Laie, people served in many ways at church entrances or ‘lifts the overall spirituality of the area.’”

Closure Reveals Devotion

When the temple closed, it presented an opportunity for students to express their faith through action as they planned trips to the Kona Hawaii Temple as individuals, groups, and entire wards.

The BYU–Hawaii 8th Ward traveled to Kona for a two-day stay, arriving early in the morning to begin their service, which lasted until nighttime. The bishopric had arranged for the students to stay with members, but because there were so many of them, there were not enough beds for everyone. The students, however, did not seem to mind. They slept on the floor, lawn chairs on the back porch, or any other flat surface available to them. Students purchased their own tickets to travel, and for those who had the desire but not the resources to travel, means were provided. The students of the ward helped one another, provided service, and grew from the experience. Many student wards made the trek to the Big Island during the time of the temple closure. During these trips, students experienced the tremendous blessings reserved for those who sacrifice for the Lord.

“I was endowed in the Laie Temple, so for me the temple is a sign of the commitment I have made to be righteous, even a symbol of the things I have accomplished and learned during my stay in Hawaii.”

—Celeste Ketcher, Australia

Turning Hearts to Fathers

Even for students who were not able to make the journey, temple work did not cease; it simply took a different form. In Malachi, 4:5-6, the Lord says, “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet . . . And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers.” Students’ hearts turned to their fathers as they met in computer labs during Sunday School to learn about the new FamilySearch web site (familysearch.org). The search for ancestors has resulted not only in hundreds of names now prepared for temple work but also a generation of young adults prepared to share the joy of family history work.
Approaching Dedication

As the rededication approaches, the words of President Gordon B. Hinckley are on the minds of the Saints: “Live worthy to hold a temple recommend. There is nothing more precious than a temple recommend. . . . Whether you can go there frequently or not, qualify for a temple recommend and keep a recommend in your pocket. It will be a reminder to you of what is expected of you as a Latter-day Saint” (“Inspirational Thoughts,” Ensign, April 2002, 4). In an effort to live up to the expectations of which President Hinckley spoke, the Saints in Laie have made preparations for the temple rededication a community effort.

In the weeks prior to the temple re-dedication, an open house will take place, and tens of thousands of people will tour the temple. The open house provides a unique opportunity for the entire community. One student comments, “I have family members who are not members of the Church, and I know the open house and rededication can bring a light into their lives.” Other students have volunteered to lead tours through the temple and answer questions.

For all involved, the temple’s closure was a blessing in disguise. Students and community members have found increased spiritual power and are more dedicated to the Lord and to each other. While the temple has been enhanced and renewed within to become a superior tool, so have the faithful church members it serves.

The temple is part of my school experience at BYU-Hawaii. It is the most wonderful place to go to find peace and inspiration. The absence of the temple required me to strengthen my faith without having the constant reminder of continual temple attendance there to help me. I was able to do so through service and Christ like love.

—Denni Kumar, Fiji

Reach Beyond

College of Business, Computing and Government

BYU-Hawaii has four academic colleges through which all majors are offered. BYU-Hawaii Magazine will spotlight each of these colleges in this and upcoming issues of the magazine. For more information, please visit academics.byuh.edu.

The world is feeling smaller all the time. As technology continues to revolutionize the global economy, the need to be ahead of the curve is becoming more evident in all fields. Finding a school that offers programs and opportunities to match these advances is a critical decision for students looking for that competitive edge. And that is what many are finding at BYU-Hawaii’s College of Business, Computing, and Government.

The college combines strong theoretical learning with personalized student development and an emphasis on practical skills and experience that prepare students for immediate employment, both domestically and internationally.

Here we take a closer look at each of the four departments that make up the college: Accounting, Business Management, Computer and Information Sciences, and Political Science.

Accounting

Accounting is the universal language of business and is a challenging field of expertise that is perpetually in demand at organizations worldwide. Students receive extensive training in financial and managerial accounting, auditing, information systems, international accounting, and taxation.

“Our accounting graduates develop not only a solid fundamental understanding of U.S. (U.S. GAAP) and international (IFRS) accounting standards, but they also develop solid technological skills with auditing software (ACL), database systems (currently implementing SAP), and overall business analysis software (Excel),” says Kevin Kimball, accounting department chair. “These technological skills help our students hit the ground running and provide value to their employers from day one.”

Read more online at accounting.byuh.edu.

Business Management

Two majors offered in this department, business management and hospitality and tourism management, give business-minded students from all over the world a place to learn the skills needed to succeed in all areas of business. A year ago, the business management major was reorganized into five specified tracks: corporate finance, investment finance, marketing, human resource management, and organizational behavior, and operations management.

“After conducting a global survey with employers, many discussions with professionals, and leaders in businesses and other organizations domestically and internationally, it was clear that in order to give a competitive advantage to BYU-Hawaii students, we had to change our approach and curriculum,” says Helena Hannonen, business management professor and former department chair. “We benchmarked several universities and aligned our curriculum with our sister BYU campus. Most importantly, we made changes that would allow our students to enter the job market with the necessary knowledge, edge and skills that are desirable in today’s business environment.”

Certificates and specialized trainings are another key advantage that BYU-Hawaii students receive in the Business Management department. Students can take the first exam toward earning the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation, an internationally recognized certification and one of the most respected designations in finance.

Another program recently made available to students is the prestigious Bloomberg certification. BYU-Hawaii is one of few campuses in the United States to offer this exclusive training and
certification program that teaches how to analyze news, financial information, and economic data on publicly traded companies. The Bloomberg Professional service provides the capability to monitor and analyze real-time financial market data movements and place trades. The ability to effectively use this system provides the expertise for students to gain ready employment.

Clubs and professional student organizations such as Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), Alliance of Marketing Professionals and Students (AMPS), and the Seaside Investment Club give business management students the edge they need as they enter the ever-changing business landscape.

In addition to in-class and on-campus teaching and learning, extensive internship opportunities have been developed to provide students with special experience for on-the-job training. In 2010, more than 45 BYU–Hawaii students in the Business Management department participated in internships at companies like Deutsche Bank, Goldman Sachs, Fiji Ministry of Social Welfare, Frito Lay, and Bloomberg.

Read more online at cis.byuh.edu.

**Computer and Information Sciences**

In the Computer and Information Sciences (CIS) department, students learn the diverse languages of technology; increase their problem-solving abilities, refine their analytical skills, learn to work in teams, and gain hands-on experience with relevant and powerful technologies. Graduates from the CIS department design, develop, manage, and maintain the advanced technology solutions called for by organizations worldwide. There are currently three bachelor of science degree programs offered within the CIS Department: computer science, information systems, and information technology. In addition, students can select a minor in any of these three areas to complement their major program of study.

“Our students take a variety of courses that prepare them for exciting careers that are in high demand both domestically and internationally,” says Jim Lee, chair of the CIS Department. “Students gain experience with different operating systems environments like Linux and Windows and also learn to develop applications and websites using a variety of languages such as Perl, Java, and PHP. Upon graduation, students have many career options from which to choose.”

Career opportunities include positions such as Systems Engineer, IS/IT Project Manager, Network Security Consultant, Software Engineer, Telecommunications Engineer, Database Administrator/Manager, Computer Programmer, Web Developer, Information Systems Analyst, and Network Systems Administrator. Graduates from the CIS department are designing, developing, managing, and maintaining the advanced technology solutions that are running today’s organizations around the world.

Read more online at cis.byuh.edu.

**Political Science**

The Department of Political Science serves as a source of leadership development in the Pacific Rim, Asia, and the United States. It also serves as a stepping stone for careers in law, business, and government. With an international emphasis, the department offers core classes in constitution, international relations, and government. Students explore challenging questions facing communities, nations, and the world. While many study political science in preparation for leadership careers in public service, law, or the non-profit sector, students gain valuable skills that are vital in any field or occupation.

“When students return to their homelands after studying political science at BYU–Hawaii, they are being selected for government, non-profit, and other NGO positions, as well as numerous other jobs and graduate schools,” says Michael Mundock, professor of political science. Dedicated faculty work to help students to obtain internships, meet requirements for graduation, and provide as much real-life, hands-on experience as possible for their students.

Read more online at politicscience.byuh.edu.

**“VOICES OF PEACE IN HARMONY”**

**Recently the Brigham Young University–Hawaii Concert Choir toured Taiwan and Hong Kong. Sharing their testimonies through song and service, and they came back to Laie knowing that God’s love is universal.**

Elder Johnson expressed high praise for the choir. “Students from the BYU–Hawaii Concert Choir not only performed well musically, but they also were wonderful representatives for the university and the Church. Seeing the youth and young adults of the Church in action always gives me great confidence in the future.”

**God Loves His Children**

The opportunity to encourage and uplift children touched the members of the tour. At more than a dozen schools in Kaohsiung, Taiwan; Chisan, Taiwan; and Hong Kong, choir members met with and performed for thousands of children, carrying a message of peace and harmony across cultures. Beyond providing entertaining performances, the choir members had the chance to interact individually with many of these young people.

A welcome letter from the Church’s Asia Area Presidency stated that the Concert Choir would “have opportunities to strengthen the youth of the Church in the cities you visit . . . and to lift the hearts of your audiences.” Several BYU–Hawaii students had life-changing experiences while visiting four schools for mentally and physically handicapped children.

Sakaihi Mills, a music major from Haunula, Hawaii, was one of those who was deeply moved. She said, “We sang several songs for them as well but my favorite was ‘I Am...”
It was indeed a humbling and rewarding set of experiences for all of us.

Singing Ambassadors
Selecting Taiwan and Hong Kong as the locations to visit was no accident since these places are key parts of BYU–Hawaii’s target area. The tour was a prime opportunity to promote BYU–Hawaii. At one school in a poor area of Hong Kong, President Wheelwright spoke to a group of about 50 parents. He shared a message that I started to cry, and I couldn’t really stop until we left. Those kids were so pure that I started to cry, and I couldn’t really stop until we left. Those kids were so pure.

In addition, a cultural exchange camp at Feng Chia University in Taichung, Taiwan, created networking opportunities with local students and faculty who could help current students find internships and jobs after graduation. The choir also held a music workshop for church members in Taipei.

Come, Come Ye Saints
Wherever they went, the choir was warmly welcomed by the local Saints. Hundreds of Church members attended the choir’s concerts and firesides in Hong Kong and Taipei.

In addition to these formal events, there were opportunities for more personal interaction between the touring group and Church members throughout Taiwan and Hong Kong. On the first night of the tour, the choir members split up to join families in the Kaohsiung East and West Stakes for family home evening. Michael Bay, a senior from Massachusetts studying social work, and Dallin Coburn, a sophomore from Nevada, shared the evening with the Lin family. “Dallin and I know that we were assigned to this family for a reason,” said Bay. Their youngest daughter has Down syndrome. As Dallin talked with Sister Lin, there were a lot of similarities with the situations they had to deal with. We made meaningful connections and we absolutely love that family.”

Members also interacted with the Consort Choir at Church services in Taipei and Hong Kong, a stake conference in Taipei, and banquets and dinners.

Best in 40 Years
To prepare for the tour spiritually, the choir was challenged to read the entire Book of Mormon. Then, once they arrived, each choir member was given a Chinese copy of the Book of Mormon with the challenge to give it away to someone they would meet. Almost all the books had been placed before the tour was complete.

Kit Ming Lau, a music major from Utah, met one man after a performance in Taichung and in Hong Kong gave each choir member contact cards to give out as invitations to Church services and as a way to request contact by the missionaries. Janelle Parker, senior in vocal studies from Idaho, met one man after a performance in Taipei. He accepted the invitation to request contact by the missionaries.

In addition to the Book of Mormon challenge, the local missionaries in Kaohsiung and in Hong Kong gave each choir member contact cards to give out as invitations to Church services and as a way to request contact by the missionaries.

Stacy McCarrery, a music faculty member at BYU–Hawaii and tour chaplain, observed the benefits of personal and collective preparation to positively influence lives. “Everywhere our students went, they seemed to leave a feeling of goodness and light in their wake.”

I told him that the book was very important to us, and if he wanted to learn more, he could contact the missionaries. We talked until the very last second. As we drove away, I saw him holding the Book of Mormon, continuing to wave good by. My heart was full. This was just one of the many miracles that happened on the tour.

In addition to the Book of Mormon challenge, the local missionaries in Kaohsiung and in Hong Kong gave each choir member contact cards to give out as invitations to Church services and as a way to request contact by the missionaries.

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Learning from Examples
When Sita Ah Ching Jasper was a student at the Church College of Hawaii, she remembers being hungry after finishing the evening shift at the Polynesian Cultural Center and her roommates and her being taken care of by her great-grandfather’s parents. “A lot of them we call ‘Uncle, Lulu, and Auntie’,” she says. “They would bring us tea and pastries.”

When he was robbed by his business partner, Ah Ching’s heart changed. He learned to trust God and love his fellowman (see Gospel Doctrine, pp. 565–570).

Todd Jasper, Sita’s husband, says he has learned to be a more giving person from Sita and her family. “You can never give enough to equal what you receive in this family,” he says.

Benefitting students makes sense to the Jaspers. “Education breaks the cycle of poverty,” says Todd. “When you’re educated, you have more income, you pay more tithing, and you are blessed.”

Returning the Gift
Dennis Kim grew up on Oahu and is deeply connected to BYU–Hawaii—his uncle was a labor missionary who helped to build the school, one of his cousins was among the college’s first class of students, and his siblings and children have attended the university. “In fact, our children met their spouses at BYU–Hawaii and were married in the temple,” says Dennis. His late wife, Linda, attended BYU–Hawaii and later returned to teach piano to students in the school’s music department.

As a young man Dennis received a full scholarship to Northwestern University in Chicago. “My parents raised their family of six children on a shoestring budget,” he says. “Being a recipient of scholarships—some as small as $100—saw the impact the Lord made on my life and education, and I want to similarly help others.”

While he was a graduate student at the University of Hawaii, Dennis began his lifelong pattern of giving. “I was happy to give what little I could, and then after I started working the habit of giving was already ingrained in me.”

“When you’re educated, you have more income, you pay more tithing, and you are blessed. In return, you give back and you carry on that cycle.” Sita says, “Providing education is part of rescuing people.”

BYU–Hawaii includes a spiritual dimension with the benefits of education. “It was actually at BYU–Hawaii that I learned that the Lord answers my prayers,” Sita says. “Being at school in Laie makes better Church members and leaders; BYU–Hawaii alumni are helping to build the Lord’s kingdom.”

Todd and Sita support scholarships at BYU–Hawaii and have contributed to the President’s and Trustees Fund, which allows the university to fund pressing and unexpected needs. The Jaspers live and work in Utah, where Sita is president and CEO of Quality Distribution. Why do the Jaspers donate? “Changing hearts and improving lives is why we give,” says Sita. “The gospel is everything to us.”

Receiving Their Giving
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How Are Students “Doing”?  
Brett Lee (’09) is an example of a student who caught the spirit of entrepreneurship. Since his mother was an entrepreneur herself, starting several small businesses, she encouraged Brett and his brother by helping them start a newspaper route and sell candy at school. Through these and other experiences, Brett learned to look for creative solutions to problems and create opportunities.

Brett states, “I experienced entrepreneurship when I was young and find it very satisfying and fulfilling.”

In 2009 he entered the business plan competition sponsored by the entrepreneurship center and received first place. His first-prize winnings helped him start Hele Huli Rentals, a resort activity business specializing in the rental of personal modes of transportation such as mopeds, electric bicycles, and Segways, which he opened at Turtle Bay Resort about five miles from BYU–Hawaii. “Hele huli is Hawaiian for ‘go explore.’”

“My long-term plans are to expand and grow my existing business as well as start more businesses and assist others in doing the same,” says Brett. “I love to teach and would love to one day teach others how to be an entrepreneur.”

This fall Brett will be opening another Hele Huli Rentals at a resort on Maui.

Natanael Ullien (’10), a Haitian native studying international business, developed a business plan for the competition that would create Ullien Academy International. Nat proposed the startup of an academy as a center for job creation, entrepreneurship, and square-foot gardening in his homeland. His desire was to contribute to the reconstruction of his damaged homeland after several years of devastating hurricanes. Having graduated and returned to Haiti, Nat is now implementing his plan to establish a permanent campus in November 2010 in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

“How my long-term goal is for our students to receive instruction on the basics of business management, finance, accounting, and entrepreneurship, which they will use in developing their business plans, so they can become self-reliant and help the economy in Haiti to grow,” he says.

An Entrepreneur Certificate for All Disciplines

Beginning fall 2010, any student can earn an entrepreneurship certificate from the Center for Entrepreneurship. Students are encouraged to learn, observe, apply, and serve as they learn the qualities of successful entrepreneurs.

- Learn: Students learn by enrolling in three courses that are taught by the entrepreneurship center volunteers who were successful entrepreneurs themselves. The three courses are leadership, entrepreneurship, and social entrepreneurship.
- Observe: Using a famous Book of Mormon quote (Mormon 1:2), the Center encourages every student to maximize weekly devotional attendance (Tuesday) and weekly entrepreneurship lecture series attendance (Thursday) “to be quick to observe” successful Latter-day Saints, both spiritually and temporally in their entrepreneurial endeavors.
- Apply: Students participate in both the Great Ideas Exchange and prepare a business plan for the Conference of Champions. This helps them apply their academic training to an entrepreneurial setting. “If they will do this for each of the three years they are at BYU–Hawaii, they will multiply the odds of their being able to be the successful bidder on the opportunities that await them when they return home,” says Ritchie.

Serve: Students participate in one of many service clubs on campus, such as Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE). SIFE projects include a strong focus on working with small businesses locally and internationally in achieving entrepreneurial success. The BYU–Hawaii SIFE team has been ranked among the top 10 in the U.S. for the past two years.

Alumni Involvement

BYU–Hawaii students need a support system at home to coach and mentor them. In 2010, the entrepreneurship center started a new volunteer coaching program called “Launching Leaders.” Through Launching Leaders, every student has a coach or mentor from his or her homeland to ensure some temporal, professional, and entrepreneurial support as he or she prepares to return home after graduating—full of ideas, plans, and visions for their future.

The first Launching Leaders Program was proposed and initiated in New Zealand with plans for Taiwan and other countries in development. Alumni are helping to identify internship and full-time employment opportunities and are serving as mentors to those newly graduated students. If you would like to help Launching Leaders in any of these areas, please contact the Center for International Entrepreneurship at cie@byu.edu.

LIKE THE YOUNG missionary in Scotland, BYU–Hawaii students are using their education to make their mark and to be useful in building the kingdom of God wherever they reside. The Center for International Entrepreneurship will continue to have an important role in preparing students to achieve the goal and mission of BYU–Hawaii.

Dr. William G. Neal is the assistant to the president and former dean of the College of Business at BYU–Hawaii.
The two professors approached the PCC with the idea of using qualified students to do statistical research experiments for the benefit of the Center. Miller explains that, in the beginning, the PCC was understandably skeptical, having been promised great results by others in the past who ultimately could not deliver. “So we said, ‘OK, give us a project. Give us something we can do to show you what we are capable of,’” says Miller, recounting the experience.

The first project involved an assessment of attendance at the PCC’s Marquesas Village. After a month of interviews in English and Japanese, 800 written surveys, and data collection in all of the villages, the 20-student group presented its findings to the PCC administration. And in so doing, they had proved their worth as consultants to the Center. Since then, the PCC has continued to rely on the student research group in assessing its development.

Students entering the research program often feel inadequate, wondering if they will be able to remember and apply the necessary mathematics or skills for the work they are doing. Caelyn Hubner, a student in the program, explained that there is a hierarchy so that everyone who comes in receives the help necessary from their group leaders to be successful. As they progress, students increase in responsibility. Miller adds, “It’s one thing knowing the math, but knowing how to run an experiment and interpret the findings is something completely different.”

Finding the Best

While many students would be interested in participating in such an activity, Miller explains that there are certain prerequisites that must be met in order to qualify for entry. He and a few other professors teach what he calls “treder classes,” where we see how well students can perform over a 13-week period of time, under stressful and demanding conditions with a difficult class. “If students perform well in these treder classes, then they can be trained a little further to be a part of the program. The strict prerequisites for the program are a necessity to ensure quality work.”

While some looking at this research program from the outside may question the reason students are drawn to a program so rigorous in nature, the results speak for themselves.

Before graduating from BYU–Hawaii in 2009, Ernest Tan worked extensively with the student research group. He is now doing statistical research in his home country of Malaysia at a job level in which nearly all of his co-workers hold Ph.D.’s. Tan’s practical experience from his work at the PCC has taught him how to apply the math he learned in the classroom in a valuable, real-life setting.

Many of those who work on the projects with the PCC have received personalized letters of recommendation from the president and CEO of the company, which, according to Dr. Miller, “are worth a thousand times more than their weight in gold.” Students’ applied experience and the recommendation received at the conclusion make all the work worthwhile. From here, they go on to high-ranking graduate schools and successful careers with prominent companies. “In our experience, the things that make you look good for graduate school are the exact same things that make you look good for a job and vice versa,” says Miller.

The program received a great compliment when Miller received a request from Columbia University to send more of his students there. An excerpt from the memo read: “As your student was such a strong candidate, we expect that you may have other students who would also be interested in our program.”

Jared Rasmussen, BYU–Hawaii alumnus, had long dreamed of attending an Ivy league MBA program. Near the end of his time at BYU–Hawaii, Rasmussen applied to MIT and Cornell, despite the strict requirement of at least five years’ work experience after a bachelor’s degree. Understanding that without the five years’ experience, he was likely to be rejected, Rasmussen applied anyway. Much to his surprise, he was called for an admission interview, in which he was told that they would waive the standard requirement and make an exception for him. He was accepted to both. Grateful but curious, he inquired after the reason for their decision. He was informed that it was his applied experience in a unique research group during his time at BYU–Hawaii that influenced their decision.

The research group, created by Ronald Miller and Clayton Hubner, was still at its infancy at the time; however, news of the program and was just the first in a long line of success stories. Rasmussen’s acceptance helped to generate more interest in the school; however, news of the program and its success stories helped to generate more interest in the student research group during his time at BYU–Hawaii that influenced their decision. As a result of their participation in the research program, BYU–Hawaii alumni are accepted to prestigious graduate programs; pictured here, Jared Rasmussen who attended Cornell University.
Going Green
The Food Services Department’s com-
bined emphasis on sustainability and leadership development resulted in an herb garden, vermicomposting, and reuse-
able fuel. When David Keala, and his student employees learned that glyc erin was a byproduct of the 2008 reusable fuel conversion project, they approached the College of Math and Sciences, and to-
gether they created a liquid hand soap. The soap is now used in the Food Ser-
services department and is projected to save the university approximately $15,000 each year.

Conference with Wendy Nelson and Sheri Dew
The BYU–Hawaii campus and commu-
nity was richly blessed to hear from Sisters Sheri Dew and Wendy Watson Nelson at a three-day conference in May. The confer-
ence was divided into eight sessions and audience members were delighted with the humor, encouragement, and spiritu-
ality of each talk.

The conference, titled God Wants a
Principle.” BYU–Hawaii students and Laie community members alike were edified by his message of confidence and encouragement.

Biology Comes to Life
As an assistant professor of biology, David
Bryce brings his subject to life through a
native Hawaiian forest restoration project. Each semester, the class hikes behind
the BYU–Hawaii campus to what Bryce terms “the battlefront,” a site damaged by forest
fire on the transition line between native
Hawaiian forest and invasive plants. Stu-
dents spend the day fighting the invasive
plants and restoring endangered plants
unique only to Hawaii. Students learn to be
good stewards and care for the land.

The Spirit of Aloha
In March, the David O. McKay Center for
Intercultural Understanding hosted their bi-annual Spirit of Aloha event, a service
project following a week-long campaign
for peace. The event allowed students and community members to work together to
beautify the Laie community. In addition
to service projects, the McKay Center offers peacebuilding workshops, free peer
mediation services to students, and a 19-
credit intercultural peacebuilding
program taught by the McKay Center di-
rector, Chad Ford.

If Ye Are Prepared
Early in the morning on February 27, 2010,
Laie community members awoke to the
sound of sirens signaling a tsunami
warning resulting from an 8.8 earthquake
off the coast of Chile. While the antici-
pated disaster did not strike, community
members were reminded of their respon-
sibility to be prepared at all times and to
serve their fellow men. Increased efforts
were made to prepare families for
potential disaster in the future. Students and community
members also reached out in
service projects, the McKay Center
offers peacebuilding workshops, free peer
mediation services to students, and a 19-
credit intercultural peacebuilding
program taught by the McKay Center di-
rector, Chad Ford.

Seasider Athletics Update
Seasiders are prospering in all the
a€™s, both individu-
ally and as teams. For the third year in a
row, men’s basketball reached the NCAA
II “sweet 16” and won a share of the con-
ference championship. Women’s soccer placed second in the conference and set
a new school record with 15 wins in a
season. Women’s tennis achieved the status of top three in the
nation in the NCAA II Cham-

Seasider Athletics Update
Seasiders are prospering in all the
a€™s, both individu-
ally and as teams. For the third year in a
row, men’s basketball reached the NCAA
II “sweet 16” and won a share of the con-
ference championship. Women’s soccer placed second in the conference and set
a new school record with 15 wins in a
season. Women’s tennis achieved the status of top three in the
nation in the NCAA II Cham-

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submit your idea.
PICTURE THIS

1. Conference of Champions Business Plan Competition
2. A student studies outside the Aloha Center
3. The Cambodian association at Foodfest in February 2010
4. President and Sister Wheelwright at the Laie Days Parade
5. The Tahitian association performs at Culture Night 2010
6. Students cheer for their home countries and others in the 2010 World Cup
7. At Hukilau beach students take a break from studying
8. The Seasiders basketball team celebrates after a 89–88 last-second win over Hawaii Pacific University [(Bishop Larry Silva)]
9. President and Sister Wheelwright at the Laie Days Parade
10. The Seasiders basketball team celebrates after a 89–88 last-second win over Hawaii Pacific University [(Bishop Larry Silva)]

NEW TEMPLE PRESIDENT

John Malulani Ali Jr., from Kanohe 3rd Ward in the Kanohe Hawaii Stake, was called to be the new temple president of the Hong Kong China Temple. He will be succeeding President Charles W. H. Goo, who is also from the island. President Ali has served as stake assistant director of public affairs, president of the China Hong Kong Mission, stake president’s counselor, high councilor, bishop, and senior couple missionary. He was born in Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii, and is the son of John Malulani and Cecilia Cooper Aki Sr.

President Ali’s wife, Lai Wah Choi Ali, will serve as temple matron. For Sister Ali, it is a return to her roots. She was born in Hong Kong to Yee-Shing and Yui-Wah Lee Chui. Similar to her husband, she has served faithfully in her callings as ward Relief Society president, Relief Society and Primary teacher, and secretary in the Young Women presidency.

Past Graduates (5 years+)

KRISTINE PRESTWICH ELLERS—USA (Accounting, ’02)
Kristine has been married for 25 years to Eric Ellers and they have four children. She has owned Castle Rock Tax Services since 2003 while working full time as an account specialist at Direct Communications Cedar Valley in Utah.

REBECCA (HUI ER) CHEN—Taiwan (Information Systems, ’98) After returning to Taiwan following graduation to become a certified teacher, Rebecca earned her master’s degree in education at Arizona State University while still employed as a school administrator in Taiwan. She has now returned to Taiwan and is continuing her administrative role.

DAN & CHERICE (ELLEDGE) SIEBERT—Swaziland
Dan (Information Systems, ’00) currently works for the United States Foreign Service and has had assignments in U.S. embassies in Swaziland, Lesotho, Peru, and, currently, Bangladesh. His wife Cherice (International Business Management, ’99) earned a law degree from BYU Provo and worked in the prosecutor’s office in Honolulu until becoming a full-time mother. They have four children.

CHRIS SEPP—USA (International Business Management, ’01) Chris was hired by Bearing Point and later switched employment to Price Waterhouse Cooper. Currently, Chris is the senior advisor for organizational effectiveness at Rio Tinto.

SCOTT GARCIA—USA (Political Science, ’02) Scott is currently the world champion for his class in wrestling. On March 26, 2010, he competed at the FILA Grappling World Championships in Krakow, Poland, and won the gold medal allowing the USA the overall championship title. When not wrestling, Scott is an elementary special education teacher on the Gila River Indian Reservation near Phoenix. While at BYU-Hawaii, he danced at the Polynesian Cultural Center and he now teaches his students the dances he learned from Tahiti, Hawaii, and New Zealand.

PATCH KANJANPANJAPOL CHAKATIS—Thailand (International Business Management, ’03) After graduating, Patch worked for Gallup, then later at the Securities and Exchange Commission in Bangkok, Thailand. Then she returned to school to earn a MBA and eventually left the workforce to be a mother. Recently, Patch and her daughter Jasmine were the featured story in Thailand’s Mother Care magazine.

LYDIA KHAI—USA (Social Work, ’05) Lydia is currently involved in helping those with Autism Spectrum Disorder and is a mother of two children.

Send us your update— alumni@byuh.edu
Experience seven island villages and exhibits, a canoe pageant and Hawaii’s most villagers get back on their feet and rebuild what was lost. The Cash for Work was proposed by the United Nations Develop-Tonga. After the September 2009 tsunami devastated the island, project manager in the Pacific for the “Cash for Work” project in 2010. Hemaloto Tatafu, alumnus and former BYUHSA president, is

CASH FOR WORK

Hemaloto Tatafu, alumnus and former BYUHSA president, is project manager in the Pacific for the “Cash for Work” project in Tonga. After the September 2009 tsunami devastated the island, Cash for Work was proposed by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Kingdom of Tonga to help villagers get back on their feet and rebuild what was lost. The program is universally used and enables community members to rebuild their surroundings with local wage payments provided by the UNDP. “We want Cash for Work to be the start of a new way of life for the people of Niutoputapu,” says Hema. “Our wish is that it will work as an instrument to open up the eyes of the people to see what they can achieve and then they will keep working toward that vision and overcome the difficulties and challenges brought about by the tsunami.” The program allows project workers to earn 20 paaga each day (equivalent to about $10 USD). Hema and his team encourage everyone to use this money to plant varieties of sustainable crops for food. “Cash for Work is much more important than just money,” he says. “It is a tool to help the people of Niutoputapu see what they can achieve and allow them to forget what they lost.” The year following the tsunami has been difficult for the people, but the project was a way to prove they could recover.
This is a place of prophecy, a place of destiny. This university is built on sacred ground. It was set apart as a gathering place for righteous saints with a desire to affect change.

The young men and young women who come here are already gold; they are the best that their families have to offer. Our aim is to refine this gold, to help them become better, purer, and more equipped to serve and make an impact in the world.

—Steven C. Wheelwright, President
Brigham Young University–Hawaii