Aloha!

Is your legacy built on a sure foundation?

It is a year of celebration in Laie. 2015 marks 150 years since the LDS Church purchased 6,000 acres of the Laiewai and Laiemalo’o ahupua’a as a gathering place for the Saints. It also marks 60 years since President David O. McKay broke ground for the original campus (February 12, 1955) and the first classes began at the Church College of Hawaii (September 26, 1955). The building effort that commenced in 1955 included many of the academic and residential structures that stand on campus today. The Hales (dorms) have housed thousands of students, and have even served as a missionary training center (or Language Training Mission) for several years. These Hales, built by dedicated labor missionaries, have stood as a legacy of their faith and commitment, so when it became necessary to replace them with new, updated housing units, we thought about an appropriate way to continue acknowledging this wonderful legacy. What happened was in no small way a miracle.

Our team of architects and engineers inspected the existing structures, including the unique – and very heavy – concrete roof. After much analysis, it was determined that the original foundation for the Hales was firm enough to support an additional floor (the original buildings were two floors) if the concrete roof was removed. Designs were drafted, additional testing was performed, and the plans were ultimately approved to completely gut the old Hales (first 3 and 5, then 4 & 6), install all new plumbing, electrical systems and infrastructure, and add a third floor. And to better meet the needs of increasing numbers of returned missionaries, the resulting buildings would consist of apartments and be 25% cheaper per bed than new construction. Hales 3 and 5 will be completed this fall and then we’ll begin work on Hales 4 and 6. (Due to flood plains, Hale 6 will need to be completely replaced.) The legacy of these pioneer builders that has served students since the middle of the last century will continue to serve students at BYU–Hawaii for decades to come. We are literally built on their solid and sure foundation.

In like manner, each of us can leave a legacy. I have three simple reminders that you might consider as you leave your own legacy, established on your firm foundation as a proud alumnus of Brigham Young University–Hawaii, an interested and involved friend of this special institution, or the simple yet profound designation that we all share as a son or daughter of God.

1. Personal righteousness and a commitment to covenants. Whether they are promises to family, friends or colleagues, or to God, may we commit to lives of honesty and integrity at all times and in all places.
2. Daily service and kindness to others. We can be a bright spot in someone’s life through simple acts of service. You never know when your kindness will be an answer to another’s prayer.
3. Consistent air of optimism. Looking on the bright side will breathe new life into almost any circumstance, and opens the door to solutions that might be overshadowed by gloomy perspectives.

I am grateful to be involved in the wonderful work of Brigham Young University–Hawaii. There is so much to celebrate, and there is so much to yet accomplish. Thank you for your support and participation as we move forward.

With aloha,

Steven C. Wheelerwright

President
In his prayer dedicating the grounds where Brigham Young University–Hawaii now stands, David O. McKay, ninth president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, said, “We dedicate our actions in this service. . . That this college, and the temple, and the town of Laie may. . . influence millions of people who will come seeking to know what this town and its significance are.”

For centuries, Laie has been a place of significance. The early Hawaiians considered Laie to be a place of refuge where those who were persecuted or outcast could find a place of peace. In its history, Laie has hosted royalty, celebrities, heads of states, and prophets of God. Through all of that time, however, it has most prominently made its mark in history as a gathering place for members of the Church.

Pioneers of the Pacific

Many of the early gathering places for the Church were distant, isolated communities. A well-known pioneer journey in 1847 would lead the Church to find its permanent home in the Salt Lake Valley of Utah, yet during the same time period, another miracle was taking place nearly 3,000 miles away in the islands of the Pacific.

The first missionaries of the Church arrived in Honolulu in 1850. In a very different land with language, living conditions, and food completely foreign to them, the work was difficult and progressed slowly. Despite the challenges facing the progress of the work, George Q. Cannon, missionary and later a member of the First Presidency of the Church, had great faith and love for the people of the islands. He prayed that he might make progress, and one night, in a manifestation of the gift of tongues, Elder Cannon was able to understand the Hawaiian language. With this miracle, the work began to move quickly.

By 1853, as members in Utah began work on the Salt Lake Temple, there were branches of the Church on almost every island in Hawaii, and the Book of Mormon had been translated into Hawaiian with the help of Jonathan Nepala, one of the first native Hawaiians to join the Church. As the Hawaiian Saints grew in strength, they desired to gather with the rest of the Church in the Salt Lake Valley. However, the Kingdom of Hawaii had strict immigration laws at the time that prohibited a mass exodus from the islands. For centuries, early conditions were still very hard. The colony was isolated from the population centers in Honolulu, on Maui, and in other locations where there were still more members of the Church. Other early Saints were weary of the failed colony on Lanai years earlier and were not eager to move again to another isolated place. Still, the plantation in Laie was profitable and enjoyed moderate growth in spite of the difficulties.

A significant event occurred in 1874 when David Kalakaua, then-King of the Hawaiian Kingdom, made an impromptu visit to Laie while touring the kingdom of Hawaii. He was very impressed with the conditions of the Laie residents and the gospel culture that they lived by. Kalakaua’s wife Queen Kapiolani in particular was fascinated with the Relief Society organization and would later begin attending regularly in Honolulu. This was the beginning of a good relationship between the Hawaiian monarchy and the Church, with King Kalakaua mentioning that he “felt at home in Laie” and making it a point to attend the cornerstone dedication of the new chapel in the 1880s.

Progress in Laie

In spite of the friendly political environment, the land was not easily managed. In 1885, events culminated with a drought that threatened to eradicate the sugar plantation. Joseph F. Smith, one of the original missionaries to Hawaii and by then a counselor in the First Presidency of the Church, returned to Laie to assess the situation. He encouraged the Saints to stay in Laie, saying, “[T]his is the land chosen by God as a gathering place for the Saints. Be patient for a while, for the day will come when this desolate land will become a land of beauty.”

Due to changing economic conditions in 1900, the Laie sugar plantation decided to save costs by leasing out operations to the Kahuku sugar mill. This move prolonged the longevity of the sugar industry in Laie, allowing the plantation to remain the largest local employer until operations ceased in 1973.

Meanwhile, another change was developing in Laie, one that would affect the world: the announcement and building of the temple.
Groundbreaking took place in February 1955. Students met in surplus war barracks near the temple while a permanent campus structure was built on the south end of Laie by labor missionaries. Although the permanent campus was completed and dedicated in 1958 by President McKay, the employment opportunities for students wouldn’t come to fruition until 1963 with the building of the Polynesian Cultural Center. While primarily used to employ campus students, the origins of the Polynesian Cultural Center go back to the temple. Matthew Cowley, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, observed that many Saints that traveled to Laie to attend the temple had no place to stay. He knew that in New Zealand, the solution was to house visitors in the village marae or meetinghouse during a 1951 Oahu stake conference, he mentioned the idea that all islanders could build themselves a village that would offer them a place to stay while attending the temple. When this idea combined with the popular hukilau venture the local Hawaiian Saints had done to raise money for building a new chapel in Laie, the foundations for the Polynesian Cultural Center were established.

Gathering Today
Since that time, Laie has expanded and grown as have the campus (renamed Brigham Young University–Hawaii in 1974 to reflect its global reach) and the Polynesian Cultural Center. While the official policy of literally gathering the people of the islands to Laie ended in 1973, gathering still takes place to this day: an educational gathering on the campus, a cultural gathering at the PCC, and a spiritual gathering at the temple.

In a visit to Laie in 2003, President Gordon B. Hinckley said, “We have here something that we have nowhere else in the Church. We have the beautiful temple and all of its environs. We have the Polynesian Cultural Center. And they work together. There is nothing quite like it in so small an area, really, than we have anywhere in the world.” With the prophetic decision made, the opening of the school was targeted for September 1955.
Opportunities to Connect, Opportunities to Succeed:

RETURNABILITY IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Independent State of Papua New Guinea (PNG) has a population of only 7,275,000, but it boasts some of the richest cultural diversity in the world. PNG shares its western border with the country of Indonesia and has over 600 small islands in its archipelagos and nearby island chains. The country has over 800 distinct indigenous languages, more than any other country in the world, and includes many varieties of Melanesian ethnic groups.

In the last few decades, discoveries of mineral deposits, processed natural gas, and oil have increased PNG's export economy, leading foreign corporations to make major developments in the mining and oil/gas production industries. Such booms in the economy have created many job opportunities for PNG citizens, particularly those who speak English, making Brigham Young University—Hawaii have created many job opportunities for PNG citizens, particularly those who speak English, making Brigham Young University—Hawaii a perfect fit for so many of the developing industries.

"These industries are always looking for qualified workers," Numan-ri explains, "which creates many opportunities for our PNG graduates to look forward to. Many PNG students who leave their country to go to school are not sure about their possibilities. There is a perception that there aren't many prospects. However, when the students went on the Career Connect trip and saw that they are needed and wanted in the industries that help their country's economy, they got so excited. These corporations need graduates who studied business, finance, public administration and government, supply chain, logistics, construction, IT, human resources, and more. The PNG students can return to their country with the assurance and confidence that there is a place for them."

Connecting at Home

The Alumni and Career Services office at BYU—Hawaii has a networking travel program called Career Connect, which allows students from various fields of study to meet with career professionals around the world, making key contacts that will help those students to get jobs. This past summer, Career Connect sent students to PNG for the very first time. William T. Numangi, career development manager at Alumni and Career Services, and Huai Wesley, director of the Jonathan Napela Center for Hawaiian and Pacific Islands Studies, accompanied a group of ten students from PNG on the Career Connect trip.

The group spent three days networking with more than 22 companies, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and banks. "These industries are always looking for qualified workers," Numangi explains, "which creates many opportunities for our PNG graduates to look forward to. Many PNG students who leave their country to go to school are not sure about their possibilities. There is a perception that there aren't many prospects. However, when the students went on the Career Connect trip and saw that they are needed and wanted in the industries that help their country's economy, they got so excited. These corporations need graduates who studied business, finance, public administration and government, supply chain, logistics, construction, IT, human resources, and more. The PNG students can return to their country with the assurance and confidence that there is a place for them."

The Career Connect trip opened his eyes to the opportunities that await him after his graduation from BYU—Hawaii. After graduation, Kauri hopes to get a good job in the government, helping build the Church and his own family in PNG. He also intends to eventually go to graduate school to further his education. "I believe that the Lord has a plan and purpose for me to come here," acknowledges Kauri. "I have learned a lot here at BYU—Hawaii. All my great experiences need to be shared with the world. I love BYU—Hawaii. I'm so sad to leave, but I will always remember my time here in my heart. It will be part of my life as I continue on my future endeavors." Kauri also has large hopes for his country, looking forward to a bright future of education for everyone. "I hope for more Papua New Guinea students to come to BYU—Hawaii," says Kauri. "I hope they can get this quality education and be like me and others who have set forth this quality education and be like me and others who have set forth a great pathway to the future."

Joe Vivia Kauri is from Baimuru in the Gulf Province of PNG. He is majoring in political science and minoring in public administration with an emphasis in legal studies. Kauri decided to attend BYU—Hawaii because the lower tuition rates and some generous donations made by anonymous donors made coming to get an education a possibility for him. Growing up in a poor community, Kauri remembers difficult circumstances his family had to overcome. "My mother and my two eldest sisters played the role of a complete family and raised me up after my father left," Kauri recalls. "I grew up facing many challenges, especially financially. Nevertheless, this made me want to not turn back but to humbly move forward. My family struggle has triggered me to move forward and look for opportunities that would help me be someone in the future.

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Top left: Steven Moses, a Political Science major with a minor in business, from Kagua Mabuanda.
Bottom left: The Papua New Guinea Student Chapter performs at Cultural Night.

Learning more about Career Connect and Mentor Connect at BYU—Hawaii and how you can get involved at career.byuh.edu

BYU-HAWAII MAGAZINE
self-deception won’t change the fact that it’s not possible to reap a harvest somewhere and hope no one notices. He actually hid in a cubicle in the library or in an office (or even on the rest of your lives. Because those seeds will determine the fruits you will harvest for the rest of your lives.

Plant the Seed of Knowledge
Knowledge is priceless, and knowledge about gifts from God is the most valuable knowledge of all. It is simply a mistake to not learn everything we can about the gifts God has given us—and particularly gifts that give us access to His power. Elder David A. Bednar has said that “knowing that the gospel is true is the essence of a testimony. Consistently being true to the gospel is the essence of conversion.” (David A. Bednar, “Converted unto the Lord,” Ensign, November 2012). Conversion is what lifts us out of this world and gives us a vision higher than the world’s.

If you want to progress, if you want to feel more confident, if you want to ensure your future, plant the seed of knowledge and immerse yourself in truth.

Plant the Seed of Divine Power
We can either live our lives alone and attempt to rely solely upon our own talents or we can live our lives with the help of heaven. We can either live our lives alone and attempt to rely solely upon our own talents or we can live our lives with the help of heaven. God actually wants a powerful people, and He has provided ways for both men and women to have access to His highest spiritual privileges and power.

The temple is the place where it becomes clear that men and women both have direct access to God’s power. The temple is the institution of highest spiritual learning. It is where we may “grow up in the Lord and receive a ‘fulness of the Holy Ghost’” (D&C 109:15). We emerge from the temple “armed with [the Lord’s] pow-er,” with angels having charge over us (D&C 109:22), and we are promised that “no combination of wickedness shall have power to prevail over” (D&C 19:26) those who worship in the house of the Lord. Our Father wants a people who have learned how to gain direct access to His power.

Plant the Seed of Regular Temple Worship
What will you harvest? Divine power. We each get to choose which seeds we will plant in our lives and in our corner of the vineyard. If we plant the seeds of knowledge, revelation, spiritual vine power, and faith in Jesus Christ, for those seeds will help us do as much as we can for as long as we can, and they will lead to a harvest of happiness, peace, hope, and true joy. May we immerse ourselves in the gospel of Jesus Christ until our conversion is full and complete.
I n a Persian fairy tale entitled “The Three Princes of Serendip,” a king named Jafer sends his three sons out to explore the world. Though they had been educated in the “Morality, Politics and all the Polite Learning” of their culture, their father hoped that their travels in foreign nations would provide a source of unexpected discoveries. When Horace Walpole unexpectedly came upon this fairy tale, he coined the term “serendipity” in a 1754 letter to a friend.1 Serendipity refers to a happenstance or a pleasant surprise. After two years of teaching at BYU–Hawaii, I recently realized that this university is one of the best university environments in the world to experience serendipity. BYU–Hawaii’s integration of academic, social, and religious life leverages our cultural diversity like no other university in the world.

BYU–Hawaii is an excellent way to cultivate insights well-suited for structured wandering through the diverse cultural contours of BYU–Hawaii. It does so in a setting where discoveries are guided by the influence of the Spirit and eternal truths of the restored gospel. The pure and undefiled truths that we seek to discover and teach formed a foundation for six decades of experimentation that is teaching us how to be a Zion community amidst our cultural diversity. In many global and local situations, differences can serve as stumbling blocks to creating unity. At BYU–Hawaii, however, they serve as a catalyst to understanding our brothers and sisters from throughout the world and broadening and deepening our understanding of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Elder Jeffrey R. Holland recently delivered a talk on campus entitled “The Parable of BYU–Hawaii.” He likened our lives to a ship in the safe waters of the harbor or on open and uncertain seas. He stated, “A ship is very safe in the harbor, but that is not what ships are made for. So, Seasiders that you are, set sail! Take the best you have been given, and go be strong. Go out into a world that for the most part does not yet have the gospel of Jesus Christ, does not yet know what you know, and certainly does not have the skills, insights, and moral values you have been given.”2 The world has never been in more need of men and women who know how to set sail into the open seas of global diversity. Our campus is designed so that the natural course of daily living coaches us on how to motivate and lead in complex diverse settings. In all the world, it is unlikely that there is an undergraduate university better designed for serendipity than BYU–Hawaii. Each of us has the opportunity to take the training and learning so unique to our experiences at BYU–Hawaii and strive to make the world a better place.


Practicums specific to the Political Science major take students to different parts of the world, giving them the opportunity to meet new people, do different jobs, work for government offices, and occasionally attend conferences. Practicums vary in length, ranging from one week to an entire semester. Locations have included Washington D.C., Thailand, Hong Kong, Cook Islands, New York City, and more. Currently, the department has relationships with Thammasat University in Bangkok, Thailand; Waikato University in Hamilton, New Zealand; University of the South Pacific; and others that are solidifying every year. These relationships provide international opportunities for students in the department to interact with different cultures—including students in their same field—work with different NGO’s, and create contacts and friendships with people across the globe. One particular project practicum gave students an opportunity to do research and present their findings at different conferences. Christina Akanoa, a professor in the department, prepared students by having them write papers on climate change. After presenting first here on campus in the annual Undergraduate Research Conference and then University of Hawaii at another conference with their graduate students, the student team traveled to New York to give their presentations to different embassies from the Pacific. All five participants left impressive impressions as each received internship opportunities following their presentations.

The Political Science department works with the WORLD

The Political Science department at BYU–Hawaii has significant global impact. With three fulltime faculty and three adjunct professors that are engaged, dynamic, and eager to continue to improve the Political Science department, students have filtered through the program prepared for jobs covering the globe.

Chair of the department Michael Murdock stated, “Political Science is one of those majors that introduces students to critical thinking and writing and engaging the world in a constructive way. It helps them to understand what’s going on in the world, so they aren’t just cogs in a machine. They’re actually decision makers and agents.”

The program is designed to give students as much hands-on, out-of-the-classroom experience as possible. “Some departments have labs—computer labs, chemistry labs—but we don’t,” says Murdock. The world is our lab, so we try to put students in the world as much as we can.” In order to accomplish the “hands-on” experience, the department provides many opportunities and experiences made available to students: practicums, internships, and additional certificates.

Practicums

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BYU–Hawaii political science students visit U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Certificates

Along with the bachelor's degree, students can obtain a variety of certificates to help them increase specific abilities and enhance the likelihood of obtaining a job. The department offers three certificates—International Development, Emergency Management, and the newest, Legal Studies. Murdock considers them "the most pragmatic, practical and useful forms of training and preparation that we can manage in our discipline."

He also went on to say, "Political Science by itself doesn't get you a job. It's a springboard into something bigger: law, entrepreneur- ship, business, politics, military intelligence, community, and anti-terrorism. It's necessary for you to keep going to get a job in general, but what we've done is try to make as much value as the undergraduate level with these certificates, so students can go back to their home countries and get a job. It's the whole point."

The International Development Certificate introduces and explores the economic and political foundations of international development and the growing world of international organizations (IOs), inter-government organizations (IGOs), and non-government organizations (NGOs). The certificate equips students with practical skills and knowledge to allow them to secure employment with development-related institutions and organizations.

Another available option is the Emergency Management Certificate. This trains students on how to prevent or reduce losses that occur due to hazards, disasters (natural or man-made), and emergencies. An emergency management certificate provides leadership and decision-making skills to be used in times of emergencies and should give students added skills and knowledge to help them acquire meaningful employment within the emergency management sector. In addition, students are certified by the International Red Cross. This certificate, coupled with a bachelor's degree, gives students the upper hand in training and appeals to many organizations. With the qualifications the certificate provides, students are walking into interviews, impressing, and leaving with job offers.

The last and newest addition to the certificates offered in the Political Science Department is the Legal Studies Certificate. In the making since 2012, it was finally formed and approved in the Fall Semester 2014. Jennifer Kajiyama, a professor in the Political Science Department, has headed the development of the certificate, wanting it to benefit not only students looking to apply for law school on the mainland but those students looking to have more knowledge of the law to receive introductory jobs elsewhere. Kajiyama received her Master's of Public Administration and Juris Doctorate degrees. She explained that agreements have been made with certain schools in the Pacific for students who receive the law certificate from BYU–Hawaii herself, went on to law school at BYU (Provo) where she received her Master's of Public Administration and Juris Doctorate degrees. She explained that agreements have been made with certain schools in the Pacific for students who receive the law certificate from BYU–Hawaii. Students become priority in acceptance, and the courses can transfer, allowing them to move faster through the program. "A lot of our students come from the Pacific. If they were to go to these schools, they could practice law anywhere in the Pacific versus staying here in the United States, they could only practice here," says Kajiyama. Not only does the certificate allow students to land introductory jobs in law, it helps them progress more rapidly in their pursuits for additional training and education.

For more information, visit politicscience.byu.edu

Dustin Bradshaw
April 2008, Utah

Current Position:
Foreign Service Officer for the United States Department of State, currently posted in Istanbul, Turkey, with previous assignment being Manila, Philippines

Polisci Department Experience:
"The classes prepared me to question norms and pushed me to find solutions to difficult answers. I also believe that the trips to D.C. and other opportunities helped me to see the world as the big place that it is. Later, I was able to do an internship there with a congressman from Utah."

One of my favorite experiences (at BYU–Hawaii) was starting the D.C. tour programs. We took students two years in a row to Washington, D.C. to see how the U.S. Government works. It was amazing to see how students from other countries viewed the United States and how much our history has impact-ed countries around the world. There was no better time than watching a student from South Korea walk hallway across the city in heels with a bouquet of roses and in the D.C. heat, so she could honor the men and women who gave her the freedom to be a leader and study in a university. It was a special experience to stand there with her and have that moment of silent respect."

West Holden
December 2010, Washington

Current Position:
Completing a fellowship at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Miami, Florida. Recently graduated from George Washington University Law School in May, passed the Florida bar in July, and is now working with EEOC attorneys helping to litigate cases of unlawful employment discrimination.

Polisci Department Experience:
"The Political Science program at BYU–Hawaii helped teach me to both think and write critically. Dr. Troy Smith in particular gave me large amounts of constructive criticism on my writing, to the point of filling my papers with red ink, but his methods helped me learn how to craft convincing arguments and draft well-reasoned papers. More than any of the topics or concepts I may have learned in my courses, the ability to write persuasively has helped me in my classes in law school and everywhere I have worked since. Employers and professors alike value writing skills above all else, so the improvement in my critical writing is by far the most valuable thing I gained from the BYU–Hawaii Political Science program.

"The political philosophy and constitutional law courses I took while at BYU–Hawaii helped me to reflect on what I thought was the path for me. Additionally, my decision to attend law school in D.C. stemmed in no small part from my exposure to the city while on a political science practicum in May of 2008."

Alice Yiu
December 2013, Hong Kong

Current Position:
Program Manager for Partnership for Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport in Shanghai, China. Currently collaborates with other transport consultants to conduct research on sustainable transport financing in response to the global climate change mitigation agenda.

Polisci Department Experience:
"The Political Science program has offered the analytical skills necessary for the research work that I am doing. Knowledge in qualitative research methods, basic statistics in social sciences, as well as critical writing and presentation skills help me to fulfill my current responsibilities effectively."

"The Political Science Department emphasizes in acquiring new knowledge and producing meaningful analysis. These critical thinking skills and self-learning techniques helped me to catch up with the work that I am engaged in."

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Pacific Studies Journal Sets Record with 1 Million Views

Three years ago, the Jonathan Napele Center for Hawaiian and Pacific Islands Studies at BYU–Hawaii publishes a scholarly journal entitled Pacific Studies. The journal is made available after publication in an electronic format through BYU’s (Provo) ScholarsArchive. The journal is dedicated to discussion of issues dealing with the people of the Pacific Islands, covering many disciplines, including anthropology, archaeology, economics, ethnology, folklore, political science, literature, and studies, and more. This year, the journal received 1,063,382 page views from readers, making it the first journal in BYU’s collection to pass one million views in a three-month period of time.

The hope is that the views will only increase as individuals view and subscribe to the journal. To view electronic copies of Pacific Studies, visit journals.lib.byu.edu. To subscribe to the journal, visit jonathan-napelecenter.byuh.edu.

Campus Security Changes

With an expanded security force, BYU–Hawaii now has security at all hours of the day and an increased presence on campus. With the increased number of officers, Earl Morris, recently appointed head of security, has implemented a bike patrol. These officers are trained to recognize crimes and potential problems. Their presence benefits students as well as visitors to campus. Also, recent renovations of campus security offices are intended to highlight service and safety. Morris hopes to increase visibility of security officers to better serve the community. During a recent open house, security showcased their office improvements as well as their new fleet of security vehicles.

World Premiere of One Tattered Angel

The week of November 3, 2014, the Music and Theatre Arts department presented the world premiere of the play One Tattered Angel, written by Craig Ferre and adapted from the book by Blaine Yorgason. One Tattered Angel tells the true story of Yorgason and his wife Kathy adopting a child named Charity who was diagnosed with anencephaly, meaning she was born without a brain, having only a brain stem to allow her to live. The narrative covers the resulting challenges and miracles that came from their experience. Ferre, a faculty member in the BYU–Hawaii Music and Theatre department who also served as the play’s director, adapted the book into a short play format and sent the adaptation to Yorgason who gave special permission for the play to be performed on the BYU–Hawaii campus, making this a premiere of both the play and the playwright. Due to the religious background of the book’s author, the story of this play highlights many LDS themes, including the power of prayer and using faith to overcome adversity.

Signing and Service at the PCC

BYU–Hawaii’s ASL Club recently partnered with Hands and Voices, a nonprofit organization which helps parents with deaf children to provide services and entertainment for deaf children in the community. The ASL Club members acted as tour guides at the Polynesian Cultural Center for their tours for the deaf community, so they could enjoy the cultural activities available at the PCC. ASL Club guides were trained a few days prior by regular PCC tour guides at the Polynesian Cultural Center, so they could effectively share the PCC experience with the Hands and Voices group. “It was fun to see all the kids and the different ways they were communicating,” said Natalie DeMartini, a psychologist major from California. “They were friends whether they could hear or not.”

Construction Projects for Campus Expansion

Construction is ongoing on Hales 3 and 5 as part of phase 1B of the campus expansion. Bob Tippets, director of construction, explained the reconstruction of the lower level units enables BYU–Hawaii to remodel and upgrade all of the units in the Hales. “All of the units will have kitchen facilities so that students have the ability to prepare their own meals,” says Tippets. “The interior of the housing units has been removed, and a third level will be added to the current structures.” The new construction allows 114 more students to live in cooking rooms. With the additional level, capacity will increase from 432 beds to 472 beds. Phase 1B is scheduled to be completed in September and October 2015 after which construction will begin on Hales 4 and 6.

New Academic Leadership

The BYU–Hawaii Ohana has recently announced changes in the university’s academic leadership. With these changes, an extension of gratitude is expressed to those who have served in the various academic assignments for all the time, energy, and dedication they put forth. John D. Bell will serve as the new Academic Vice President, and David Bybee now serves as the Associate Academic Vice President for Instruction. Three new college deans have been appointed: Mark Cannon, College of Math and Sciences; Mark Wolfersberger, College of Human Development; and James Lee, College of Business, Computing, and Government. Several new department chairs have been appointed: Daniel Bradshaw, Music and Theatre Arts; Shane Gold, Biology; Stephen Hancock, English; Tevita Kaili, International Cultural Studies; George Lukov, Biochemistry; David Porter, Exercise and Sport Sciences; and David Preece, Business Management.

Construction is ongoing on Hales 3 and 5 as part of phase 1B of the campus expansion. Bob Tippets, director of construction, explained the reconstruction of the lower level units enables BYU–Hawaii to remodel and upgrade all of the units in the Hales. “All of the units will have kitchen facilities so that students have the ability to prepare their own meals,” says Tippets. “The interior of the housing units has been removed, and a third level will be added to the current structures.” The new construction allows 114 more students to live in cooking rooms. With the additional level, capacity will increase from 432 beds to 472 beds. Phase 1B is scheduled to be completed in September and October 2015 after which construction will begin on Hales 4 and 6.

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BYU–Hawaii’s Executive Chef Spencer Tan won first place in the national 2014 Chef Culinary Conference’s Chopped competition. The conference, hosted at University of Massachusetts Amherst in June, is the premier gathering for high-volume food service operators and campus chefs to learn more about world cuisines and flavor trends in an engaging environment. The Chopped competition took place over three days between campus chefs from universities around the United States. “It was the hardest thing of my life,” says Tan. “I was from the furthest away, a surprise from Hawaii, competing against big schools like Penn state, Yale, and UMass.” Each competitor was given access to a pantry stocked with a wide variety of ingredients, and the chefs had only 30 minutes to complete dishes for a panel of judges. At the end of each day, the judges critiqued the dishes based on presentation, taste, and creativity. The judges then decided which chefs were “chopped,” or eliminated, from the competition. Chef Tan won over the judges with his Hawaiian style New England Clam Bake.

World Premiere of One Tattered Angel

The week of November 3, 2014, the Music and Theatre Arts department presented the world premiere of the play One Tattered Angel, written by Craig Ferre and adapted from the book by Blaine Yorgason. One Tattered Angel tells the true story of Yorgason and his wife Kathy adopting a child named Charity who was diagnosed with anencephaly, meaning she was born without a brain, having only a brain stem to allow her to live. The narrative covers the resulting challenges and miracles that came from their experience. Ferre, a faculty member in the BYU–Hawaii Music and Theatre department who also served as the play’s director, adapted the book into a short play format and sent the adaptation to Yorgason who gave special permission for the play to be performed on the BYU–Hawaii campus, making this a premiere of both the play and the playwright. Due to the religious background of the book’s author, the story of this play highlights many LDS themes, including the power of prayer and using faith to overcome adversity.

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Diving Discoveries: Student Researchers Explore Biodiversity in Saipan

Twelve BYU–Hawaii students recently traveled to Saipan on a three-week biodiversity research trip to study oceanic invertebrates. The students were able to scuba dive, snorkel, and walk along the reefs to research shrimp, octopuses, crabs, and more. “A lot of marine life has been studied here in Hawaii already because of Hawaii Pacific University’s marine biology program, but not very much has been done in Micronesia,” explains Roger Goodwill, professor of biology. “Local agencies can’t do it themselves since the government won’t fund projects like this, but we can do it, and it benefits our students, so they ask us to help.” The students were in charge of photographing, collecting, and cataloging any invertebrate animals they could find, collecting over 1,500 specimens. Some of these specimens entered into different research facilities around the world for further analysis or even naming it if a new species. “Most undergraduates never get anything close to the opportunity we had in Saipan,” says Nick Cook, a marine biology major from Utah. “However, we can say we have experience in underwater photography (diving, snorkeling), specimen collection, specimen preservation, lab photography, and microscope use. I think that sticks out a little more than ‘lab tech.’”

Business Management Professor Receives Prestigious Lifetime Service Award

In October 2014, Helena M. A. Hannonen, professor of business management, received the Lowell Benson Lifetime Service Award from the BYU Marriott School of Management. Hannonen received the prestigious award for her many years of involvement in BYU’s Management Society, particularly for her work as the president of Silicon Valley chapter and starting the BYU–Hawaii chapter. “There is a great need for moral and ethical leadership in families, organizations, and communities around the world,” says Hannonen.

“I entered to learn at BYU and the Marriott School, and it has been my pleasure to serve in this great organization.” Lee Perry, dean of the BYU Marriott School, recognized Hannonen’s effort at the 2014 Management Society Leadership Conference in Provo, Utah, and expressed his gratitude for all of her contributions to the Management Society. “You have made a huge difference to all those who have worked with,” said Perry. “In all, you have raised the level of excellence for the society and particularly for international chapters.”

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Larry Purcell, Samoa ('90)
Larry served his mission in Samoa Apia mission in 1980-1982. After attending BYU–Hawaii he was able to teach high school to support his family. From there he was hired at the American Samoa Commu- nity College where he works as a faculty. He has served in various church positions such as Stake Young Men’s President, Stake Executive Secretary and a Counsel- or in the Bishopric. One lesson he learned at BYU–Hawaii was to depend on the Lord and have faith in Him.

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After graduating as a History-Government major, Pauline taught at Kahuku High and Intermediate School (KHIS), working as vice principal at KHIS and Kailua High, and served as principal at Kahuku Elemen- tary for 10 years. Most recently, Pauline started a new position as principal at KHS in December 2013, where she serves and supports the students, with a strong em- phasis on academic preparation for con- tinuing education.

Leilani Lopez, USA ('95)
Leilani currently works for Litz & Compa- ny PC, a small accounting company in Roy, Utah. She specializes in individual and business tax returns as well as financial planning and accounting. As a member of the Council of Accountants for the Churches of Christ, she serves on the Board of Directors and as the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Belenda Misalucha Espiritu, USA ('89)
After graduation, Belenda worked as Employment Specialist for WorkPerfect Corporation (Irvine, CA) and Job Service (Provo, UT) during the early part of mar- riage while her husband finished degree at BYU (Provo). She became a stay-at-home mom to raise her six children. She recently returned to the workforce, currently working as director of human resources for Independence Rehab, LLC, a physical, speech, and occupational therapy organization.

Minerva Hohaia, Hawaii ('70)
Minerva worked as a student assistant to the secretary of the President of CCH around 1968. She didn’t mind answering the phone but she was so scared that her pidgin English conversations would speak slowly. She didn’t want to mess up the opportunity to attend CCH and work in the President’s office. She was accept- ed to college on a trial basis for Hawaiian speech, and occupational therapy organization.

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Science with distinction in international accounting at Royal Holloway University. She and her three-year-old daughter now live in Frankfurt, Germany, where she works for the Church in the Europe office as a government reporting and compliance officer.

Lucas Alves, Brazil ('10)
Lucas came to BYU–Hawaii as a non-member on a basketball scholarship. On Nov. 21, 2009, he was baptized. A year later, he was sealed to his sweetheart Vanessa in the Salt Lake Temple and they now have a daughter, Lia. Lucas plays professionally for CEUB, Brasilia. He says that as a professional player, he has the chance to interact with non-members which helps him grow in his testimony as he shares his convictions. He is currently serving as the second counselor in the Young Men’s presidency in his ward.

Kealohilani Wallace, Hawaii ('10)
Kealohilani grew up in Hawaii and graduated from Kahuku High School before earning her degree in International Business Management at BYU–Hawaii. Kealohilani has decided to share her talent and influence with others through her writing. She is the author of Half-Hearts Trilogy and released the first book of the series in 2014. The purpose of the trilogy is to pass on good morals in a mainstream way so readers can benefit from the true principles in her stories. More at www.half-hearts.com.

George Lo, Canada ('11)
After working as a real estate consultant for many years in Hong Kong and Canada, George decided to attend BYU–Hawaii to pursue a degree in TESOL. Education. He was proud to tell everyone while he was there that BYU–Hawaii was a “father, son, and daughter” school to him because his family studied here at the same time for a while. His wife Connie also took some online classes and volunteered at the PCC. In 2014, the Archuleta, Spencer Taggart, Devin Graham, and Stuart Edge.

Chun Wan Jeffrey Lai, Hong Kong ('03)
After graduating, Chun married Chui Ying Irene Li ('06) in December 2003, and while waiting for his wife to graduate from BYU–Hawaii, Chun attended the University of Hawaii at Manoa for a Master’s of Science degree. Their first child was born several months before both they graduated in 2006. Unfortunately, their son Jit Ching Lai was diagnosed with epilepsy. During this difficult time, they moved to Provo, Utah, for Chun’s doctoral and post-doctoral schooling at BYU (Provo). Their second and third children were born in 2007 and 2010 while Chun was actively researching in the department of Biochemistry. During Chun’s final year of PhD study, Jit received surgery to correct his epilepsy, and after much prayer and fasting, he was cured. By the end of his post-doctoral study, Chun received an offer from the University of Hong Kong to perform research in their gastrointestinal genetic research lab. Currently, he continues to use his knowledge and experience to perform computational and biochemical research.

Nathan & Katie Williams, USA ('11)
Nathan graduated with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with a minor in Economics. After graduation, he took a position in Goldman Sachs. However, after feeling like the job was not for him, Nathan founded Kinfolk, an indie design magazine, with his wife Katie Searle-Williams (Intercultural Studies, ’11). Kinfolk has an international circulation – with followers in Japan, Russia, and China – and has worked with local business in more than 250 cities around the world.

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"We can be confident that the Lord is guiding the discovery and implementation of new knowledge and truth, whether it be in the field of medicine, engineering, economics, or social science. He is both able and willing to reveal all things for the purpose of furthering His work and building His kingdom. It is certainly a blessing to be at one of His universities at this unique and special time, when the Lord is hastening this work."

President Steven C. Wheelwright
BYU–Hawaii Devotional, September 16, 2014