

WHAT'S NEW?

Brigham Young University Hawaii | Polynesian Cultural Center | Fall 2005

NEWSWORTHY

2006 U.S. News Rankings

Brigham Young University Hawaii is listed as the fourth “best comprehensive college—bachelor’s” in the western United States. This latest ranking, included in the *U.S. News and World Report’s* 2006 issue of “America’s Best Colleges,” is the highest ever for the university.

It marks the seventh consecutive year that the university has ranked in the top tier.

“This ranking is good for the school, and very good for Hawaii,” said Keith Roberts, vice president for academics at the university. “It sends a signal that . . . BYU–Hawaii [is] a consistent leader in quality education.”

Each year *U.S. News* releases its rankings of approximately 1,400 accredited colleges and universities. They are divided into categories based on available degrees and region.

“We are very pleased with our peer assessment,” said Roberts, referring to the 3.7 score (out of 5.0) that is rated by deans, presidents, and vice presidents—colleagues from numerous universities and colleges. “Our score was second highest in the region and among the highest in the country, and that is a reflection of how others in the profession view our stature within higher education.”

In addition to the general ranking, BYU–Hawaii is first with the most internationally diverse campus in the western U.S., with a nearly 50 percent international student population.

The 2006 rankings hit newsstands on August 22, 2005.

BYU–HAWAII BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Executive Committee Commends Progress



Following a meeting with Brigham Young University Hawaii administrators in mid-April 2005, the executive committee of the BYU–Hawaii Board of Trustees gave its approval of the university’s direction.

The committee comprises Elder Richard G. Scott, chair; Elder Robert D. Hales; Elder W. Rolfe Kerr, commissioner of education; and others.

Meeting with faculty and staff, Elder Kerr explained that the purpose of the visit was for the board to more fully acquaint itself with the major issues, concerns, and initiatives currently facing BYU–Hawaii. The visiting board members also fielded questions from the faculty and staff.

“We want you to know that you have our absolute confidence,” Elder Kerr said. “We are very proud of what is happening here. We see a marvelous contribution being made to the building of the kingdom—the great influence that you are having and will

Elder Richard G. Scott (right), chair of the executive committee of the BYU–Hawaii Board of Trustees, said he is satisfied with the university’s direction. Elder W. Rolfe Kerr, Church commissioner of education, said BYU–Hawaii has the board’s full confidence.

continue to have on the lives of students that will literally spread around the world.”

Elder Scott concluded by giving his approval of the progress BYU–Hawaii has made in recent years and the direction it is taking: “It seems very satisfying that there is a clear direction, that this campus knows the major things you’re working on. Because of that, you’ll enjoy the support of the officers of the board on those critical decisions that go to them.”

The campus-and-center-wide initiative known as *A Voyage of Faith* was approved by the board in 2003; it outlines priorities the PLC Hawaii is seeking to fund.

—Andrew Miller,
University Communications



AMBASSADORS OF PEACE

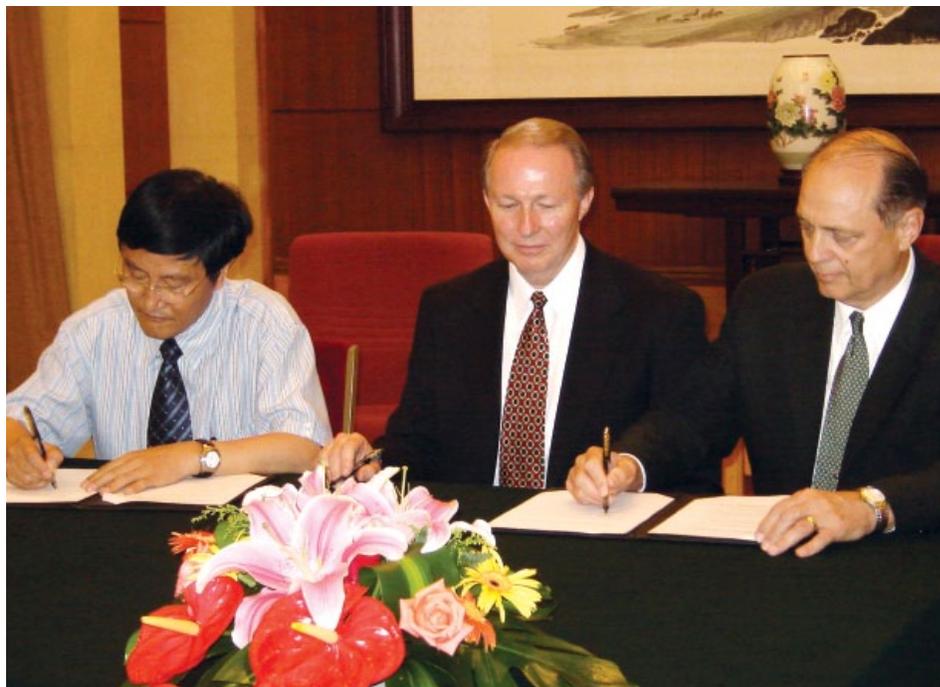
Presidents Shumway and Orgill Strengthen Ties with China

In July 2005 Brigham Young University Hawaii president Eric B. Shumway and Von D. Orgill, president of the Polynesian Cultural Center, accompanied Hawaii's governor, Linda Lingle, and a state delegation of approximately 100 government officials and business and education leaders to the People's Republic of China.

The two presidents, along with the PCC promo team and others from PCC, were invited by Governor Lingle as "a visual aid, as it were, so people in China could see what it's like to live in Hawaii and what Hawaii has to offer," said President Shumway. President Orgill added that the center and the university were invited "to represent the cultural side of what is so wonderful about Hawaii . . . and the spirit of aloha that is so prominent here."

In fact, President Shumway felt that the promo team "stole the show." He said, "Everywhere they went and performed there was tremendous response, and the governor was so pleased."

One significant event of the tour for both President Shumway and President Orgill was the signing of an agreement between their institutions and the China Association for the Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture.



The agreement will specifically allow for two people working in the Tibetan culture association to come to BYU-Hawaii and PCC and participate in the Asian Executive Management Program.

"We are excited about this agreement," said President Orgill. "We've been involved with China for many years in that regard, as well as Mongolia in the last few years and now with Tibet. . . . We think that it's going to prove to be very beneficial for every one here as well as for them."

Ge Le, deputy secretary general of the China Association for the Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture (left) signs an agreement with PCC president Von Orgill and BYU-Hawaii president Eric Shumway. The agreement will facilitate cultural and professional exchanges.

President Shumway noted that the Tibetan culture association was equally anxious to have this relationship with PCC. They were especially intrigued by the relationship that PCC shares with BYU-Hawaii, hiring over 700 of its students to work in the center.

"They would like to see that happen there, too," President Shumway said, "so that young men and women growing up among the Tibetan people will be able to not only learn their culture but also portray it the way our Polynesian students are able to do here at the Polynesian Cultural Center. It's a very

**I HAD A SENSE THAT TRULY
BYU-HAWAII AND PCC ARE FULFILLING
THE VISION OF DAVID O. MCKAY.**

—President Eric B. Shumway



fascinating idea to them, and we are a successful model that they will probably want to follow.”

In Beijing, President Shumway was able to meet with the ambassador of the United States to China. He participated in a discussion, along with Governor Lingle, concerning visas and other negotiations intended to increase the number of students who can come to Hawaii to study.

Also in Beijing, President Shumway and President Orgill met with several alumni of BYU–Hawaii and the PCC Asian Executive Management Program in a special fireside.

“It was wonderfully attended with a tremendous response,” President Shumway said. “It was so tender to see them there in that setting with the beautiful countenance of members of the Church and BYU–Hawaii alumni. I had a sense that truly BYU–Hawaii and PCC are fulfilling the vision of David O. McKay in producing young men and women to return to China to become leaders of influence toward peace internationally.”

President Orgill said that state officials have “already invited us to accompany them as they return for another trip next year.”

—Andrew Miller,
University Communications



The PCC promo team, with Presidents Shumway and Orgill, accompanied the governor of Hawaii on an official visit to China. The team, seen here with government officials including Governor Linda Lingle, was enthusiastically received everywhere it went.

Possible outcomes from the 2005 and future executive trips to China:

- Increased number of Chinese students at BYU–Hawaii
- Increased number of students from China at PCC in the Asian Executive Management Program
- More frequent PCC promo team tours to China
- Finalized approval for 2007 BYU–Hawaii Concert Choir tour in China
- Increased teacher exchanges between Chinese universities and BYU–Hawaii
- Visits from high-level Chinese government officials to BYU–Hawaii and PCC



ACCOMPLISHMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Students' Service Earns Top 40 Ranking at National SIFE Competition

Nine students from Brigham Young University Hawaii's chapter of Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) competed in the 2005 SIFE USA National Exposition held in Kansas City this past May. The team was judged to be among the top 40 university chapters in the nation.

In a series of 24-minute presentations the team put their yearlong business-related service projects in front of panels of judges (made up of industry leaders in business, finance, and entrepreneurship). In all, teams from 159 chapters participated in the exposition.

BYU-Hawaii's SIFE projects included annual and ongoing programs, namely, the Business Plan Competition, Entrepreneurship Conference, and *Coloring the World*—the creation and distribution of coloring books that teach children honesty and fairness through simple stories.

This year's team also launched several new projects, such as a cooperative effort with Hakipu'u—a small charter school on the windward side of Oahu—to teach at-risk youth how to start and operate a school store; personal finance workshops for BYU-Hawaii students, faculty, and community members; and small business consulting with two businesses on Oahu's north shore—Deep Ecology and Laie Cash 'n' Carry.

In the first round of judging, BYU-Hawaii was awarded first runner-up in its league of competition, outperforming such large institutions as the University of Florida and the University of Iowa. Making the first cut put the team



in the nation's top 40; however, the team did not advance from the second round. Student Nathan Tilton, executive vice president and president-elect of the BYU-Hawaii chapter, reported that many people were "really impressed by what we were able to accomplish in the last year."

The BYU-Hawaii students in turn were impressed by the service accomplishments of other schools.

"Our vision has expanded a lot from this competition," said student Jari Voutilainen, vice president of business affairs. "Our goals are much higher for 2006, and the size of our projects will be much bigger."

Tilton said, "Among other things, we're going to be actively seeking out more students to assist with projects. We're turning our focus to be more international—to areas that have fewer advantages. We want to go into those countries and create opportunities, as well as continue to affect the people of Hawaii."

BYU-Hawaii's SIFE team included (back row) faculty advisor William Neal, Samuel Dauphinee, Paul Welling, Nathan Tilton, Jari Voutilainen, (front row) Justin Benson, Elspeth Kuta, Kelsey Olds, Shiyong Heather Zheng, and Nicholas Disney.

SIFE is a global, nonprofit organization with student chapters on over 1800 university campuses in more than 40 countries. Each chapter is charged with teaching principles of free enterprise—including market economics, entrepreneurship, personal and financial success, and business ethics—through educational outreach projects that better themselves, their communities, and their countries.

—Andrew Miller,
University Communications

MORE ON THE WEB: bus.byuh.edu/sife



PLC HAWAII MEMBERS

Entrepreneurship Center Renamed in Honor of Mark and Laura Willes

Presidents' Leadership Council Hawaii cochairs Mark and Laura Willes were honored by Brigham Young University Hawaii at a September 1, 2005, dinner with the renaming of the Business School's entrepreneurship center to the Mark and Laura Willes Center for International Entrepreneurship. The center's focus is on preparing students to create and manage businesses in developing economies.

"Our goal is that each graduate will have an enlarged vision of what he or she can accomplish and the courage and confidence necessary to generate a successful life through entrepreneurship," said Greg Gibson, director of the Willes Center. "When one student sees another accomplish this, that student believes he or she will be able to do the

same. That is the type of legacy we're trying to create."

Mark Willes said that he and his wife were grateful for the honor of having the center named for them. Of their motivation to support BYU-Hawaii he said, "We understand deep in our hearts that every blessing we have comes from God."

Laura added, "We are humbled that you would see fit to honor us in this way; we are grateful to hitch our wagon to this star."

Speaking to Mark and Laura, Brent Wilson, dean of the School of Business, said, "The Willes name raises the visibility of the center—giving us a certain responsibility. We give our commitment to operate in such a way that we can say to you we have never done

anything with your name that would cause you to be ashamed."

The Willeses' connections to BYU-Hawaii and the Polynesian Cultural Center are many. In addition to their PLC Hawaii service, Mark was appointed as chairman of the board for the PCC in February. In June 2004 the Willeses finished three years of service presiding over the Hawaii Honolulu Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Mark retired as chairman, president, and chief executive officer of Times Mirror Company in April 2000. He served as publisher of the *Los Angeles Times* from October 1997 to June 1999. He also was president and chief operating officer of General Mills, Inc., and president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. He began his career as an assistant professor of finance at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Speaking at the dinner, President Eric Shumway shared words of gratitude for the Willeses. "If we were to carefully search for a couple whose love, vision, and international interests were to most closely approximate those qualities of [university founder] David O. McKay, we could not find anyone better than Mark and Laura Willes."

—Justin Smith,
University Communications

Pictured at the announcement of the Mark and Laura Willes Center for International Entrepreneurship are (left to right) Dean Brent Wilson, Mark and Laura Willes, Greg Gibson, and Carolyn and President Eric Shumway.





MENTORED LEARNING AT BYU-HAWAII

Students Research Migration of Birds Between Hawaii and Saipan

Brigham Young University Hawaii Biology Department chairman Dr. Roger Goodwill and a team of student researchers traveled to Saipan in the Northern Marianas Islands in May 2005 to conduct fieldwork studies on the migration of the Pacific golden plover, a species of bird known in Hawaii as *kolea*.

The team included Amber Kittleman, an elementary education major who works at the BYU-Hawaii Museum of Natural History; Cali Payne, at the time a biology major, now a graduate; and Deanna Hall, a biology major. Also participating were professors and students from Northern Marianas College and plover experts Dr. Oscar Johnson and Pat Johnson from Montana State University.

Although he did not accompany the group to Saipan, Phillip Bruner, assistant professor of biology and director of the natural history museum, was also part of the team. He has studied the plover for many years in Hawaii and Alaska.

Speaking of the student researchers, Bruner said, "I think they've done a marvelous job this first year, and it's a great project to continue working on. . . . This is the first time anyone's addressing shorebirds in Saipan, and there's a lot of interest."

Goodwill summed up the value of the research to students: "The plover work

THE PLOVER WORK REPRESENTS A GOOD VEHICLE FOR US TO GIVE FIELD TRAINING TO OUR BIOLOGY STUDENTS.

—Dr. Roger Goodwill

represents a good vehicle for us to give field training to our biology students. We're looking at one of our students working with leading experts in bird genetics [as well as] the world's leading experts with plovers. I don't know how you buy that kind of training."

Of the birds and the purposes of the research Bruner said, "The *kolea* winters here, and the same species but a significantly different population is over in Micronesia. Last year we went to see

how many there might be. The thought was maybe we should begin to look at things like the longevity and territoriality of plovers in the western Pacific, and also try to determine whether these birds go to Alaska or the Russian Far East when they leave Saipan.

"There have been a number of studies that clearly show there's a link between Hawaii and Alaska. So the question really became, 'Do the majority of these Saipan birds winter in Saipan, which is



In Saipan, Cali Payne, a student who benefited from mentored learning at BYU-Hawaii, handles a golden plover—the species of bird studied by BYU-Hawaii researchers. Payne has since graduated.



POLYNESIAN CULTURAL CENTER

Iosepa's New Home

at least 3,000 miles west of here, and breed in Russia or Alaska?”

Goodwill explained that the team went to Saipan near the end of March, before the birds started migrating. “We placed colored plastic leg bands on 36, which is a good number because they’re hard to catch. Out of the 36, 24 were fitted with radio transmitters as well. Part of what we are trying to determine is when the birds leave to go to the Arctic.”

Bruner said, “Once you band them, you can find out where their territory is. The assumption is the birds do the same thing in Saipan as they do in Hawaii. In other words, if you can identify where they are this year, next year you can see how many return and if there’s a differential mortality. For example, if you mark 100 birds with leg bands in Hawaii, you’ll get about 80 of them returning.”

“We don’t know about Saipan,” he said, but noted the leg bands will indirectly help determine that “if none of them turn up in Alaska, they’re more than likely in Russia where nobody is tracking them.”

Bruner noted that the Saipan study opens the door for eventually finding answers to some long-term questions: What percentage of the Saipan birds are territorial? If there’s a difference in their behavior, why is that the case? What is the average life span there?

—Mike Foley
Communications Consultant

In the future, *Iosepa*, Brigham Young University Hawaii’s 57-foot double-hulled canoe, will be at home and on display at the Polynesian Cultural Center. “The Hawaiian culture is our host culture—preserving and sharing it with the world is key to what we do,” said Von D. Orgill, PCC president.

The inclusion of *Iosepa* is part of a larger expansion and renovation of the PCC’s Hawaiian village. “Much has been done, and much remains to be done” said Orgill. “We have completed the new amphitheater, and plans have been submitted to the city for the canoe house. It has taken longer than we had planned, but the project is moving forward.”

It is hoped that final approvals and permits will be issued by next year and that work on the structure will begin shortly thereafter.

The canoe’s PCC home, or *halau* [house of learning], will display the canoe with its sail up, further enhancing BYU–Hawaii students’ and PCC guests’ appreciation of it. Through large gates in the *halau*, the canoe will be towed, probably yearly, to Hukilau Beach to fulfill its seafaring mission.

The most visible symbol of BYU–Hawaii’s Jonathan Napela Center for Hawaiian Studies and Language, *Iosepa* was built with funds granted to the university by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. Both the Napela Center and the Hawaiian village expansion are fund-raising priorities for BYU–Hawaii and PCC.

The Iosepa, built as a floating classroom, is the most visible symbol of the university’s Hawaiian studies program. The canoe was sailed for a total of two months in 2004 and in the future will be housed at PCC when not on the water.





JUNE 2005 COMMENCEMENT

Graduates from 32 Countries Honored at Summer Ceremony

Brigham Young University Hawaii, celebrating 50 years of educating tomorrow's leaders, graduated 248 students during its June 2005 commencement exercises.

The graduating class reflected the cultural diversity of BYU–Hawaii's student body—the most international per capita in the United States. Of the jubilee graduates, 76 (31 percent) are international students from 31 countries. The U.S. led the list of countries from which the most students came. Japan had nine students and Tonga had eight. Other countries represented ranged from Cambodia to Papua New Guinea.

At the commencement exercises, President Eric B. Shumway read a letter from Hawaii governor Linda Lingle to the graduates. She wrote:

“As you embark on a new journey into the next phase of your life, remember that learning never stops. Each experi-



PHOTO: BOBZ / GETTY IMAGES

ence in your life offers a valuable lesson.

home and keep its values and aloha spirit close to your heart.”
The commencement address was given by Elder D. Todd Christofferson, a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and former associate general counsel of NationsBank Corporation (now Bank of America).

**YOUR GREATEST CONTRIBUTION TO
THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHURCH,
AND THE WORLD, WILL BE YOUR
WITNESS OF JESUS CHRIST.**

—Elder D. Todd Christofferson

ence in your life offers a valuable lesson. . . . You have much to share with the world, and our island community has grown stronger through your commitment to excellence. No matter how far your future may take you, we hope that you will always consider Hawaii your

Elder Christofferson quoted from Doctrine and Covenants 88:118: “Seek learning, even by study and also by faith,” and reminded students that BYU–Hawaii blesses students by teaching them both secular and spiritual knowledge.

Last year's BYU–Hawaii Student Association president Kieiki Kahalepuna (right) and her brother, BYUHSA vice president Paliku Kahalepuna, were among the 248 jubilee graduates in June 2005.

“You can and should be those who bring integrity to business enterprises. . . . You can and should be those who bring integrity, wisdom, and sound administration to government. . . . You can and should be those who improve agriculture, advance science and medicine, serve in the law, promote excellence in the trades, and further develop the wonderful world of technology.

“There are many answers and opportunities,” he continued, “but may I suggest that your greatest contribution to the advancement of the Church, and the world, will be your witness of Jesus Christ, a witness that I am sure has been clarified and deepened by your experience here.”

—Andrew Miller,
University Communications