2005 is Golden Jubilee

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Iosepa’s Maiden Voyage

Choir Tour: Japan & Korea

Campus of Champions
Aloha!

As I look forward to our Golden Jubilee in 2005 and think back on my own 38 years on this campus, I still marvel at how BYU-Hawaii and its companion of the heart, the Polynesian Cultural Center, are increasingly fulfilling what David O. McKay foretold as he stood in the sugar cane fields of La‘ie overlooking the vast Pacific half a century ago.

President McKay’s declarations—that this campus would refine men and women of integrity to become leaders in establishing peace in the world, and that this little town would entice millions to see its significance—ring more profoundly today than ever. It is humbling to be part of the evolution of these words, yet all of us here sense that the combined role he envisioned for these two institutions is just beginning.

These are exciting times in La‘ie! In 2003-04, we celebrated the largest graduating class in our history, with 600 total graduates. Two-hundred-fifty of those students came from outside the United States. We also enhanced our ability to help the graduates return to their home countries by expanding our international internship efforts, as you’ll see in subsequent articles in this magazine.

Our reputation grew through assessments by U.S. News and World Report and Consumers Digest, which rated BYU-Hawaii as the “top value” among all private universities in the U.S. This summer, our concert choir completed a triumphant tour of Japan and Korea, in which they sang in premier concert halls and were the first Christian entity ever to sing at Tokyo’s hallowed Meiji Shrine. Our voyaging canoe, Iosepa, with its university crew, also completed a successful maiden voyage to the shores of “the Big Island” of Hawaii. You can read more about all of these noteworthy items in this issue.

Finally, I invite all of our readers to make plans to visit our campus during our Jubilee year. Housing is tight, but we’ll make room for you! Please plan early, and particularly prepare to come during our big Jubilee Week, October 16-23, 2005. As we like to say here, visit BYU-Hawaii (or come again)—it will change your life forever.

Mahalo,

Eric B. Shumway, President
Brigham Young University Hawaii
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Iosepa Completes Maiden Voyage

By Mike Foley ('70)
Two Hawaiian words everyone on Iosepa needs to know are huki—pull, and kuleana—the responsibility of working together and watching out for one another, as in a family.

Iosepa, BYU-Hawai‘i’s 57-foot wa‘a kaulua, or traditional twin-hulled Hawaiian voyaging canoe, left the glassy waters off Hukilau Beach in Lā‘ie on May 20 about 2:30 a.m. and spent the next 24 hours traveling to Kawaihao on the Kohala coast of the island of Hawai‘i.

On the morning of July 23, the Iosepa slipped back into Lā‘ie Bay, culminating a nine-week excursion that marked its maiden voyage away from the windward shores of O‘ahu.

William Kauawai’ulaokalani “Uncle Bill” Wallace III, director of the Jonathan Nāpela Center for Hawaiian Language and Cultural Studies at BYU-Hawai‘i, explained that Iosepa’s first trip away from the shores of Lā‘ie was an important part of the program and training of the crew.

The crew was comprised of Hawaiian Studies faculty, students, alumni, community members, a BYU-Hawai‘i video documentary team and experienced crew members from the voyaging canoe, Makali‘i. Alaka‘i, the Makali‘i escort vessel, accompanied Iosepa on its maiden voyage.

Crewmembers report Iosepa is very responsive to its two large hoe or steering sweeps when it’s in the water. “When we got into Alenuihā‘a Channel [between Maui and the Big Island], it was rough, but it was a good test. The swells were running three to five feet and were coming from different directions. Some may have been bigger. Iosepa rode those swells really well,” says Uncle Bill.

‘Ohana with Makali‘i

It is because Makali‘i’s captains and crew were willing to accept the kuleana of training the BYU-Hawai‘i leaders and crew that Iosepa, as a sign of Polynesian protocol and respect, made its maiden voyage to the Makali‘i homeport of Kawaihao. The wa‘a stayed there for just over two months while the crew underwent training and helped bring Makali‘i out of dry dock.

Uncle Bill stressed that his cousin, the late captain Clay “Cap” Bertelmann, and the current captain, Chadd Paishon—both veteran open-ocean sailors aboard the Hokūle‘a and Makali‘i—have played key roles in training him and the other Iosepa crew members.

“Whenever we’ve gone to the Big Island, they’ve treated us like family,” Uncle Bill said, indicating this concept extends to all the Polynesian voyaging canoes, including the “mama of them all,” Hokūle‘a, which left for the leeward Hawaiian islands about the time Iosepa set sail. Bertelmann was captain for the launching of Iosepa at Hukilau Beach on November 3, 2001, and Paishon served as captain on this maiden voyage.

Though patches of snow could still be seen on 13,792-foot Mauna Kea in the distance when Iosepa arrived, Kawaihao was hot and humid. The wa‘a docked next to the metal corrugated warehouse Makali‘i uses, which is usually so hot the crew sleeps outside on the pier at night. Iosepa has six covered cots in the hulls, which crew watches use in shifts when the canoe is at sea.
“We’re all a family,” Uncle Bill said, thanking Makali‘i and its nonprofit organization, Nā Kalai Wa‘a Moku o Hawai‘i. “Within the family membership, we all have different kuleana. We’re all in this together.”

The Teaching Canoe
Uncle Bill emphasized that Iosepa “is truly a teaching canoe” and an integral part of the Hawaiian Studies program. “Student members of the crew must maintain a 2.0 grade point average and have completed or be currently enrolled in mālama ‘āina and mālama kai—preserving land and sea heritage—classes.”

All crewmembers are expected to help at Kahuola—the program’s agricultural plot mauka [inland] of the campus—pass a rigorous swimming test, and be thoroughly trained in seamanship and safety responsibilities.

Iosepa has a “man overboard” safety buoy on the stern attached to over 3,000 feet of line. If the overboard situation arises, each crewmember is trained on what to do. Still, when Uncle Bill “fell overboard” one afternoon off Kawaihae, it turned into an excellent object lesson.

Hawaiian Studies professor and Iosepa quartermaster Kamoa‘e Walk said each crewmember must know how to tie eight knots, including: the double half-hitch, used to tie off other knots; the clove hitch, to tie ropes to the rail; the square knot, for tying the sail to the spar and boom; the sheet bend, for joining different-sized ropes; the sheepshank, for temporarily shortening ropes (“You never want to cut a rope unless you have to,” Walk advised); the figure-eight, to finish off lashings; bowline on a bite, to create leverage in keeping lines taut; and the bowline, “mother of all knots.”

“There are a couple of miles of rope on the canoe,” said Walk. “Everybody needs to know these eight, so that if you tie a knot and somebody else comes along, they know what kind of knot it is. “Every knot that’s used on the canoe has its specific purpose. There are other knots, but these can basically come undone easily. If you stay on the canoe long enough, there will be a pressure situation where you need to tie these knots quickly.”

Walk also told the crew that while practicing the knots with a small piece of kaula or rope may seem easy, “try doing it with a one-inch line when you’re standing on the pitching deck of the canoe and you’re trying to do it with one hand, or it’s dark.”

At sea, discipline and teamwork overarch everything that happens. The spirit of teaching, helping one another and ‘ohana [family] shine through, and every time Iosepa comes in from a training run, the crew takes down both sails, folds them neatly and stows them, coils and arranges all ropes, waits patiently while one washes everything off with fresh water, listens to feedback from the captain, then joins hands in Hawaiian-style pule—prayer—before disembarking.

“By the time you leave, you’re going to know what to do,” said Paishon at the training sessions. “That’s our kuleana, to get you folks ready at a moment’s notice to know what to do.” Indeed, after many hours of drills, tacking and jibbing, the crew reached that point before they left Kawaihae.

“I’m proud of all the crewmembers we have. They’ve done very, very
well,” Uncle Bill reported. “They’re strong physically, but most important, they’re strong spiritually.”

**Life Lessons**

Uncle Bill said the canoe training instills lessons far beyond seamanship. “Iosepa has made me more aware of my kuleana,” he explained. “My testimony has grown a hundred-fold from all of the experiences. We’ve seen the hand of the Lord directing this whole project. We’ve seen miracles happen right before our eyes. We’ve seen people’s lives change.

“I knew this was happening because, number one, we were doing the right thing. Number two, the canoe is critical in helping us spread the gospel and touch the lives of everyone we visit; and three, Iosepa helps strengthen our students to realize the sacrifices made by our ancestors—not only in traversing the ocean, but also in accepting the gospel.”

For the maiden voyage, each crewmember was allowed to bring on board a 48-quart cooler containing all personal belongings, including clothes, toiletries, weather gear, safety equipment, a journal, and a shirt and tie or skirt and blouse to wear when they attend Church.

Other leaders and crewmembers agree. Hawaiian Studies project director and Iosepa watch captain Kawika Eskaran (’84)—who along with Tuione Pulotu, a former labor missionary originally from Tonga, carved the canoe in 2001—recognizes he stands “in the line of some of the great navigators and canoe builders. This has been a lifelong dream.

“I look at Iosepa, and my mind can turn back to the fabrication of every piece. I think the most important thing for me was becoming connected to my ancestors in the building and construction,” he said. “We’ve had individuals from our past return and give us instructions on how to build things—real sacred moments. We’ve each had our own experiences directed to our kuleana. It’s strengthened my testimony in the power of prayer.”
Pomai Bertelmann, an experienced sailor who is the daughter of Clay Bertelmann and wife of Paishon, also sees that “the whole ride we’ve been on, from the time we started with Hokil‘ea, comes from spirituality. My grandparents were so strong. They taught my dad. That same foundation has carried over to the canoe. I would like to think that faith has spanned these generations.”

“As we were coming to Moloka‘i [on the first leg of the voyage], it was cloudy; but as we got closer, all of the bad weather moved out of the way. At another point, we could see it raining; but as we got closer, the bad weather moved to the side. We had a clear path all the way,” said Iosepa watch captain “Sir” William K. Wallace IV, Uncle Bill’s son.

Crewmember Tereiha “Bubba” Hapi, a Maori student from Hastings, New Zealand, experienced sacred moments during her first time at sea.

“As the sun was about to rise, I had an overwhelming feeling of gratitude for my ancestors, for my Heavenly Father blessing them and guiding them to our land,” she said. “I had that comforting feeling through the whole journey that Heavenly Father was with us, guiding our canoe and our captains. I know our strength came from Him.”

“On the whole, working with Iosepa is a very spiritual experience,” added crewmember Julia Noelani Lowe, a 2003 Hawaiian Studies graduate from Lā‘ie. “We always pray over meals, show appreciation for the help, and ask for continued assistance from Heavenly Father.”

**Gravesite Devotional**

Perhaps the most important part of the training at Kawaihae included a two-hour sunrise devotional at the gravesite of captain Clay “Cap” Bertelmann in the old LDS cemetery in Waimea, about a 20-minute drive mauku [inland] of where Iosepa was docked.

Before entering the cemetery, Uncle Bill explained that some Maori believe they enter another world when they visit the graves of deceased family members, and they wash their hands before leaving as a sign they are re-entering the world.

As cool morning breezes swept over them, Paishon, Bertelmann and Iosepa’s crew circled the grave, sang Cap’s favorite song—Pule Maluhia [Secret Prayer] and prayed hui lima—holding hands. Then, starting with Uncle Bill, each person expressed his or her feelings. Like many Latter-day Saint devotionals, there were a few laughs and a lot of tears.

As the crew left the cemetery for another full day of training, some washed their hands in an old sink on the grounds, and everyone walked away feeling more spiritual.

Elder M. Russell Ballard, the great-grandson of Joseph F. Smith, said in his dedication of the canoe on November 3, 2001, “I have a strong feeling that he and his Hawaiian ‘mama’ [Ma Manuhi‘i] are fully aware and looking in on this occasion that we celebrate today.” President Smith, who served several missions in Hawai‘i starting in 1854, was called Iosepa in Hawaiian and is the namesake for both the canoe and the historical Polynesian community of that name in Skull Valley, Utah.

**Special Lu‘au and Presentation**

On June 24, BYU-Hawai‘i President Eric B. Shumway accompanied special guest Ira A. Fulton, Polynesian Cultural Center President Von D. Orgill, other guests and BYU-Hawai‘i officers on a sail aboard Iosepa off the shores of Kawaihae.

*Ira A. Fulton (bottom row, center, wearing lei), friend to BYU-Hawai‘i and benefactor for Iosepa’s maiden voyage, poses with Uncle Bill Wallace (at Fulton’s left shoulder, in the white shirt) and the Iosepa crew and guests after the morning’s voyage off the shores of Kawaihae.*
Fulton, an Arizona businessman and member of the BYU-Hawai‘i/PCC Presidents’ Executive Leadership Council, has generously supported many university initiatives. He was the sole funding sponsor for Iosepa’s maiden voyage.

After the voyage, the BYU-Hawai‘i party and Iosepa crew presented a canoe boom as a gift to Makali‘i and its Nā Kālai Wā’a Mohu o Hawai‘i organization, to be used on a canoe they are building for Pius “Papa Mau” Piailug. A Micronesian from Satawal, Piailug restored traditional navigation among Polynesians, starting with Hōkūle‘a in the mid-1970s.

After Uncle Bill chanted in Hawaiian and explained the gift, President Shumway—a noted expert on Tonga—addressed Nā Kālai Wā’a in oratorical Tongan, then explained, “This is a very historical day, probably more than any of us realize.

“Iosepa brings hearts together,” he said. “Iosepa is a link between us and the past and between us and the future. It is not an icon or an artifact. The symbolism of this is that we sail together as a family into the future. When the world is in commotion, love is here. That’s what Iosepa says. Iosepa will bless the lives of many people. Iosepa unites us all.”

“For us, it’s always been about sailing as a family. Our community is our family,” captain Paishon responded, referring to the Nā Kālai Wā’a members surrounding him. “That’s the first thing we noticed about Iosepa.”

The day’s events also included a lū‘au, sponsored and prepared by the community members of Nā Kālai Wā’a and Waimea 2nd Ward Bishop Glenn Bertelmann, Clay’s brother.

Kupuna, Kisses and Testimonies

After stopping briefly on Moloka‘i, where Uncle Bill grew up, Iosepa returned to Hukilau Beach on July 23. Accompanied by seashell trumpets, the crew swam ashore and embraced the welcoming kupuna [Hawaiian elders], family, friends, university officials and students. It was a moment of pride, filled with aloha spirit, and this spirit rose even higher the following Sunday when crewmembers shared their testimonies during a fireside in the campus ballroom.

“We truly felt your aloha while we were out there,” says Hawaiian Studies instructor Ka‘umealani Wāhā. “We never felt that we were in danger.” Her husband and two sons are also Iosepa crewmembers.

Kawika Eskaran expressed his gratitude for Uncle Bill, captain-in-training. “None of us are sailors, not a one,” he said. “Uncle Bill took on responsibilities that I myself didn’t want to accept in the early stages of the project. Uncle Bill stepped up and performed beautifully.”

Eskaran also praised the unity of the crew. “I can truly say that I would sail with them any place. We trust ourselves to the point now where we’re willing to put our lives in one another’s hands.”

President Shumway acknowledged that “a great deal of confidence was put on this group.

“Iosepa represents the very best of what Lā‘ie means, and what BYU-Hawai‘i, the Polynesian Cultural Center and the [LDS Lā‘ie] Temple mean,” he said. “It means inclusion. Even though it’s part of the Hawaiian Studies program, it was never exclusively Hawaiian. It was inclusively all of Polynesia, the Church, Lā‘ie, and the aloha spirit so well represented by our Hawaiian people here in Lā‘ie that was embraced by and infused into every person who touched this project in any way.”

“On the canoe, we had 14 or 15 who brought the Iosepa back from Moloka‘i, but it felt there were hundreds who were there besides us, carrying us along, bringing us along,” says “Sir” William K. Wallace IV.

Uncle Bill paid tribute to all of the voyagers of faith. They were the ones who laid the foundation for all of us.”

“Iosepa will continue to live only as long as we can continue to maintain our faith in the gospel,” he added. “This is just the beginning, and the Lord has many, many more things for us to do.”

Iosepa was built with funds from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, under the direction of master carvers Pulotu and Eskaran. BYU-Hawai‘i students and hundreds of community members participated in its construction, and thousands attended its dedication at Hukilau Beach.
When the 50 members of BYU-Hawai‘i’s Concert Choir began their 18-day tour of Japan and Korea in the spring of 2004, they had just an inkling of the tremendous outpouring of energy and love their visit would generate.

Perhaps the tour’s reverberations were described best by two long-time BYU-Hawai‘i leaders who were critical to its success.

“The tour did many good things,” said Eric B. Shumway, president of the university. “It brought joy to everyone who heard the choir. It helped validate and give high credibility to BYU-Hawai‘i. It provided a living example of excellence and beauty and harmonious sound. Thousands felt the Holy Spirit during and after the concerts when they mingled with the choir members.”

After the trip, President Shumway asked Dr. James A. Smith, director of the Concert Choir for 30 years, what moment he felt was the most inspirational. “Which hour of the tour are you talking about?” Smith responded.

Widespread Influence

Accompanied by President Shumway and his wife, Carolyn, ten tour leaders and a BYU television crew, the choir first flew to Tokyo, proceeded to Busan, Korea, traveled north by bus to Daejeon and Seoul, and then returned to Osaka and Kyoto, Japan.

The choir performed six concerts to sold-out crowds, averaging 1,400 people per venue. This included the prestigious Tokyo Metropolitan Opera City Concert Hall and the Seoul Arts Center, two of the premier concert halls of Asia.

The choir presented firesides in Busan, Seoul, and Kyoto, and separated into smaller groups to provide five more firesides in Tokyo and eight Sunday sacrament services in Seoul.
The ensemble also sang at Tokyo’s hallowed Meiji Shrine—the first Christian group ever to perform there—visited the office of the mayor of Osaka, performed in hotel lobbies, and orchestrated impromptu renditions before groups of newly-found friends. Overall, the choir performed or interacted with an estimated 10,000 people.

The tour attracted newspaper and magazine articles, television reports and radio talk shows in both countries. A 90-minute joint concert with Ewha Women’s University was aired over Seoul Broadcasting System, and seven students joined BYU-Hawai’i alumnus P.J. Rogers on the most popular morning radio show in Korea.

But all of this fails to define the real impact of the tour on members and friends of The Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints and on the credibility of BYU-Hawai’i in Japan and Korea. Stories of inspiration abound, along with miracles that unfolded through the group’s preparations and travels.
“Going into this tour, I had high expectations. We had been preparing for more than two years, and I felt we were ready,” said Smith. “Even then, the tour far exceeded all of my expectations. It was one of the finest activities I have been involved with in my entire time at BYU-Hawai‘i.”

“Our hearts are overflowing with gratitude,” Carolyn Shumway said. “A good title for the tour could be Holy Radiant Light. This is one of the greatest songs from the tour, where the choir has the privilege of singing directly to the Savior. His ‘Holy Radiant Light’ was with us in an amazing way from the beginning to the end of the tour, with its bright rays beaming from Dr. Smith and spreading throughout the faithful choir and every other tour member.”

**Energetic Concerts**

Naturally, the choir’s lights shone brightest at their concerts. With song, instrumentation, and dance, the students enraptured the audiences throughout their two-hour performances.

The repertoire negotiated through classics like Mozart’s Agnus Dei and Lauridsen’s O Magnum Mysterium, into the beloved traditions of Japan and Korea, Sakura and Arirang, and on to American folk tunes like Oh Susanna and the African-American spiritual My God is so High. During intermission, the students changed from formal to aloha attire and re-entered the stage to rousing applause. A subsequent Hawaiian segment included a “couples hula” and a beautiful hula to the song Waikī by Kieiki Kahalepuna, BYU-Hawai‘i’s student association president. The song included a tenor solo by Cy Wood.

The entourage also featured two world-class musicians: Michael Belnap, a Pavarotti-trained tenor who recently moved from Indiana University to BYU-Hawai‘i, and Chad Shumacher, a senior from Kauai who has entered the master’s program at the prestigious Eastman School of Music in New York. Belnap stirred audiences with Funiculi, Funicula, while Shumacher caressed the keyboards to Bach, Beethoven, and Rachmaninoff pieces.

The concerts concluded with encore renditions of the revered pioneer anthem Come, Come Ye Saints, with the final verse in Japanese or Korean, followed by the universally beloved Hawaiian farewell, Aloha ‘Oe.

Every performance inspired an outpouring of affection between the choir and its audiences. After the encores, choir members grabbed university lapel pins and raced to the lobby to pass the pins to old and new friends, investigators, and missionaries. Over the next half-hour or more, the lobby would remain packed with enthusiastic crowds.

Smith described these scenes with fondness: “Over 1,000 people in joyful conversation, missionaries introducing their investigators to choir members, a long line of people to buy a choir CD, people posing for pictures with choir members, many VIPs warmly bowing and thanking me for the wonderful concert. These were significant moments for the Church and for BYU-Hawai‘i in Asia.”
“I met many audience members who glowed with excitement and thanked us for our performance. It made all of the hard work worth our every effort,” said choir president Ivalani Bradshaw. “Many people told me how much they felt the spirit through our music; I felt like we were successful in delivering the Lord’s message.”

The university donated its concert proceeds to charitable causes identified by local committees. Because all of the concerts sold out, funds for the charities were plentiful.

In Japan, checks were presented to Ms. Chizuko Boone of Vaccines for the World’s Children—a Japan-based organization headed by Mrs. Kayoko Hosokawa, wife of former Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa. Contributions in Korea went to superintendents of education in each city to provide scholarships for orphaned youth.

“The charity aspect of the concerts left a very favorable impression on all who attended and participated,” said Elder William R. Walker, an Area Authority Seventy and first counselor in the Asia North Area Presidency of the LDS Church, who accompanied the choir throughout Japan.

Cultural Experiences

Away from the concerts, the choir was exposed to a variety of experiences. Guided by Dr. Michael Allen, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and cultural advisor for the tour, the students visited several treasures.

In Tokyo, along with their visit to Meiji Shrine and a session at the LDS Temple, the students toured Edo Museum and Asakusa. In Osaka, they stayed at the New Otani Hotel overlooking the ancient castle, Osaka-jo.

The group was escorted around Kyoto by volunteers who showed them Ryoanji, with its famous rock garden; Kinkakuji (gold temple); the old samurai fortress Nijo-jo; and Kiyomizu-dera, a Buddhist shrine. The members of Kyoto Stake then engaged the choir in a cultural fireside, complete with traditional dancing and taiko.

In Korea, the entourage visited the ancient mountain village of Kyeongju and hiked to ruins that marked the old trade routes into China. They visited the Korean Folk Village, said to be patterned after the Polynesian Cultural Center, and spent time at the 38th parallel that has divided North and South Korea since the Korean War.

At many stops, the students added their own impromptu presentations. In the folk village, for example, after they observed a dance ritual in an amphitheatre along with young school children and their endearing teacher, Allen used his Korean fluency to persuade the teacher to keep her children there for a few more moments. Seven choir vocalists, led by Selby Fauatea of Samoa, then jumped in front of the children and, to the amazement of the tourists still milling around, unleashed a Maori haka!

Spiritual High Notes

Among numerous inspirational moments, a few particularly exemplified the “holy radiant light” that emanated to everyone who came into contact with the choir.

On Korea’s 38th parallel, the group stopped at Dorasan train station. Built in anticipation of reunification with the North, the station is immaculate, with ticket booths, immigration checkpoints, and signage. Outside, tracks stretch beyond the border.

When the choir entered the lobby for what was to be a brief stop, it was empty. But while Allen was talking, the station manager emerged from his office. Allen turned to him and began conversing in Korean. The manager was so impressed he volunteered to escort the choir to the tracks and waived the $5 per head fee.

Outside, the manager described the station, pointed to military towers on either side of the border, and posed for photos. Suddenly, a train from Seoul pulled into the station – an arrival which occurs only three times daily.

Back in the lobby, the choir sang Arirang, which Allen stated now symbolizes Korean reunification, then Aloha ‘Oe. When Smith apologized for not having a gift, the manager replied, “Your singing was the greatest gift anyone has ever given to me.”
Robert Wakefield, BYU-Hawai‘i director of communications and tour leader, described the lobby scene:

“When the students started singing,” he said, “every eye turned and became riveted to the choir. After a few measures, many were already moved to tears. Afterwards, the people seemed to wonder what they had just seen, and the missionaries casually started to go around and explain.

“Here was an example of how the Lord puts into place what He wants to happen,” Wakefield continued. “We planned just a brief stop, but stayed for 40 minutes because Michael Allen befriended the manager. Then, tourists just happen to show up, including missionaries who can explain in Korean what the people felt while watching the students.

“Who knows who may have felt a taste of the gospel that day, but all those puzzle pieces have to be beyond coincidence.”

Kenji Ito, assistant manager of Osaka’s New Otani Hotel, also was moved by the students. On the morning of the final concert, the choir held a two-hour testimony meeting. Beforehand, Ito helped set up a slide presentation arranged by Debbie Frampton, a tour leader and photographer. Two hours later, students noticed he was still standing outside the room!

Vicky Walker, at the meeting with her husband, Elder Walker, spoke to Ito: “He told me that when he saw university students bearing testimonies in this setting, he knew there was something very different about these students than any he had ever seen.”

Ito was moved again at the concert, as he received hugs from the students afterwards, and as the entourage bade him aloha ‘oe the following morning.

“After the concert,” said Elder Walker, “my wife asked him how he enjoyed the choir’s wonderful performance. He replied to her: ‘It was beautiful. However, I don’t understand why I kept getting water in my eyes. I haven’t had that happen to me before.’”

“Miniature” Miracles
Several other exchanges along the tour were influential in touching people.

One of the tour guides in Kyoto was investigating the Church, and encountered tour manager Joel Kongaika’s usual warm friendship. She later sent an email to Kongaika saying she will be baptized.

John Dorff, BYU-Hawai‘i alumni chair in Tokyo, said investigators of the Church reported that when they heard the choir sing the fourth verse of *Come, Come Ye Saints* in Japanese, they finally understood what it is like to feel the spirit of the Holy Ghost.

Doug Shumway, vice president of the choir who served a mission in Peru, met a couple who were visiting Tokyo for a convention. He spoke to the couple in Spanish, invited them to the concert, and has remained in contact with the couple.

“One on this tour, I felt the magnitude of love that God has for the Korean and Japanese people, and we were able to help them feel that love through the spirit conveyed in our music,” Shumway said.

Choir member Joseph Moore also noticed the choir’s influence. “After a concert in Busan, I was able to bear my testimony to a young man who was taking the discussions from the missionaries,” he said. “I realized the tour wasn’t just another
gig but that we were truly representatives of the university as well as of Jesus Christ.”

Bradshaw added, “I felt so poignantly that the Lord had prepared me for many years, through my musical and spiritual experiences, to share his gospel to a group of people in distant lands who were also being prepared to receive His spirit.”

So, after two years of anticipation, the tour to Japan and Korea has entered the books as one of the most successful tours in BYU-Hawai’i history.

“In those 18 days the Lord made celebrities out of students, royalty out of commoners, and missionaries out of members,” said Shumacher. “He made the weak things of the world strong.”

Carolyn Shumway attributed the success to preparation. “The careful planning done by Jim Smith, Rob Wakefield, Michael Allen, and Joel Kongaika cannot be underestimated,” she said. “We especially cannot say enough about Joel and the fantastic job he did in setting up all the details…. We also had 200 percent support of local Church leaders in Japan and Korea, who filled the beautiful concert halls to capacity with wonderfully enthusiastic audiences.”

“We were overwhelmed by the work and energy put into the promotion and handling of our tour in both Japan and Korea,” Smith concurred. “The national committees and the individuals who organized and carried out the day-to-day details of our tour were wonderful.”

Elder Walker said the North Asia Area Presidency had “positive feelings” about the tour.

“We are grateful that the choir came to our area,” he said. “We have received numerous reports with glowing praise for the choir. They successfully radiated goodness and were excellent examples of faithful young saints. We are confident that all who attended the concerts left with good feelings and very positive impressions of the university and the Church.”

Elder Won Yong Ko, second counselor in the Asia North Area Presidency who lives in Korea, concurred.

“I feel so blessed to have this choir visit Korea and open up so many gates for the Church,” he said. “We have enjoyed the aloha spirit, and many people’s hearts and minds have been touched.”

Left, choir poses in front of the historical Imperial Palace in Kyoto. Right, Choir member Sarah Clements teaches a hula step to Meiji Shrine youth leader Sayaka Ishihara at the shrine’s cultural hall.
May 21, 2004, was set to be an historic day in Japan for BYU-Hawai‘i and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—and weather reporters were anticipating a typhoon.

The BYU-Hawai‘i Concert Choir had been invited to sing in the inner sanctum of Meiji Shrine, the heart of Japan’s Shinto religion, at the beginning of its 18-day tour of Asia. It marked the first time ever a Christian organization would perform at the shrine, and the choir was to stand on ground reserved only for the Japanese Imperial family or an occasional head of state.

However, May is the rainy season in Japan, and Tokyo already had weathered 16 straight days of downpours. Newscasters predicted a typhoon was to skirt Tokyo the day of the Meiji visit, promising to douse the performance by keeping visitors away.

Sure enough, when the day dawned the city was blanketed with clouds and rain. Prospects for the afternoon visit looked dismal.

But this historic day was destined for miracles. In the Tokyo Temple on the choir’s first day in Japan, a prayer pleaded for a successful tour. After hearing the forecast, Osamu Sekiguchi, a member of the Tokyo tour committee who arranged the Meiji visit, made his own prediction:

“I have faith it will be a sunny day tomorrow,” he declared.

Rob Wakefield, the university’s communications director and tour leader, explained what occurred the next morning.

“It was amazing,” he said. “At 10:00, there was absolutely no sun in sight. But about 30 minutes later the clouds had all dispersed and the sky was a gorgeous blue.”

Within the Hallowed Walls

The sun continued to embrace Tokyo as the choir entered the gates of Meiji Jingu, as the shrine is called in Japan. After the group participated in a cleansing ceremony, the priests escorted them inside the sacred walls of the inner courtyard.

Elder William R. Walker, an Area Authority Seventy and first counselor in the Asia North Area Presidency of the LDS Church, and his wife, Vicky, joined BYU-Hawai‘i President Eric B. Shumway and his wife, Carolyn, in additional Shinto traditions. Then, with media recording the moment and tourists gazing through the walls, the choir sang the enduring pioneer anthem, *Come, Come Ye Saints*, and a beautiful hymn about the Savior, *Holy Radiant Light*.

Elder Morris Sterrett, a public affairs missionary for the LDS Church who assisted with local arrangements, recorded the experience:

“There was a spirit there that brought tears and swelled hearts,” he said. “One sensed that Heber J. Grant and those who served with him in opening Japan to the work of the Lord were there. Even though the choir sang in the open air ... the volume was startling. Many choir members could hardly sing because of the enormity of the Spirit, but felt that other voices were joining with them.”

Choir president Ivalani Bradshaw sensed the extra help.

“The angels surely were singing with us,” she said. “Rays of light broke through our music and a sweet breeze picked up between the musical numbers, making the trees rustle as if even nature were applauding.”

While the choir sang, Elder Walker sat next to the Chief Priest, Mr. Katsushi Toyama. “The Chief Priest was very pleased with the choir’s performance at the shrine,” Elder Walker said. “He said to me: ‘I could really tell that they were singing to God.’”

Leaving the courtyard, the Walkers and Shumways visited with Toyama while the choir was escorted to an on-site hall to interact with youth from the shrine.

The youth ate together; then, led by student association president Kleiki Kahalepuna, the choir taught
the Meiji youth how to hula. The Japanese reciprocated by teaching their guests the lively O bon matsuri dance.

“Although we did not speak the same language, we all understood the same humor,” Bradshaw recalled. “We were like noisy college kids having a party and I felt such love and happiness to have been a part of this day.”

The Miracle Continues

As the choir loaded onto their buses after the three-hour experience, the miracle came full circle. Clouds appeared and rain threatened again as the buses arrived at the hotel. By the next morning Tokyo was engulfed by rain that continued for several days.

“In a one-month period, there were about six hours where the sun shone down on Tokyo, and it was while the choir was in Meiji Jingu,” said President Shumway. “We are very grateful for the Lord’s hand in this significant occasion.”

The day after the Meiji visit the choir performed to a sold-out crowd at the 2,200-seat Tokyo Metropolitan Opera City Concert Hall. In attendance were the Meiji Shrine priests and youth leaders who had hosted the choir. Before the final musical numbers, two women from the shrine, dressed in elegant kimono, presented the choir with gorgeous bouquets.

Significance of the Performance

Some may wonder why Meiji Shrine would offer BYU-Hawaii’s choir such an unprecedented invitation. Sekiguchi explained that the visit renewed an established relationship between the Shrine and the LDS Church.

In the late 1800s, while traveling by rail across the United States, Shinto priests encountered a blizzard in Salt Lake City. The priests tarried for a week in Utah, where they met Church leaders and heard Come, Come Ye Saints. Positive reports of this visit have remained in Meiji logs ever since.

Toyama again visited Salt Lake City 25 years ago. “Mr. Toyama told us he was kindly treated,” said Elder Sterrett. “He was presented a special plate, which he said is now one of his treasured possessions.”

A few years ago another Meiji entourage traveled to Utah to investigate programs of the LDS Church. They were hosted by former presidents of Japan missions and toured Brigham Young University and the Church’s humanitarian center.

“The Chief Priest was very grateful for the reception that his youth received in Utah and he wanted to reciprocate when the choir came to visit,” said Elder Walker. “It was a good illustration of how little kindnesses can lead to breakthroughs and big opportunities.”

Acting on these connections, Sekiguchi called the priests of Meiji Shrine and asked if they would consider having the BYU-Hawaii choir perform there. The invitation to sing inside the “holy of holies” evolved from that call.

As for BYU-Hawaii and the Church, the significance of the interaction may not be fully understood for many years. But Elder Walker confirmed its importance.

“Perhaps the most far reaching positive result of the choir’s visit may come from the warm relationship established with the leadership of the Meiji Shrine,” he said. “As the most important Shinto shrine in Japan, the formal visit and performance at the Meiji Shrine was historic.”

The Meiji moment attracted considerable attention in Tokyo. In addition to news articles, the event was mentioned on television and discussed on national radio talk shows.

The visit also energized LDS Church members.

“There were many Church members and stake leaders, in particular, who were amazed and delighted to hear of the warm reception by the choir and two Church leaders at the Meiji Shrine,” reported Elder Walker. “It gives them a feeling of acceptance that they have not often felt in Japanese society.”
H.R.H. Queen Halaevalu Mata’aho of the Kingdom of Tonga, wife of King Taufa’ahau Tupou IV, visited campus in March for an interview with President Eric B. Shumway. President Shumway, a noted Tongan language scholar, will use the interview in the final segment of a video trilogy he has produced on Tongan culture. Her Majesty and the Tongan students who visited with her were dressed in mourning black in honor of her son, Prince Ma’atu, who had recently passed away.
Wisak Saakha is studying international business management at BYU-Hawai'i and plans to graduate in December 2005. On campus his friends call him “Alan.” But he spent this summer again answering to Wisak after returning home to Thailand for an academic internship with a multinational firm in Bangkok.

“I know that my country needs young men and women who are totally dedicated to their homeland,” he said. “This internship has really helped me prepare for my future career. I know that God has already prepared the work for me in Thailand, and I will contribute the best I can to His kingdom—whatever He requires of me.”

Alan is just one of many students returning from BYU-Hawai'i to a world that desperately needs them. “From this school,” President David O. McKay declared, “will go men and women whose influence will be felt for good towards the establishment of peace internationally.” Alan and the thousands of other students who have returned or
will return to their home regions are what return-ability is all about.

Return-ability Defined

Return-ability permeates BYU-Hawai‘i these days. But when I first heard the term and went through my mental dictionary for a definition, I thought maybe I had misheard.

Time spent with faculty, administrators, alumni, and students, however, has taught me that return-ability is most certainly a word. In fact, return-ability is more than a word. It is a principal and a goal condensed into a single term.

Return-ability is the overall readiness of BYU-Hawai‘i students to not merely return to their home regions but also to have the wherewithal and connections to succeed when they do return.

This is not a new concept. In January 1973 at the dedication of the Aloha Center, President Marion G. Romney, then of the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, gave the following instruction related to the university and its students: “This institution cannot fulfill its purposes if it is simply a way-station used by the students on their way to the [United States] mainland.”

In order for the university not to be simply a way station, it must actively prepare students to return home and succeed. That is what return-ability is all about, and why today it is emphasized campus wide.

Getting From Here to There

Speaking to the faculty about return-ability, President Eric B. Shumway said, “The overriding principle . . . is a reaffirmation of the international mission of this campus—a mission that stresses a stronger commitment to preparing men and women to be leaders in the international Church while serving their communities, nations, and families.”

The overriding principle [of return-ability] is a reaffirmation of the international mission of this campus—a mission that stresses a stronger commitment to preparing men and women to be leaders in the international Church while serving their communities, nations, and families.

—Eric B. Shumway,
BYU-Hawai‘i president

BYU-Hawai‘i is committed to developing a culture that makes it more desirable for international students to return home by insuring they have the skills and connections to succeed there—financially, spiritually, and in every other way.

One effort that is drastically improving the return-ability of BYU-Hawai‘i students is the return-ability internship program (see Expanding World of Internships, p. 20).

Gene and Allyson Yamagata, friends to the university, have done much to jump-start this program, providing funds so that students can travel to their international internships. For many students the high cost of travel would otherwise prohibit fulfilling an internship at home.

Gratitude is a common theme among the students who have been blessed by the Yamagata funds. “I would like to thank the Yamagata family for their generosity—for helping me with the cost of a plane ticket,” said Alan Saakha.

Meli Lesuma, director of academic internships on campus, said: “This summer we had more than 90 international students serve internships in their home regions—four times the number who did all of last year. The Yamagata Fund has been a tremendous blessing in providing these students with essential financial assistance.”

Another effort that is affecting students’ return-ability is the Career Services Office. Through this office, networks of executives, alumni, and Church members are being organized to aid graduates searching for employment.

“We’re doing everything we can to help our graduates return to their homelands as strong leaders to help the Church, their families, and their communities to grow and move forward,” said S. Kimberlyn Austin, director of career services.

“I really plan to return home,” said Sheryl Samson from the Philippines. This summer she
interned with a telemarketing firm there. She said her internship really opened her eyes. "Actually this internship gave me the desire to return home even more," she added.

Both the internship and career services offices work with in-country volunteers to open doors for students. Placement councils are in place in Japan and Korea. A student-mentoring network is at work in Japan. Placement ambassadors are aiding graduates’ employment searches in Fiji, the Philippines, Samoa, Tahiti, and Tonga. And there is a volunteer placement representative functioning in China.

Additionally, those at the university focused on return-ability are working closely with LDS Employment Resource Center directors, with other career centers in the Church Education System, and with staff in the Asia and Asia North areas.

“I am really grateful for the school and its vision to give us these opportunities,” said Ono Fong, an information systems major from Fiji who interned for a high tech company in Suva this summer.

Learning to Return
I believe the idea of return-ability is catching on across campus. I have observed its emphasis in my interactions with faculty, students, and alumni, who are all playing an important role in fostering this culture.

Gary Frederick, a biochemistry and physical science professor who recently traveled to the Philippines to meet with companies, schools, and interning BYU-Hawai’i students, believes the future is bright. “I can now potentially place biochemical and biotech students into internships, graduate schools, and jobs,” he said. “And I have just scratched the surface in the Philippines.”

The university’s academic vice president, Keith Roberts, said that in-country internships "are the single most important factor in reorienting the university toward return-ability because they provide immediate, concrete evidence that there are opportunities and needs in the home region, and they also provide evidence that our students can meet those needs.” And students are doing just that.

Tameatu Tong Bira graduated in 2004 with a degree in mathematics. She grew up in Kiribati and interned as a math teacher at Moroni High School, a Church school in Kiribati. “BYU-Hawai’i has equipped me with a foundation of knowledge and experiences to return home and better serve my people,” she said. Currently living in California for further education and experience, Tameatu and her husband’s ultimate plan is to return to Kiribati.

Another student, Iris Cabrito, came to Hawai’i from the Philippines. As she boarded the plane, her father said to her, “Come home after gaining an education.” Those words have inspired her for the past two years. Her experience interning in the Philippines this summer was part of her education, and it added to her inspiration. “Interning helped me want to come back home more—to help my people, not only in industry but also in the Church,” she said.

Iris, Tameatu, Ono, Sheryl, Alan, and many other students—and those who serve them—express thanks to you for your thoughtful and continued support of BYU-Hawai’i.

For more information on BYU-Hawai’i’s emphasis on return-ability and to find out how you can help students return prepared to succeed, please contact LDS Foundation at BYU-Hawai’i. Call (808) 293-3912 or visit our web site at: www.byuh.edu/giving.
Expanding World of Internships

Work Experiences Play

Key Role for International Students

The places and programs are as diverse as the campus itself. Coming from business or biochemistry, education, social work, political science or exercise and sports science, the students have flown to all points of the compass—Mongolia, Japan, Hong Kong, Cambodia, New Zealand, the Cook Islands, and Kiribati. Brazil, Panama, Washington, D.C.

As Brigham Young University Hawai‘i has strengthened its efforts to open doors for its students to return home successfully after graduation, the number of students completing international internships has mushroomed.

“A stunning accomplishment of our past year has been the number of successful international internships completed by our students,” BYU-Hawai‘i President Eric B. Shumway recently reported. “This is a new phenomenon in our history as a university and has been encouraged by our Board of Education.”

Indeed, the numbers shout out. Two years ago, only three students from campus completed internships outside of the United States. In 2003, after university officials turned their attention to generating overseas internships, the number rose to 24.

But nobody anticipated the tremendous swell in the numbers this year.

In 2004, 265 BYU-Hawai‘i students have served internships, 92 of whom were international students whose experiences were outside the U.S. In addition, 38 international students completed internships in Hawai‘i, considered part of the university’s Asia-Pacific target area. Another 17 international students served internships on the U.S. mainland, including eight international entities in New York City or Washington, D.C.

The numbers continue: Nine students from the U.S. traveled to international internship locations, while 98 others, including 25 from Hawai‘i, remained on the island for their internships. Eleven Americans returned to the mainland for their experiences.
On campus, alumnus Meli Lesuma ('87) is one of the major catalysts for this renewed emphasis as director of academic internships for the past year.

“My charge is to coordinate, facilitate and provide guidance to our academic internship program, especially for international students,” he said. “The focus is on international students, but we’ll help all students.”

More specifically, the ultimate goal is to “find internships for international students in their home countries or regions so they can make the kind of connections they need and develop skills that will help them find gainful employment there.”

“Of course, the ultimate success of this program is that after our students graduate, they have a job offer waiting for them and they go home. We work very closely with Career Services in this respect,” Lesuma said.

**Coordination with Academic Units**

The School of Education and the social work program have always supported strong and structured internship programs. “Their majors cannot graduate without these practical experiences,” Lesuma said. “But most other disciplines on campus—liberal arts, business, computer science, exercise and sports sciences (EXS)—historically have not had such requirements.”

“This is changing,” he continued. “EXS now requires its majors to complete an internship, and all of the other disciplines are going after such opportunities. For example, when you look at the course catalog, all departments now carry an internship component. A student majoring in any discipline can complete an internship, and that credit could count toward graduation.”

Lesuma explained that “each of the departments or schools has an academic internship coordinator, who is a faculty member. They promote, facilitate and negotiate for internships within their departments. Students then come to us after they have talked to their coordinator, and sometimes even after they have secured an internship.”

“We do the paperwork and a second level of checking to make sure the internship meets our standards,” he continued. “We’re very particular on what the student is expected to do. Because it is an academic internship, we are particular about the outcomes. Our goal is to provide the student a real working environment, and this is possible only with the full support of the experience provider.”

**Summer is Optimum Time**

Because of BYU-Hawai‘i’s 4-4-2-2 academic calendar, “more students do their internships during [Hawai‘i’s] spring and summer,” said Lesuma. “This is good, because we don’t want their graduations to be pushed back another semester, and some of them wouldn’t otherwise take classes during the summer.”

Lesuma explained that the university and the Polynesian Cultural Center have found ways to accommodate important internship opportunities for students who come to campus from developing nations under International
Work Experience
Scholarship (IWES) agreements.
“We have the full cooperation of BYU-Hawai‘i and the Polynesian Cultural Center for the IWES students, who would otherwise be working full-time during those months,” Lesuma said. “They are guaranteed a job when they return to Lā‘ie—not necessarily the same job, but an appropriate job. That means a lot, because the IWES students sign a commitment that they will pay off their loans through the work portion of the program, and to give them time to do their internships without penalty is a real benefit to them.”

He added that the university waives tuition and insurance fees for IWES students during their internships, “and if they’re going home to Asia and the Pacific, their round-trip air fares are paid through special donations.

International Assistance
To locate internship opportunities, Lesuma works closely with in-country placement councils comprised of church, business, and government representatives in Asia, and with individual “placement ambassadors” in the Pacific island nations.

“For example, Elder Pita Vamanrav (’70), a businessman and Area Authority Seventy [for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints] in Tonga, is our placement ambassador there, and George Hunt (’70) is our ambassador in Samoa,” Lesuma said. “Our alumni have been a great resource, and we expect their roles to increase.”

Students Report Success
Students who have already completed internships in their home countries report they have had excellent experiences, including the following:

Internships in the Philippines
Eighteen Filipino students and one American completed internships in several locations in the Philippines.

“Ernesto Dy is being trained for a position with HAS Corporation,” said Lesuma. “He did his internship in information systems and travel management in Pasig. In fact, the company liked him so much they asked for more of our interns and placed two other students there this summer.

“Because many students stayed in homes with family or friends, they were able to integrate and reconnect to their communities in the Philippines with ease,” Lesuma said.

Shance Williams, Samoa
Shance K. Williams was born and raised in Hawai‘i, but his father, who is originally from Samoa, had always wished that Shance would return to his roots someday. This summer Shance had that chance; he was selected for a paid internship in the office of U.S. Congressman Eni F.H. Faleomavaega in American Samoa.

“Besides learning his roots, Shance was able to research the intricate relationships and workings of the different branches of government,” Lesuma said. “He also had the opportunity to work directly with the Congressman, who was visiting Samoa at the time.”

Because of his personal qualities and enthusiasm, Shance, an international cultural studies major, was offered an extended internship in Washington, D.C., next summer—“a great opportunity to become familiar with that aspect of government.”
Jong Bok Kim, Korea

“Jong Bok completed his internship at the National Cancer Center of Korea in Seoul. He graduated in June and just stayed there. They offered him a job as a case manager,” Lesuma reported. Instead, Kim has accepted a position with the Kangwon Province Social Welfare Center for Special Needs in Kangwon, Korea.

Patchanok Kanjanapanjapol, Thailand

A December 2003 graduate, Patchanok interned with the Gallup organization and now works for them in Bangkok. “She has been flying back and forth between Thailand and Washington, D.C. She’s got a very good job,” Lesuma said.

Sonita Duong, Cambodia

Sonita, a junior international business management major from Phnom Penh, served her internship there earlier this year.

“We served in the Church Employment Center, setting up career workshops to teach people how to look for a job,” she said. “I loved it. It was a really great experience, and we learned a lot. We worked on it for 20 hours a week. The rest of the time we would go out and help look for jobs. We also spent time looking for jobs for ourselves. While we were there, we stayed at home with our families. My parents were really happy to see me. It had been two years since we saw them last,” she added.

Jonathan Omae, Papua-New Guinea

A senior political science major from Gulf Province, Papua-New Guinea, Jonathan attended BYU-Hawai‘i on an International Leadership Development Scholarship. He completed his internship a year ago in Port Moresby.

“I worked in the Prime Minister’s Department, attached to the public sector, Reform Management Unit. There are close to 20 people working in the unit,” he said. “It was a very good experience. The unit basically analyzes the public sector reform policies of the government that need changes. I helped look through all the policies and helped prepare reports to the administrators. I also had meetings with the director general, the man in charge of the unit. After our meetings, he would usually meet with the national executive council where executive decisions are made.”

A former district president in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the first Papua-New Guinea student to serve an internship, Jonathan said the internship also gave him “insights into how the government operates.” He plans to graduate in December 2004, return to Papua-New Guinea, and run for political office.

Reconnections

Lesuma stressed that reuniting with people at home is critical. “It’s very important that our students reconnect with their families. Some of them might think it’s better to go to the U.S. mainland, but we’ve found they have great experiences back home. Being with their family and Church leaders brings a new burst of commitment and enthusiasm. They love being home and serving their families and communities.

“Of course, with their internships, they’re also gaining experience and getting school credit for it. This helps when they’re looking for a job. They have begun to network and sound out employers,” he said.

Lesuma sees the international internship program as something that is here to stay and that will continue to receive university emphasis.

“The numbers are going to increase dramatically as time goes by. This thing is going to continue to grow,” he said.
Interns Help Improve Tongan Infrastructure

When BYU-Hawai’i junior Richard Lee Fale presented an idea at a career fair in his native country, Tonga, he didn’t realize what a major project he would be initiating.

Fale believed BYU-Hawai’i students could use their knowledge and resources to help Tonga improve its infrastructure using information technology. He presented the idea to Annie Kaneshiro, an honorary consular agent participating in the career fair, and Kaneshiro liked the possibilities.

Fale then carried the idea back to faculty members on campus. With a recent emphasis on ensuring that students return to their homelands after graduation and serve in their communities and church, Fale’s idea struck a chord with the university community.

An interdisciplinary effort was organized, pooling the resources of the School of Business, School of Computing and College of Arts and Sciences. Before long, Fale’s idea evolved into the “Tonga infrastructure project/internship program.”

“Our goal is to put together a successful and enduring internship program,” explained Dr. Clayton Hubner, a business professor and one of five core facilitators of the program. “We want the Tongan students to find good jobs and develop into confident, capable and influential leaders not only professionally but also in the church in Tonga.”

“The internship opportunity also helps provide a knowledge transfer for students prior to, during and subsequent to their BYU-Hawai’i experience,” said Dr. Robert Hayden, Dean of the Center of Instructional Technology and Outreach.

In the summer of 2004, the program was put into practice. A select group of BYU-Hawai’i students from Tonga had the opportunity to return home and fulfill a semester-long internship building the country’s technological and information systems in the government and private sectors.

The program has three major objectives: 1) to foster development and economic growth in Tonga; 2) to enhance returnability of BYU-Hawai’i students; and 3) to improve relations between the church and Tongan government—all of which are already being met with impressive results.

“This summer’s wave of internships involved six different Tongan businesses and government agencies, and each benefited greatly from the expertise and industriousness of the BYU-Hawai’i interns:

**Tongan Ministry of Labour, Commerce, and Industry**

Interns Richard Lee Fale, Uatesoni Kafoa and Sela Lasalosi helped create a database for registering and tracking businesses in Tonga. This will allow the government to generate further revenue through a more accurate appraisal of tax payments, fees, and other fiscal matters.

**Tongan Visitors’ Bureau**

Interns Kristina Moleni and Nautilus Kaho helped analyze and disseminate data from a 2000
survey. This will facilitate greater insight into important issues of Tongan government and give direction for a new series of initiatives to expand its presence in the Pacific in terms of tourism and business.

**TongaSat (satellite services)**

Interns Samuela Fonua and Olivia Lavaki helped build a web page which can access and display information necessary for relay, positional, and frequency coordination for the satellites influencing or directly controlled by TongaSat.

**Ton Fôn (telecommunications services utility)**

Interns Daniel Niu and Penisimani Lao were trained in Ton Fôn operations, including the set up and trouble shoot of every domain within the sphere of five television stations, cell phone access and wireless broadband. They have been able to successfully replace regular employees when needed.

**Global Insurance Limited**

Interns Asena Tautua’a and Uinise Prescott helped create a static web page which outlines basic information about the company and insurance plans. They also investigated the nature of hurricane and flood damage to Tonga in order to better set premiums and prepare clients for possible weather related difficulties.

**Leiola Duty Free**

Intern William Racule helped expand the organization’s influence and market share by creating a website containing business information, pictures, price lists of its products, and other necessary and useful facts.

In every instance, the interns have been recognized by their employers as qualified, capable workers. Ton Fôn workers at their central headquarters, for example, have reported to Crown Prince Tūpouto‘a of their pleasure with the work the interns are accomplishing.

Consequently, a number of the interns have been asked if they would be willing to come and work for the business for which they are now interning after they graduate. The success of the program has also created many job opportunities for subsequent BYU-Hawai’i student interns.

In every business and ministry of the government included in the program, the expertise and results demonstrated by the interns have led employers to ask if BYU-Hawai’i would be able to supply more interns for future projects. Other businesses and government agencies have also expressed interest and requested that similar projects and employees be made available to them in the future.

Media coverage of the internship projects has also been favorable. Newscasts cited BYU-Hawai’i’s desire to support and benefit the Tongan people and society, thus improving the university’s reputation. The interns were afforded favorable press as well, aiding their job acquisition possibilities.

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The program has also sparked the interest of the Tongan students on the BYU-Hawai’i campus. “In the past, many Tongan students have expressed the belief that only jobs at Liahona High School were available to them,” said Dr. Ronald Miller, a psychology professor and program facilitator. “In response to the program, there has been a sharp increase in the number of students entering secondary schools in Tonga.”

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the university’s sponsoring institution, also incurred favorable results from the program’s success.

“As a result of the religious and relational politics of the nation, most government positions and those positions in industries run by the ruling family (which include phone, Internet, television, electricity, etc.) have, historically, excluded the majority of LDS workers,” Miller explained.

However, that is beginning to change. Comments from influential leaders indicate that the Crown Prince and others have begun to place the LDS Church in a more favorable position in Tonga as the Kingdom moves more towards a merit-based bureaucracy. “With the interns working in governmental positions and the Crown Prince personally approving of the BYU-Hawai’i interns, there is much commentary from LDS members about the ‘miracle’ which has occurred,” Miller said.

“[The program] is one of the many initiatives being supported by BYU-Hawai’i that provides a way to help students return to their native countries and build the gospel kingdom,” Hayden added.

Fale’s humble yet inspired idea proved to be a success on every level and for everyone involved.
As a student at BYU-Hawai’i two years ago, Ariunchimeg Tserenjavin had a great desire to return home to Mongolia and contribute. However, she faced a problem similar to many of her fellow students: like many countries, Mongolia had few places where she could land a sustainable job.

Not to worry—Ariuna had access to a fledgling BYU-Hawai’i center that teaches about income generation in countries where incomes are difficult to obtain. She also knew how to separate the goats from the sheep and make it pay.

With her eyes on the plentiful goat herds of Mongolia, Ariunchimeg developed an idea to produce and export cashmere. Through the Center for International Entrepreneurship (CIE) she refined that idea, and today she is back home and well on her way to realizing her dream.

Housed in the School of Business, the entrepreneurial center offers a variety of exciting programs to enhance the ability of students to return to their home countries and be successful.

“The Center for International Entrepreneurship is still a virtual center,” explained its interim director, Gregory V. Gibson, J.D., visiting professor of entrepreneurship. “Over the past six months we have developed a broad framework of what the CIE will accomplish. We’re now working out funding levels and more exact details.”

**Integrated Business Core**

Gibson, who came to Lā‘ie almost three years ago, said the foundation of the CIE program is the “integrated business core—an intensive one-semester combination of entrepreneurship, finance, marketing and business communication classes—in which students in teams run their own businesses for six weeks with real money and real profits and losses.”

The program started with a donation to the School of Business. “Since then,” said Gibson, “we’ve been adding to it substantially. Any excess money not used to replenish the student businesses is used for scholarships.”

One of the more successful student-run teams has been Banzai Production, which made more than $7,000 in winter semester 2004 by bringing a comedy troupe from BYU to the campus. Another team was called Snookies.

“The students took a proprietary recipe for white chocolate macadamia nut cookies and perfected their technique in both sales and production,” Gibson said. “That information was then given back to the person who loaned them the recipe, who has since used it to open a store in Florida.”
Business Plan Competition

The CIE also conducts an annual entrepreneurship conference that attracts dozens of guest lecturers and features an expanding student business plan competition.

“Last year we had about 50 plans,” said Gibson. “Of that, there were 15 finalists, five of whom gave presentations to the entire student body. A first-place and runner-up prize was given in both developing and developed country categories.”

A major element of the competition is the orchestrated connection of the student participants to mentors who can supply “real-world” advice and assistance to their business plans, Gibson explained. “Teachers and prominent business leaders come from the U.S. mainland and mentor the finalists in the business plan competition, as well as any others who want to have a mentor.”

Gibson said the CIE is “enlisting advisors from around O’ahu to replace these mentors, so we’ll have an ongoing pool. Thus far, we’ve enlisted William K. Richardson, a prominent venture capitalist, and Joseph Berardy, an alumnus and successful import-export entrepreneur on our advisory committee.”

Mentored Capitalism

A related initiative is what Gibson calls “mentored capitalism.” This concept assists entrepreneurial alumni returning to underdeveloped nations by pushing beyond the more established micro-financing programs into the funding of “micro enterprises.”

“Mentored capitalism is a space,” he said, “between the large amounts of money needed in venture capitalism and the small amounts usually associated with micro enterprise.” A micro finance project might require funding as low as $25 to $50 and rarely exceeding $1,000 to help establish a small individual or family business in a developing country.

By contrast, “A typical business in the micro venture space … would be one that has capital requirements between $10,000 and $60,000, has targeted a niche, and needs a sophisticated management structure with employees, supply chain management structure, accounting and correct bookkeeping,” Gibson said.

“Our goal is to help students overcome the significant learning and capital barriers by using the business education BYU-Hawai‘i has to offer—along with the mentor network to support the fledgling enterprise and with its access to substantial though not large amounts of capital to create sustainable small businesses.”

“At the moment we’re working with alumni who have the necessary business skills,” he continued. “We’re helping them prepare their business plans so they’ll attract independent funding. We’re also helping them identify the niches they can go into and putting together mentors so they can exploit these niches correctly.”

A good example of this process is the aforementioned Tserenjavin, the 2003 business plan competition winner “whose plan calls for the creation of a small knitting factory of cashmere goods in Mongolia. They will take the raw material which is so prevalent there and add value to it by creating accessories that will be exported to western nations,” Gibson said.

To successfully launch their ventures, alumni often need capital from outside sources. Gibson and the center have plans for this assistance. He cited Working World, a new venture company formed by 2003-04 student association president Richie Norton and his father, Rick. The company works in close conjunction with CIE objectives.
“Our main goal is to assist international entrepreneurs,” the younger Norton said. “We are in the process of venturing with Ariuna to start the cashmere company.”

Norton, who became interested in “helping people help themselves” while serving a mission in northeast Brazil, foresees “aspiring BYU-Hawai’i entrepreneurs becoming employers who create job opportunities not only for themselves but for members of their local communities. As they become self-reliant, they will also be available to serve their families in greater capacities and become leaders who strengthen the Church in their native countries,” he said.

“I have a clear vision that I can do the same to others as Working World is doing for me and my family,” Ariuna responded. “My professors ... taught me one simple principle: When you are helped, then turn around and do the same to others.”

In-country Initiatives

Gibson said another CIE objective calls for establishing in-country mentor networks for the budding entrepreneurs. During one recent visit to Mongolia, for example, he enlisted many key business and government executives into the network.

The CIE is also working with BYU-Hawai’i’s new Center for Instructional Technology and Outreach (CITO) to establish remote learning centers in countries of Asia and the Pacific.

CITO—recently reorganized from the Division of Continuing Education under the direction of Dean Robert Hayden—has begun to develop basic business courses carried on CDs or DVDs that include outlines, filmed lectures, and interactive problem-sets. The courses will focus on how to develop a business idea, basic principles of accounting and record keeping, fundamentals of small business management and funding, and principles of marketing.

Catalyst for Returnability

“The Center for International Entrepreneurship will eventually impact the lives of hundreds of students per year through the main office in Lā‘ie and the remote learning centers,” said Gibson.

As the university sends graduates back to their homelands, “We don’t have to rely on an employer” to launch their careers, Gibson explained. “We’re allowing students to rely on their own destiny in providing a livelihood. By teaching them the applicable skills, they will be able to search out the many, many opportunities that are available in their home countries.”

This is possible even in developing countries, “because a lot of the niches can easily be attacked or exploited with the wealth of knowledge our students have. For example, in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, there are no Western fast food franchises, yet there’s a large expatriate community to support them. The first one to start a fast food franchise there will probably be very successful.

“At present there are a lot of opportunities available for someone with the skill, funding and knowledge to take advantage of them. We want to train our graduates and others to locate and exploit these opportunities,” Gibson added.
Ask people associated with BYU-Hawai‘i if they can name the best hidden treasure on campus, and you may get a variety of answers—a statue in one of the McKay quads, a particular item on the Seasider cafeteria menu, or a certain unheralded faculty member.

No doubt, few would be able to name the university’s real hidden treasure: the BYU-Hawai‘i Natural History Museum. That’s because not many folks on campus have ever seen or are even aware of the gems of nature preserved in this small but valuable space.

Despite the relative anonymity of the natural history museum within the campus community, the facility certainly does not go unused. Indeed, thousands of off-campus visitors and school children may know and appreciate the museum better than the university ‘ohana (family).

“This is the only university natural history museum in the state. We have lots of public use. More people in Honolulu probably know about the university because of the museum than for other reasons,” said assistant professor of biology Phillip L. Bruner, a Church College of Hawai‘i alumnus (’70) who is also the museum’s director. Bruner works closely with Richie Kiyabu, the museum’s curator, to keep the facility in peak condition.

Bruner recalled that the museum was forming its roots when he began to teach full-time in 1978. “Even when I was a
Hawaii Natural History Museum
student, we had collections of birds and things that were used in zoology classes. As they grew, we felt that it was worthwhile to have a museum.”

For the past 10 years, the museum has been tucked into a “mauka side” hall of the meandering McKay Building. Old-timers may remember how McKay 125 was used as a classroom, then a planetarium and testing center before its conversion into the museum.

“We have lots of school groups that come from all over the island to see our collection. There’s a whole series of classes,” Bruner said, listing schools such as Punahou, Aina Haina, Heeia, and Kalihi as among the many that bring their students to the museum.

“There’s actually a lecture given on native water birds, and then after they leave us, they usually go to the [James Campbell] National Wildlife Refuge in Kahuku.”

Bruner, who is sometimes known as the “bird man” of BYU-Hawai’i, is a good choice to present information on his specialty. He has conducted field studies throughout the South Pacific—French Polynesia, Samoa, Tonga, and Fiji—the Central Pacific, and Micronesia.

“I really got into birds when I was a student here,” he said. “Dr. Delwyn Berrett, an ornithologist, was my mentor. That’s how I ended up going to Louisiana State University.”

“I’ve been focusing the past 20 years on migratory shore birds—especially the Pacific Golden Plover, or the kōlea. We’ve been working on that since 1980, and since 1988 in Alaska.”

Bruner explains that kōlea, which have an average life span of six or seven years, “migrate 3,000 miles nonstop between Hawai’i and their breeding grounds in Alaska. It’s estimated it takes them about 48 hours of nonstop flight.

“They usually start arriving from Alaska in August, with the juvenile birds coming in September,” Bruner said. “They get pushed out of Alaska when the weather gets bad.” He added that the highly territorial birds, which often come back to the same place each year, use stars and the sun to navigate and have been known to fly as high as 20,000 feet to get above turbulence.

The museum has an excellent collection of kōlea as well as over 4,000 other bird specimens. Bruner pointed out that there are also about 2,500 mammals and the same number of amphibians, reptiles, and fish.

“It’s strictly a vertebrate collection,” he continued, noting that 99 percent of the specimens have been collected or purchased.

“We’re trying to develop the North American mammal exhibits. Eventually, we’re planning to put them in a lifelike exhibit; but in order to do that we need to put the research collections into another room.”

**Imported Alaskan Bear**

As visitors enter the main collection room, the most dominant display is an Alaskan brown bear, which is approximately 10 feet tall and is estimated to have weighed about 1,000 pounds when it was alive.

“Before the bear, kids used to gravitate immediately to the gray wolf.
You could tell it was high on their list from the notes they send back, even though they came here to study water birds. Afterwards, we talk to them about all the exhibits,” said Bruner.

But now the immense bear looms over everything. “It’s a coastal brown bear, the same species as a grizzly bear, but this one had access to salmon. Grizzlies are located more on the interior, so they don’t usually get as big,” he added.

He noted the bear was donated in 2001 and was mounted this past spring, after the skin was cured and tanned, by Leon Metz and Lee Martin of Artistic Taxidermy and Northland Furs in Soldotna, Alaska. Metz was also a research biologist for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, which donated the bear.

“In Alaska, if a person shoots a bear in defense of life and property they have to give it to the state, both hide and skull. The state’s first obligation is to give it to the schools,” Metz explained. “We donate the hides to any educational institution that wants one. Phil put in a request about seven years ago, but big bears are hard to come up with.

“You measure bear skulls from the front teeth to the back of the skull, and from side to side. This one measures 27.5 inches, while 28 inches is minimum on the Boone and Crockett scale [a record-size game animal measuring system].

“This is not a huge, record bear, but it is a big one,” Metz continued. “It was shot on the Kenai Peninsula in the spring by a man walking through the timber with a permit for black bears. In Kenai, you can shoot two black bears a year with a permit—one in the spring and one in the fall. In fact, Alaska has areas where you can shoot six bears a year, the state is so big that there are different management units.

“This bear had killed a moose, had cached it and was in the process of eating it when the man walked up on it. It charged him, and he shot it,” Metz said, noting the bear was fairly well known because it only had one ear and a healed broken jawbone. He adds it would have cost a licensed hunter about $30,000 to create such an exhibit.

Metz and his partner used foam to form the shape of the bear’s body. The foam started as a two-part liquid that is sculpted after it dries. Before Martin sewed on the skin, they covered the foam with a soft material to give the animal a more lifelike shape and feel. The inner form and skin weigh only about 90 pounds.

Martin said she has been sewing for Metz’ taxidermy work since 1974. Together, they have mounted thousands of animals, including most of the mammals in the BYU-Hawai’i museum and the world’s record moose, which now stands in Anchorage, Alaska. They add they would like to bring a moose to BYU-Hawai’i.

“For now, the bear is the largest mammal we have,” Bruner responded.

“This is one of the finest museums I’ve seen,” Metz said. “It’s a beautiful museum, and when Phil gets done it will be even better.”

“We’re proud of all our displays,” Bruner added. “For example, Doug Pratt, a world-renowned artist, did the Kalalau Valley [Kauai] exhibit, but there’s no question the bear will be a big draw. I believe it’s the only one that was mounted in Hawai’i. We invite people to come in and see it.”
Jubilee Approaching

Year 2005 promises opportunities to renew acquaintances, honor the past, and prepare for an exciting future.

About 100 days remain until the calendar ushers in a landmark year for BYU-Hawai‘i—the Golden Jubilee, marking 50 years from the time the campus opened its doors as an institution of higher education operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for students throughout the Asia and Pacific regions.

In 2005—all year long—we’re going to celebrate! “The year 2005 will mark a great moment in history for our university and what used to be The Church College of Hawai‘i,” said Napua Baker, vice president of university advancement. “We feel this will be an important time to commemorate the legacy of our campus and to build a solid foundation for a promising future.”

Every month will carry a specific theme, with activities to support the theme. For example, August will be “families month,” complete with a children’s concert and a campus “family day.” In September, “beauty” month, the campus will join the community of La‘ie on clean-up service projects.

Some activities through the year will be orchestrated specifically for the Jubilee, while other annual events, such as Founder’s Day in February, will be spruced up with Jubilee embellishments.

But the big week to mark on the calendar occurs in the fall. From October 16th to 23rd, the university will have a culminating Jubilee Celebration Week, full of reunions, ʻIo’aus, devotions and receptions, exhibits, “connection” opportunities between alumni and current students, carnivals, and parades. Another alumni showcase performance at the
Quality Education at Top Value

External Affirmation Continues

For several years, BYU-Hawai‘i has enjoyed outside verification of its educational quality. After two prominent magazines released rankings over the summer, the university can now add the term “best value” to that quality.

In its annual rankings of the best colleges and universities, U.S. News and World Report again placed BYU-Hawai‘i in the top tier of Western U.S. universities in the category “Best Comprehensive Colleges” that offer only bachelor’s degrees. Released in August, the latest listing marks the sixth straight year the university has ranked among the top tier of the West, and fourth year in a row in the top ten.

“It means a lot to us to receive a consistently high assessment from a reputable third party like U.S. News,” said Keith Roberts, vice president of academics. “It shows that year in and year out, we’re doing many things well. We now officially have a reputation, and that reputation continues to grow.”

As usual, the U.S. News rankings showed that BYU-Hawai‘i is the most selective university in its category. This means BYU-Hawai‘i admits a smaller percentage of all applicants from the U.S. (17%) than any other comprehensive university in the West. In addition, the campus continues to be the most international per capita of all U.S. universities, with 47 percent of the students from outside the United States.

This year the rankings also listed BYU-Hawai‘i as “best value” among all comprehensive universities in the West, as indicated through a formula that “relates a school’s academic quality … to the net cost of attendance,” according to the U.S. News report.

Therefore, it noted, “the higher the quality of the program and the lower the cost, the better the deal.”

Supporting this data, BYU-Hawai‘i was ranked second in its category for “debt load,” meaning that students graduate from this campus with less debt than their peers at most comprehensive undergraduate universities in the West.

The “best value” ranking affirms another assessment by Consumers Digest in June. After evaluating 3,500 universities, the magazine rated BYU-Hawai‘i as the number one value among all private universities in the nation, ahead of prestigious institutions like Dartmouth, Rice University, and Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, which was ranked second.

According to Consumers Digest, the ranking was determined by a formula that balanced widely accepted factors of academic excellence “with the educational quality offered by each institution.” This score was then “applied to a formula to determine which schools offered the most academic value per dollar.”

BYU-Hawai‘i is the number one value among all private universities in the nation...

–Consumers Digest
Robotics Team Makes Splash at Underwater Vehicle Competition

Computer science professor Tim Stanley had no idea what he was starting by taking his robotics class to an underwater robot demonstration in Honolulu. Two of his students, Anuj Sehgal from India and Jason Kadarusman from Indonesia, were so inspired that they immediately went to work on their own robot for a joint senior project.

Their robot was designed to recognize and track objects in an underwater environment, “technology that is used to inspect underwater pipeline, mechanical, or electrical systems and explore deep-sea marine life and ship wreckage,” explained Leslie Fife, assistant professor of computer science and faculty supervisor of the project along with Stanley. Sehgal and Kadarusman worked on the project five hours a week, put in 40 hours the week before finals in April, and refined their robot over the summer in preparation for the seventh international autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) competition in San Diego.

Organized by the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International and the Office of Naval Research, the contest advances AUV technology by challenging aspiring engineers to perform realistic missions in an underwater environment. “This year’s task was for each AUV to locate and head towards a blinking LED light,” explained Kadarusman. “The AUV must drop a small marker into one of four bins near the light. Each bin is scored differently, with the ones closer to the LED having higher points. After the drop, the vehicle must then listen to a sonar ping, approach the source of the ping as close as it can, and resurface in a marked off recovery zone.”

This year’s competition attracted eighteen student teams—some of which (MIT, Cornell, Duke and Ecole de Technologie Superieure)—have competed all seven years. The average budget for each team was $20,000-$30,000, with some spending as much as $300,000 through university funding and corporate sponsorships.

The BYU-Hawai’i team, by contrast, had no previous experience, no sponsors, and limited university funds. For just $600, Sehgal and Kadarusman crafted their robot, which they affectionately named LUV—low-cost underwater vehicle. “A lot of money and good facilities don’t necessarily mean you have the best ideas,” Fife said. “Sometimes the simplest ideas work out really well.” And work they did. LUV successfully completed the course, a feat not all entries were able to accomplish, and captured one of five...
awards: $1,000 for the lightest and most inexpensive robot.

“Winning the award … was a great surprise to both Jason and me,” said Sehgal, “but we feel it was a well deserved award since we had to work extremely hard to keep the robot light and inexpensive. Our AUV displayed proof that underwater vehicles need not be complicated and high-tech. Our making of an AUV that weighed only 20 pounds and cost only $600 changes the way the engineering community now looks upon AUV problems.”

True to Sehgal’s word, the maximum weight limit for next year’s competition has been dropped from 140 to 60 pounds. This opens doors for hobby-robotics and researchers with lower funding to experiment with AUVs. Sehgal and Kadarusman had another purpose for entering the competition.

“We wanted to be able to create a name for the university and the computer science department,” Sehgal said. “This victory is a big achievement for … the department because it proves to the international engineering community that even though we might lack resources, we still have first rate skills available that can also innovate technology.”

“We will be looking at ways that we can use this competition to create links with other secondary schools and universities in Hawai’i,” Fife added. “We have also submitted conference papers on the algorithms developed and the robot design. Hopefully, we will be in Singapore in December presenting this research.”

The new BYU-Hawai’i Center for Instructional Technology and Outreach (CITO) has recently combined the Division of Continuing Education, Academic Center for Excellence (ACE), media laboratory, and Center for Instructional Technology (CIT) under one administration headed by Dr. Bob Hayden, to better provide media capabilities and learning opportunities for students and alumni throughout the university’s target area of Asia and the Pacific.

Hayden’s appointment is part of a larger reorganization of BYU-Hawai’i computer-related entities which included Brett Ellis taking over Hayden’s former position as Dean of the School of Computing and Jim Nilson, former professor in the School of Computing, replacing Ellis as Chief Information Officer.

“Essentially, CITO is a business entity within an academic setting that takes technology and provides curriculum opportunities throughout our target audiences,” said Hayden.

This process incorporates several major initiatives. One of CITO’s first objectives is to reach former students who have not finished their degrees. “We will develop a method of identifying those courses they have not taken that can be offered online,” said Hayden, “so that these individuals can satisfy their graduation requirements.”

CITO will also work closely with the English as an International Language (EIL) program to help students be better prepared in English before coming to BYU-Hawai’i for the first time. “This will be technologically delivered, which means we’ll use computers to deliver and monitor success. The materials might be delivered on a CD or a DVD, or even be Internet-based,” Hayden explained.

“We’re primarily going to broker courses that have already been developed,” he said. “If there’s a need for a unique course, we’ll develop it here; but first we’re going to do everything we can to help expand the independent studies program at BYU in Provo to our target audience.”

CITO will also offer several community programs and professional development courses for visiting faculty and other guests, while continuing to provide and enhance media services on campus.

“These ideas have been here for a long time,” Hayden stressed. “Great work has been done in the past. Many people have been working on components. Theresa Bigbie [former Chair of the Division of Continuing Education] did a wonderful job of setting the stage. Dwight Miller, Gael Weberg, and Ed Jensen [of the ACE program] have also done wonderful work in getting us ready.

“BYU-Hawai’i is ready to touch the lives of our constituents prior to, during and subsequent to a BYU-Hawai’i experience,” Hayden continued. “To me, that’s what makes the difference between an average institution and this university.”
Molding Champions

For 20 years, coach David Porter has helped men and women from all over the world achieve success on the court.

By Emily Lowe

Behind every championship team is a dedicated coach with a vision—and under Dr. David Porter's leadership, tennis at BYU-Hawai'i has reached the greatest heights of all.

As coach of the men's and women's tennis teams at BYU-Hawai'i, Porter's influence on his athletes has helped them bring home nine national titles.

Porter has been in La'ie since 1982, and he has had many ups and downs along the way; but while exercising a great deal of patience and determination, it has been a worthwhile trip.

After serving as assistant coach to the men's basketball and women's volleyball teams, Porter was handed the reins to the men's tennis team in 1984. In 1992, a women's tennis team was formed and he started coaching both groups—a dual role that has continued until this day.

During his lengthy coaching tenure, the women's tennis program has amassed an incredible seven national championships, including the last three years consecutively, while the men captured back-to-back titles in 2002-03. Those two years marked the first and second time in NCAA Division II history that men's and women's teams led by the same coach had won the national championship in the same year.

Of all his titles, the most memorable thus far was the first one for the men in 2002.

"We came very close twice in the early 90's with teams I thought were the best. For the guys to win the first one was pretty exciting," Porter said.

With all his expertise, Porter is the first to admit that it is not completely up to him whether the team wins on a national level. Good recruiting is Porter's number one key in creating a team of champions.

"It's less about me and more about the players," Porter said. "They say you can't win a Kentucky Derby riding a donkey. We've been very fortunate to have outstanding players that wanted to get an education in a BYU environment, and because of that we've been able to be successful."

Of course, BYU-Hawai'i offers a great overall experience for students, which helps create an appeal for athletes who consider the university.
"There's a combination of academics and the spiritual environment, but also the fact that we have a tennis tradition," Porter said. It also helps to have a tennis coach who is dedicated to helping the athletes.

"I work hard with them and have a legitimate goal to try to help them become better so they're not just putting in time in exchange for a scholarship," he added. "They realize they're getting something back on the tennis end as well as the academic end."

Even with great athletes and coaching, however, attaining championships is not easy. The team is allowed to practice 20 hours a week by the NCAA. Porter uses about 15 hours during weekdays and then allows his athletes the option of practicing on Saturday mornings.

"I think it's an appropriate amount of time considering that they're not professional players and that many of them have jobs as well as full-time studies," Porter said. Then it comes down to the actual matches, and sometimes it can be difficult to get athletes to perform at their best, but somehow Porter has a knack for getting the best out of his players, as evidenced particularly with this year's national title for the women.

"I suppose that this year, as much as any other year with the women, we were able to do that," Porter said. "In the match in the semifinals against a very good team, I thought that our three doubles teams played the best matches of the year at the same time, and that gave us a lead that was too much for our opponents to overcome."

Once a team reaches the top it is not easy to stay there. Players graduate and move on, and it is a challenge to recruit players with comparative talent year after year. However, Porter does not rely just on talented new players to improve his team.

"My goal is to be always learning new things and trying to find out what's on the cutting edge to make sure that they always have their top advantage to play better," he explained. "So, as I continue to learn, I'm sure things will change because my goal will be to teach them new things and not just continue to do what has been done in the past."

Whatever those new things may be, rest assured that Porter will always be trying to lead his teams to even greater heights.
When the Brigham Young University Hawai‘i women’s tennis team brought the 2004 NCAA II national championship back to Lā‘ie, it marked the 22nd national title for the Seasiders’ athletic program—a continuation of athletic excellence that makes BYU-Hawai‘i one of the premier athletic programs in the nation.

In fact, it can be argued that the Seasiders are the best in the nation, if one looks strictly at the number of national championships won as a percentage of total teams in the university’s sports program. Such an assessment would represent a much different, and perhaps more realistic, view of athletic excellence than the current formula.

The current standard of excellence for intercollegiate sports is the NACDA Director’s Cup (formerly the Sears Director’s Cup), which ranks schools in each of the NCAA divisions and the NAIA according to overall athletic performance.

The formula is based on awarding points for each team that participates in national championship events based on their order of finish. One hundred points are awarded for a team that wins a national title and the scale decreases to a minimum of five points for finishing below 64th in a tournament field. Obviously, the more sports a university sponsors, the more potential for points toward the Director’s Cup rankings.

In NCAA Division II competition, however, there is a wide disparity in the number of total sports different universities sponsor. The University of California at Davis, for example, competed in 25 sports before advancing to Division I in 2004, and Grand Valley State operates 17 sports. BYU-Hawai‘i, by contrast, sponsors only eight sports—four men’s teams and four women’s teams.

The Director’s Cup formula attempts to reduce this disparity by awarding points to any one school in no more than seven men’s sports and seven women’s sports. Still, smaller universities like BYU-Hawai‘i have a disadvantage in the Director’s Cup competition. One of the Seaside sports, men’s water polo, is a cross-divisional sport that is not considered in the formula; so, even though the team has been...
nationally ranked in the past two seasons, it receives no Director's Cup points. Therefore, with only seven sports currently eligible, BYU-Hawai‘i will be short-changed even after it adds two new sports, men’s and women’s golf, next year.

According to the Director’s Cup formula, the Seasiders would amass 700 points if they captured NCAA II titles in every one of the seven sports offered. This would still not be enough to win the trophy.

With its 17 sports, Grand Valley State won the 2004 trophy with 810 points and UC-Davis, which won six Director’s Cups in eight years before moving to Division I, won the 2003 cup with 857 points. BYU-Hawai‘i finished 34th in the 2003 standings despite winning three national championships that year.

**Championship Success Rate**

Perhaps a better way of examining collegiate athletic excellence is simply to look at national championships won compared to opportunities to win—referred to as championship success rate, or CSR. With this measurement, the Seasiders excel.

BYU-Hawai‘i has won 10 national titles in women’s volleyball, seven in women’s tennis, two in men’s volleyball, two in men’s tennis, and one in rugby. Fifteen of those titles have come in the last 10 years and nine in the six years since the Seasiders joined NCAA Division II play.

By comparing BYU-Hawai‘i’s record over those time spans with other top universities and with schools in the Seasiders’ conference and region, a greater appreciation can be gained for what the Seasiders have accomplished.

With 15 championships in the last decade in only eight sports, the Seasiders own a sparkling 18.75 percent CSR. This is determined by multiplying the eight sports by 10 years to obtain the number of possible championships (80), and then dividing the 15 championships won by the 80 possible titles.

Using this same formula, UC-Davis has a 1.6 percent CSR over the past 10 years. Looking at just the past six years, BYU-Hawai‘i’s CSR remains at 18.75 while UC-Davis improves slightly to 2.3. Clearly, the advantage
goes to BYU-Hawai'i despite UC-Davis' seeming superiority in the Director's Cup competition. The Seasiders even compare favorably to some of the top athletic programs in NCAA Division I play. Stanford University has won nine consecutive Director's Cups and is arguably the top athletic program in the nation. Applying the CSR to Stanford's 32 sports, the Cardinal show a 10.3 CSR over the past decade with 33 NCAA titles, and a CSR of 6.8 in the past six years with 13 titles.

UCLA, which offers 22 sports and has won more NCAA championships (94) than any other school, owns a CSR of 10.4 over the last 10 years with 25 titles and a glossy 12.9 CSR for the past six years. However, even these two athletic giants do not win championships at the same rate as the Seasiders.

BYU-Hawai'i also stacks up well against its sister school BYU in Provo, Utah. With 21 varsity sports, the Cougars have won 10 NCAA national championships, with seven of those coming in the past decade and six in the past six years. BYU's CSR works out to 3.3 for the past decade and rises to 4.8 over the last six years.

Pacific Region Comparisons
Of course, comparing BYU-Hawai'i to powers like Stanford, UCLA, or BYU is like comparing porpoises to whales. The Seasiders are best assessed against their peers in Division II and, more particularly, in the Pacific West Conference and Pacific region. In the PacWest Conference, CSR is irrelevant because there is little to compare. Three schools, Chaminade, Montana State-Billings, and Western New Mexico, have never won a national championship. University of Hawai'i-Hilo won five titles in NAIA women's volleyball but none in the past 10 years. Hawai'i Pacific is the only other PacWest school to win a championship in the past decade—two NCAA II women's volleyball titles. The Sea Warriors have won four national titles overall.

Teams from the Great Northwest Athletic Conference, which broke off from the PacWest three years ago, have won only eight national championships in the last decade. Just one of those, Humboldt State's women's softball title in 1999, was an NCAA title. The rest came in the NAIA. Seattle Pacific leads the Great Northwest with six NCAA II championships overall but none since 1993. Central Washington also has six titles, but they all were in NAIA and the latest came in 1995. Alaska-Anchorage and St. Martin's have never won a national championship. The title tally for other GNAC schools shows Western Washington with one, Humboldt State with two, Seattle with two, Western Oregon with two, Northwest Nazarene with one, and Alaska-Fairbanks with just the rifle titles.

A look at the other Pacific conference, the California Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAA), reveals a greater number of national championships. Cal State-Bakersfield tops all region teams with 29 titles, seven more than BYU-Hawai'i. The Roadrunners offer 15 sports, though, and only eight titles have come in the last 10 years, giving CSUB a decade CSR of just 5.3 percent. Only four, all in men's swimming and diving, have come in the last six years for a CSR of 4.4 percent.

Other CCAA schools that have won national titles include Cal Poly-Pomona with 11, but none in the past decade; Grand Canyon with nine but only one in NCAA play since 1988; UC-Davis with eight; Chico State with six; Cal State-LA with four but none since 1978; Sonoma State, UC-San Diego, and Cal State-Dominguez Hills with two apiece; and San Francisco State with one. Cal State-Stanislaus and Cal State-San Bernardino have never won a national championship.

With these data, one fact becomes obvious: BYU-Hawai'i has been blessed with great success in intercollegiate athletics. With 22 national titles (and eight individual national champions), the Seasiders are among the elite programs in the nation. To win that many titles with so few varsity sports is nothing short of incredible.
Aloha Alumni,

It is a privilege to follow other association presidents who have served BYU-Hawai’i over its first 50 years. I particularly wish to thank outgoing president Mike Foley for his exemplary leadership.

From my travels on behalf of BYU-Hawai’i and the Polynesian Cultural Center, I am convinced that: (1) the two entities’ complementary missions—to prepare students to be leaders and positive role models—are becoming increasingly important as spiritual and moral foundations erode around the world; and (2) our alumni can do much to support these vital endeavors. Below are a few things we are doing to strengthen our alumni association, the university, and our students:

• We’re moving! The alumni association office will move to the old Plantation Store area in the Aloha Center, which—along with a new student alumni program—should enhance relationships between students, the association, and our chapters worldwide.
• We’re establishing more chapters around the world, like those just started in New Zealand and China, to better represent our diverse ‘ohana.
• We’re working to improve communication and strengthen our chapters; strong chapters are at the heart of what we can accomplish in the coming years.
• We’re harnessing technology to make campus activities more available to alumni.
• While the monthly e-newsletter will continue, we encourage more alumni to give us your email addresses and feedback!
• I’m also excited about the potential for alumni to help provide more career opportunities for our new graduates and to offer donations for student scholarships and programs.

We hope everyone visits campus during 2005, but also encourage all chapters to conduct your own jubilee celebrations. To learn of events and other information, please access the Golden Jubilee site at the lower left corner of the byuh.edu home page. We especially invite everyone back for Jubilee Week, October 16-23, 2005. Chapters may want to develop a travel package for interested alumni.

These are exciting times for the campus and the alumni association. We invite all of you to participate in some way in maintaining lasting connections with BYU-Hawai’i.

Warmest regards,

Les Steward
President, Alumni Association
Mother for All Seasons

‘85 Alumna Beth Uale Continues Trend

Increasingly, it seems, the fine art of effective mothering is crafted and honed in Little Lā‘ie—and it doesn’t go unrecognized.

Beth Pi’ilani Parker Uale is the most recent in a growing list of women from BYU-Hawai‘i and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who have been recognized as mother of the year by the Hawai‘i Chapter of American Mothers, Inc. (AMI).

Uale, who graduated from BYU-Hawai‘i in 1985, and her husband, Hawai‘i District Family Court judge Bode Uale (‘87), are the parents of four children—two of whom attended BYU-Hawai‘i and another who was student-body vice president at BYU in Provo, Utah.

Sitting in the music room of her home in Hawai‘i Kai, which features back-to-back baby grand pianos, Uale said she never expected such an honor.

“I was very surprised, because I thought that title was for women who had 10 kids and foster children,” she explained. “I didn’t think I qualified. When I asked them why I was nominated, they said part of the reason was because of the success of my children.”

Amanda DuPont, a member of the Kaimuki Ward of The Church of Jesus Christ and president of the AMI Hawai‘i Chapter, confirms this contributing factor.

“Not only has Beth done an outstanding job of raising her children, every one of them is an example in the community,” said DuPont. “Two are currently serving missions (for the Church): Her daughter is in Venezuela and a son is in a Spanish-speaking mission in California. The oldest son served in a Spanish-speaking mission, and the youngest is a senior at Kamehameha [High School]. They have been outstanding in school work and service.”

DuPont added that Uale has also been “a great influence on thousands of youth” through her teaching of piano, voice and music in private lessons, private schools, 13 years of public school and 18 years of conducting the children’s choir in the annual Honolulu Stake Christmas concerts at the historic Honolulu Tabernacle.

Early Influences

Uale started her own music training when she was just eight years of age and living in Pasadena, California, where her well-known father, Ed Parker—a martial artist, businessman, actor and author—first established his worldwide school of karate.

“I took piano lessons for 10 years,” Uale recalled. “I had a wonderful teacher. She was a very patient, loving LDS lady who lived down the street. If she wasn’t that way, I don’t think I would have continued.”

Even so, Uale said she was ready to quit after four years. “Then my mother told the bishop I played, and he asked me to play for Primary. I was only 12. That was when Primary was on a weekday. I agreed, but told my mom that I would have to take lessons again. She never told me until years later she had done that because she didn’t want me to quit, and it worked.”
Though both her parents were part Hawaiian, Uale said she had not really connected with her Polynesian heritage on the U.S. mainland. “Growing up in California, there were three predominant nationalities in those days: the whites, Chicanos and blacks. I didn’t really fit in anywhere, so I felt like I really needed to find my heritage. “All of my friends went to BYU in Provo, but I purposefully came to BYU-Hawai’i … to find my culture.”

Once in Lā‘ie, she said, “the Polynesian Cultural Center was the thing that helped the most—being able to learn the dances and how to make poi, how to braid coconut husk and make rope out of it, and I learned how to play the ukulele. There were so many things about the culture that I didn’t know, but being around other Polynesians was very comfortable for me.

“I felt it was the place for me to be, yet I needed to learn more about my culture. I remember I had to learn what hana bata days meant [little kids with runny noses]. That wasn’t a term I heard growing up.

“I’m definitely a Hawaiian now,” said Uale, who is also a director of the Hawai’i Youth Opera Chorus based at Kawaiahao Church in Honolulu. “We do a lot of Hawaiian music and dance. We practice there, and every so often we perform during their services as a payback.”

During the national AMI convention in Puerto Rico in April 2004, Uale shared the aloha spirit at a luncheon honoring the outgoing national mother of the year, Mervalyn Kitashima, another LDS Hawaiian whose husband, Daniel, is a BYU-Hawai’i graduate.

“We got permission to turn that luncheon into a Hawaiian affair,” said DuPont. “We gave out kukui nut leis donated by the PCC and we handed out brochures. Beth and [former Hawai’i young mother of the year] Lianna McMillan … danced hula. After that, for the remainder of the convention all the Puerto Rican women would welcome everybody at the convention with bienvenidos and aloha.”

Connecting with Her Husband

Coming to BYU-Hawai’i also put Beth Parker in the path of Bode Uale, a young Samoan from Lā‘ie who was born in Salt Lake City while his father was attending the University of Utah. Bode and Beth were both members of the campus performing group, Showcase Hawai’i.

Laughing, she admitted, “I heard about him before I got there, because my sister told me he had written a song for her roommate. I wondered, who’s this guy who’s written a song?”

She soon found out. Two months after meeting, they were engaged. Six months later, in May 1978, they were married in the Los Angeles Temple while the Lā‘ie Temple was under renovation.

“Three children later,” she graduated from BYU-Hawai’i in 1985 with a degree in music. She earned a professional diploma in 1997 and a master’s degree in music education in 1999 from the University of Hawai’i.

When she was not teaching or “being a mom,” Uale has served as president of
the Hawai'i Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association and is incoming president of the Hawai'i Music Educators Association. She also serves as Young Women's president of the LDS Hawai'i Kai Ward and is a Boy Scout merit badge counselor for family life, music and speech.

When she has time to herself, Uale turns to music.

“That's why work is such an enjoyable thing for me,” she said. “I don't feel like I have to be away from my family. Music is my passion.”

Of her BYU-Hawai'i days, Uale recalled that she 'enjoyed being in Showcase. That was a good experience. I enjoyed being in the dorms and getting to know people. I liked the small class sizes. I loved working at PCC. I was a narrator for the matinee show, and I also worked in the Marquesan tohua.”

These experiences have helped her teach Polynesian heritage to her children. “Luckily, three of my kids were also able to get into Kamehameha School. My oldest son and daughter also worked at PCC while they were at BYU-Hawai‘i. My oldest son, Crichton, was on the promo team...and my daughter, Andria, was on it for one summer.

“The kids are also familiar with their Samoan heritage,” she continued. “Two summers ago I taught a music education class in American Samoa, and I took the whole family with me.”

Uale believes spending time with her family is one of the keys to her success as a mother. “When I got married my dad got very depressed because he thought we wouldn't have time to do things together. When I saw that, I realized I needed to spend time with my kids, so I wouldn't have regrets,” she said.

“Even though I've had a career, we do a really good job of calendaring and spending time together,” Uale added. “For example, on holidays the kids always wanted to go someplace and do things with their friends, but we've told them we're doing things together until after lunch, and then you can take off. There have also been many family vacations. Whenever we have free time we try to spend it together, but you have to put it on the calendar.

“Music was another thing that brought our family together. We have our own little choir. Everyone knows how to sing, and we can have all the parts.

“At times I had to be a super mom: While I was getting my professional diploma and master's degree, and while Bode was a bishop, that was a lot of work; but it was a team effort,” she said. “Bode was always very helpful with the kids, especially with transportation and sports. He also set a good example, and he's been active in Scouting from the very beginning. That's been very helpful: All three boys are Eagle Scouts. My kids are also very strong in the Church.”

**Gospel-Centered Parenting**

“You have to set a good example for your children. You have to show through example how important the Church and your relationship with Heavenly Father are,” she said.

“Beth is really grounded in the gospel,” Bode interjected. “I think in our married life, sometimes I wanted to slack off, but she never let me. I'm human, but she has a deep conviction to the gospel that's helped me maintain my conviction as well.

“Beth has always been the one to keep us on track. She's always kept me doing the Church programs and making sure the kids were attending Seminary regularly. She's pulled me along. I've been a bishop. That was a great experience, but if I didn't have the support from my wife, I don't know if I would have been able to do that calling.”

Asked her advice on motherhood, Uale said, “You have to set rules in your house. You have to be very firm with the children. For example, one day I told the kids if they weren't in the car in 10 minutes, I would leave for Church without them. They dilly-dallied, and I left. They waited at home for over an hour and I never came back to pick them up. After that, they were on time. They realized they had to follow the rules. Those rules have to be set early, when the kids are young—not when they're 16 or 17 and you've already lost control.

“I also think parents have to realize that when they have free time, they should spend it with their families and not be anxious to spend time by themselves. Kids pick up on that. They need to know you want to spend time with them.

“I'm grateful for the children I was blessed with and a good husband, that I was raised in the LDS Church, and that my children all have testimonies. I love being a mom.”

Amanda DuPont, serving her second term as president of the Hawai‘i chapter of American Mothers, Inc., reported, “There's been a strong LDS influence in the organization. We try to branch out, but LDS women just naturally gravitate to the standards and principles of American Mothers. We've had two national mothers of the year from Hawai‘i: Carolyn Shumway in 1996 and Mervalyn Kitashima last year. They were both outstanding.”

Along with Uale, past "mothers of the year" or “young mothers of the year” from Hawai‘i include Leilani Auna, Cheryl Ann Chun, Laurie Clark, Pamela Tseu Gasinski, Kathy Ho, Lanett Ho Ching, Trinette Kau, Louise Kim, Susan Kunz, Lianna McMillan, Patricia Lei Anderson Murray, Susan Spangler, Donnette Tew and Lisa Wagner.

Log onto [www.americanmothers.org](http://www.americanmothers.org) for more information on American Mothers, Inc.
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JOIN US ON A VOYAGE OF FAITH.

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the university, a freshening wind fills our sails. Our voyage is underway. The prophetic promise of President David O. McKay that “from this school . . . will go men and women whose influence will be felt for good towards the establishment of peace internationally” is being fulfilled.

Of necessity, the work here on campus is quickening. Challenged by the board of trustees to accelerate the pace, Brigham Young University Hawaii and Polynesian Cultural Center are intensifying efforts to educate more young men and women from Pacific and Asian nations.

Your assistance in this effort is vital. It touches the lives of students and, ultimately, the world. Will you please consider making a donation, in whatever amount your circumstances allow, to Brigham Young University Hawaii and Polynesian Cultural Center? For additional information—and to donate—visit www.byuh.edu/voyage or call 1-800-525-8074.

Your continuous support is truly the wind in our sails.

Most sincerely,

[Signature]

Eric B. Shumway, President
Brigham Young University Hawaii

[Signature]

Von D. Orgill, President
Polynesian Cultural Center