The final phase of the process, an educational effectiveness evaluation, along with another WASC review team visit, will be completed in 2008. The theme-based review focuses on four areas: 1) program outcomes, 2) general education outcomes, 3) graduation employment and returnability, and 4) effective communication in English for second-language students.

In addition, the August 2006 U.S. News and World Report ranked BYU–Hawai‘i in the top tier of best comprehensive colleges in the western region for the eighth consecutive year. They also ranked the university as the number one best value, number four in students graduating with the least debt, and number four overall in the region.

Each school receives an academic score with evaluations completed by presidents, academic vice presidents, and admissions office heads of each institution. BYU–Hawai‘i had the second highest ranks of all colleges and universities in its classification.

More information about the WASC review process may be found online at: www.wascweb.org

BYU–Hawai‘i adds three new sports teams to program. Student Association Leaders, 2006–2007: A diverse group of spiritually mature young leaders are working to promote theme of “one fold, one shepherd” on campus.

Since its birthing, the 57-foot wa‘a kaulua, or traditional twin-hulled Hawaiian sailing canoe, has taken on the role of unifying icon for the BYU–Hawai‘i Jonathan Napela Center for Hawaiian Language and Cultural Studies, the PCC, and the greater community.

In order to showcase and house the Iosepa appropriately, plans are moving forward to build a new PLC.

The final phase of the project, a closing ceremony, is on schedule for August 2008.

BYU–Hawai‘i Receives Top Reviews

A recent review by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), and the latest university rankings published in U.S. News and World Report magazine, both gave BYU–Hawai‘i high marks.

In March 2006, after completing the second phase of its regular re-accreditation process, the WASC review team wrote:

"BYU-Hawai‘i is committed to ‘building faith, intellect, leadership, and intercultural sensitivity,’ and seeks to provide ‘an environment and a curriculum that will both engage the intellect and build character.’ The campus is distinguished as well by its success in enrolling and retaining a large international student population: in Spring 2006, over 50% of its students have come from countries outside the United States. Also unusual is the close relationship between the University and the adjacent Polynesian Cultural Center, which provides employment for almost a third of BYU–Hawai‘i students."

Iosepa’s Fifth Anniversary: Navigating New Waters

In an unforgettable ceremony, 3 November 2001 the Iosepa was dedicated and launched at Hukilau Beach in La‘ie, Hawai‘i. Over 3,000 local community members and special guests joined in the unique celebration.

Exactly five years later, 3 November 2006, at the Polynesian Cultural Center (PCC), representatives of BYU–Hawai‘i, the PCC, and the Hawaiian Studies program gathered to celebrate the fifth anniversary of this launching—as well as the ongoing development of the cooperative venture connecting the Hawaiian Studies sailing program with PCC’s Hawaiian Village.

BYU–Hawai‘i adds three new sports teams to program. Student Association Leaders, 2006–2007: A diverse group of spiritually mature young leaders are working to promote theme of “one fold, one shepherd” on campus.

BYU–Hawai‘i Receives Top Reviews

A recent review by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), and the latest university rankings published in U.S. News and World Report magazine, both gave BYU–Hawai‘i high marks.

In March 2006, after completing the second phase of its regular re-accreditation process, the WASC review team wrote:

"BYU-Hawai‘i is committed to ‘building faith, intellect, leadership, and intercultural sensitivity,’ and seeks to provide ‘an environment and a curriculum that will both engage the intellect and build character.’ The campus is distinguished as well by its success in enrolling and retaining a large international student population: in Spring 2006, over 50% of its students have come from countries outside the United States. Also unusual is the close relationship between the University and the adjacent Polynesian Cultural Center, which provides employment for almost a third of BYU–Hawai‘i students."

Iosepa’s Fifth Anniversary: Navigating New Waters

In an unforgettable ceremony, 3 November 2001 the Iosepa was dedicated and launched at Hukilau Beach in La‘ie, Hawai‘i. Over 3,000 local community members and special guests joined in the unique celebration.

Exactly five years later, 3 November 2006, at the Polynesian Cultural Center (PCC), representatives of BYU–Hawai‘i, the PCC, and the Hawaiian Studies program gathered to celebrate the fifth anniversary of this launching—as well as the ongoing development of the cooperative venture connecting the Hawaiian Studies sailing program with PCC’s Hawaiian Village.

BYU–Hawai‘i adds three new sports teams to program. Student Association Leaders, 2006–2007: A diverse group of spiritually mature young leaders are working to promote theme of “one fold, one shepherd” on campus.
Presidents’ Message

As we move forward in our “voyage of faith,” the partnership of BYU–Hawai‘i and the Polynesian Cultural Center might be likened to a double-hulled voyaging canoe such as the Josefine. Both institutions “equally yoked” have been built with the faith, sacrifice, and consecration of people who love the Lord and the people of the islands of the sea. We are joined at the heart spiritually, riding the waves of the future together in faith.

Based on our mutual heritage, we now stand poised to move to new levels of cooperation in providing a unique, first-class educational experience for the students who come to us from Asia and the islands of the sea.

The PCC International Work-Study Internship program is currently assisting hundreds of BYU–Hawai‘i students who might not otherwise have the means to obtain a university education. Students in this program are able to study at BYU–Hawai‘i and then return to their home country to gain employment. The School of Education provides education courses, in-service training and workshops, other degree courses, and now, computer labs in Tonga through a generous gift provided by Gene and Allyson Yamagata, six students in 2006 are placed in Hamilton in the Pacific Islands. Their joint effort now includes 15 schools, 450 teachers, and 6,000 students in the islands of Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Kiribati, and New Zealand. In those countries, BYU–Hawai‘i’s International Teacher Education Program (ITEP) has been expanded to include other educational opportunities for students and teachers.

One recently implemented aspect of the ITEP program, allows students in their final year of study to return to their home country to do their teaching practicum. “Each country has different licensing requirements,” said John Bailey, Dean of the BYU–Hawai‘i School of Education. “It seemed to us if we wanted to increase our international student participation and prepare them to teach in their home countries, that having the student teaching done in their home countries would be the way to go.”

With the support of a generous gift provided by Gene and Allyson Yamagata, six students in 2006 are able to return to their native lands to do their teaching practicum, and receive the appropriate license to gain employment. The School of Education assists by providing placement, supervision, and licensing support.

Another major component of ITEP is the International Leadership Development Education (ILDE) scholarships. Each year these funds enable up to 7 in-service teachers, who have earned 90 university credits in their home country, to attend BYU–Hawai‘i to complete their bachelor’s degree and receive their teacher certification. The International Work Education Scholarships (IVES) are given to teacher education majors. These scholarships provide tuition, housing, and books for up to 12 perspective teachers annually.

Donated funds to ITEP are also used to assist faculty in honing their skills, sharing, presenting, and networking with other professionals by participating in events such as the CES Principals’ Conference, the annual China Teachers Conference and international education conferences in the target area.

Chingching “Jean” Yau “I am grateful for the chance to do my student teaching in Hong Kong. I think it helped me to understand more how the school system works there and what the expectations of a teacher in Hong Kong are. They are very different from the States. I am now working for the government to develop sports programs in schools.”

Marena Lawrence “I was placed in Hamilton in the Koromatua School working with years 1 and 2 children. I feel the experience was invaluable because during my solo time I was able to run my own program and gain so much experience. I now am competent in teaching literacy in a New Zealand school. This program helped me prepare for the job I have now, as a teacher aide, at Koromatua School.”

Allen Marie Davis “I traveled 5,000 miles to acquire education at Brigham Young University Hawaii and now I am back at my home in the Philippines, applying the skills, knowledge, and values I have learned. I am student teaching in the first grade at the National Teachers College in Manila. I am grateful for the wonderful opportunity to share with the Filipino students and teachers the teaching ideas, skills, knowledge and values that I have learned. I believe that this is a small way of fulfilling President McKay’s vision of establishing peace internationally.”

We also envision expanding our ability to deepen and enrich the experiences of both the students and PCC guests as we move forward with the construction of a home for the loa–loa, and eventually

ly, a learning center in the Hawaiian Village at the PCC. We are grateful for the willingness of the faculty and staff of the Hawaiian Studies Program and the PCC Hawaiian Village to explore new ways of working together. We foresee great benefits and blessings, both academic and spiritual, as a result of the united efforts of the faculty and staff in this project.

Plans for a Concert Choir tour to China in May 2005 are moving forward with the help of many former participants in the PCC/ BYU–Hawai‘i Asian Executive Management internship program. The tour will celebrate 50 years of friendship and cooperation with China and 10 years of friendship with Mongolia.

We see and acknowledge the hand of the Lord in the helm of our “voyaging canoe.” We continue to be filled with gratitude for the generous support we receive from our friends, and invite you to continue this remarkable voyage with us.

Mahalo nui loa,
President Eric B. Shumway
Brigham Young University Hawai‘i

President Von D. Orgill
The Polynesian Cultural Center

Gardner Chairs PLC Hawai‘i

Al Gardner has taken the helm of Presidents’ Leadership Council Hawai‘i (PLC Hawai‘i), the marvellous support organization that recognizes and encourages those who donate to Brigham Young University Hawai‘i or Polynesian Cultural Center.

“Al Gardner is extremely personable and deeply committed to BYU–Hawai‘i,” said the university’s president, Eric B. Shumway. “He stops just short of stopping traffic to share our message and invite people to contribute to the school and PCC. He is an advocate and a dear friend, and we are grateful for his service.”

Al and his wife, Kathleen, have been members of PLC Hawai‘i since 2004 and have chaired the organization since April. The couple lives in Arizona and, for part of the year, on Maui. Al is a retired United Airlines pilot.

President Gardner leads PLC Hawai‘i, a group who help raise funds for BYU – Hawai‘i and PCC.

“The Polynesian Cultural Center is providing a unique, first-class educational experience for the students who come to us from Asia and the islands of the sea. We are joined at the heart spiritually, riding the waves of the future together in faith. Based on our mutual heritage, we now stand poised to move to new levels of cooperation in providing a unique, first-class educational experience for the students who come to us from Asia and the islands of the sea.”

The PCC International Work-Study Internship program is currently assisting hundreds of BYU–Hawai‘i students who might not otherwise have the means to obtain a university education. Students in this program are able to study at BYU–Hawai‘i and then return to their home country to gain employment. The School of Education provides education courses, in-service training and workshops, other degree courses, and now, computer labs in Tonga through a generous gift provided by Gene and Allyson Yamagata, six students in 2006 are placed in Hamilton in the Pacific Islands. Their joint effort now includes 15 schools, 450 teachers, and 6,000 students in the islands of Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Kiribati, and New Zealand. In those countries, BYU–Hawai‘i’s International Teacher Education Program (ITEP) provides education courses, in-service training and workshops, other degree courses, and now, computer labs in Tonga through a generous gift from Ira and Mary Lou Fulton.

To encourage more students to receive teacher training and then return to their home countries to work, the concept of ITEP has been expanded to include other educational opportunities for students and teachers. One recently implemented aspect of the ITEP program, allows students in their final year of study to return to their home country to do their teaching practicum. “Each country has different licensing requirements,” said John Bailey, Dean of the BYU–Hawai‘i School of Education. “It seemed to us if we wanted to increase our international student participation and prepare them to teach in their home countries, that having the student teaching done in their home countries would be the way to go.”

With the support of a generous gift provided by Gene and Allyson Yamagata, six students in 2006 are able to return to their native lands to do their teaching practicum, and receive the appropriate license to gain employment. The School of Education assists by providing placement, supervision, and licensing support.

Intern Experiences

Chingching “Jean” Yau “I am grateful for the chance to do my student teaching in Hong Kong. I think it helped me to understand more how the school system works there and what the expectations of a teacher in Hong Kong are. They are very different from the States. I am now working for the government to develop sports programs in schools.”

Marena Lawrence “I was placed in Hamilton in the Koromatua School working with years 1 and 2 children. I feel the experience was invaluable because during my solo time I was able to run my own program and gain so much experience. I now am competent in teaching literacy in a New Zealand school. This program helped me prepare for the job I have now, as a teacher aide, at Koromatua School.”

Allen Marie Davis “I traveled 5,000 miles to acquire education at Brigham Young University Hawaii and now I am back at my home in the Philippines, applying the skills, knowledge, and values I have learned. I am student teaching in the first grade at the National Teachers College in Manila. I am grateful for the wonderful opportunity to share with the Filipino students and teachers the teaching ideas, skills, knowledge and values that I have learned. I believe that this is a small way of fulfilling President McKay’s vision of establishing peace internationally.”
Five Years: A Growing Legacy

One of the Iosepa’s master carvers, Kawika Eskaran (‘84, Art), a Hawaiian Studies staff member shared his thoughts about the Iosepa. “Being on the canoe provides a spiritual opportunity for growth unlike any other opportunity. When you go on the water, you’re so dependent on one another and the skills and talents the others have. We’re not looking behind our backs; we know someone is there. I’ve seen a great change occurring in myself and the rest of the crew.”

“One thing I like about the Iosepa is that we always pray,” said Leila Diego (‘95), a Hawaiian student on the maiden voyage. “When we get into our circle and we hold hands, you can definitely feel this is something there because the connection is so great. You feel everybody is together as one.”

Feki Po’uha, current BYU–Hawai’i student body president said the Iosepa has had a profound impact on his life. “Not only did I learn about navigation or sailing, and make good friends, but I was able to find my eternal companion. In many ways Elder Ballard’s blessing of Iosepa being a missionary tool and increasing Zion is true. I’m living proof of that.”

The Board of Trustees has encouraged the university “to maintain the spirituality of the Iosepa and to preserve its powerful aura,” said President Shumway. “In some ways, this meshing of our university program with the PCC mission is new territory for us. I deeply appreciate the way our cultural understanding, successful management, information systems, sales, marketing, hosting, and customer service, are among the areas in which students receive mentoring.

The PCC Work-Study interns provide tuition, most class fees, medical insurance and housing for qualified applicants. Student families are expected to contribute what they can. As part of their agreement, Iosepa students commit to return to their home countries or regions after graduation. The hope is that they will bless their families, communities, and local wards and stakes with the leadership skills and spiritual strength they have gained at BYU–Hawai’i.

While the costs of education and living expenses for a student at BYU–Hawai’i are approximately $12,500 per year (not including the substantial percentage of the total costs which are provided by the Church), per capita income in the underdeveloped countries of Asia and the Pacific is less than $9,000 per year—so in some cases much less.

For students who receive work-study assistance, the differences between the total cost and the students’ contributions, together with their PCC earnings, are made up by the PCC. In many cases the PCC’s total commitment to the university amounts to more than $10,200 per year per student.

To provide financial stability for PCC and support for students, the BYU–Hawai’i Board of Trustees has approved fund-raising for a PCC Work–Study endowment, as well as for the program’s immediate needs.

Students Express Gratitude

Barita Siregar “‘32 is an old age for an undergraduate, but not too old for me to study. I am majoring in International Business Management, and pray that one day I will be a blessing to people where I live.”

Lavenia Racule “I am a junior majoring in Hospitality and Tourism. I love PCC. It has brought me closer to my Fijian culture. My work experience at PCC would not trade for the world. I have become a more responsible and better person because of these two organizations [BYU–Hawai’i and PCC].”

Juyoung Park “I really appreciate your great help. Without your financial assistance, I couldn’t be here at BYU–Hawai’i studying Biology. After I graduate, I want to go to medical school in my country. I’m glad now I can think about my bright future because of the opportunity to come to BYU–Hawai’i.”

Barita Siregar “‘32 is an old age for an undergraduate, but not too old for me to study. I am majoring in International Business Management, and pray that one day I will be a blessing to people where I live.”
Asian Executive Management Internships: 25 Years of Building Friendship

For the past twenty-five years the Polynesian Cultural Center (PCC) and BYU-Hawai‘i have been training talented men and women from the People’s Republic of China through a jointly administered endeavor: the Asian Executive Management Internship program (AEMI).

Based on the relationships developed through this program, hundreds of influential Chinese officials have visited the PCC and the BYU-Hawai‘i campus. In turn, LDS Church President Gordon B. Hinckley, and other General Authorities, as well as BYU-Hawai‘i and PCC leaders, have gone to China and been welcomed with the highest respect.

Past AEMI program students are currently helping to facilitate the planning and logistics of BYU-Hawai‘i’s 2007 Concert Choir tour to China. According to John Muaina, Vice President of PCC Human Resources, without these friendships “the comfort level wouldn’t have been there [to arrange the trip]; but everyone of them [our former program participants] stepped forward and offered to help.”

From the program’s beginnings in 1985, approximately 160 interns have completed this learning experience in Laie. That number is small, but as BYU-Hawai‘i’s president, Eric Shumway, explains, “It was never designed to reach large numbers. The feeling has always been that somehow the right people would be selected, would come, and have this extraordinary experience of spirituality, culture, business opportunities, learning and all of the other things that BYU-Hawai‘i and PCC are famous for.”

“In addition to the work experience they receive at the PCC,” said Von Orgill, President of the PCC, “they have marvelous opportunities to improve their English skills while taking classes at BYU-Hawai‘i and interacting with others in and out of the classroom. This is one of the most valuable aspects of their experience.”

The AEMI program has had “a wonderful impact on many people,” said President Shumway. “They’ve been able to see how the Church and BYU-Hawai‘i really are. The focus has not been on theology but on the examples of people who demonstrate love, honor, integrity, and family fidelity. These values, precious in the Chinese culture, are what have most impressed the participants.”

Stated love, honor, integrity, and family fidelity.

The Yamagata legacy is what I call high-impact generosity,” said Eric Shumway, BYU-Hawai‘i president. “It’s generously focused on a program that works, focused on individual students, and this is why we are so grateful, so deeply grateful for the Yamagatas.”

Yamagata Scholarships Facilitate Returnability

Thanks to a generous endowment established by Gene and Alyson Yamagata of Las Vegas, Nevada, established in 2003, BYU–Hawai‘i has been able to increase the number of student internships from 1 in 2002 to 102 in 2004. That number is expected to exceed 250 by the end of 2006.

The university’s unique internship program enables international students at BYU–Hawai‘i to return to their home countries during their junior or senior year to gain valuable practical experience and help prepare them for meaningful employment opportunities back home after they graduate.

Students with internship experience are highly sought after; they are better prepared, disciplined and productive. And, in the case of BYU–Hawai‘i international students, these internships reconnect them with their home countries, family and culture, anticipating that they will return and contribute to the workforce, communities, and Church.

“Before 2003,” said Meli Lesuma, Director of Academic internships, “we had a 20 to 30 percent return rate. We are now averaging over 70 percent returnability.”

Students express thanks for the impact of the internships in their lives, but the blessings of the internship program extend to their spouses, children and extended family. The Yamagata legacy is what I call high-impact generosity,” said Eric Shumway, BYU–Hawai‘i president. “It’s generously focused on a program that works, focused on individual students, and this is why we are so grateful, so deeply grateful for the Yamagatas.”

Students express thanks to Gene Yamagata for the impact of the internships in their lives.

The Yamagata legacy is what I call high-impact generosity,” said Eric Shumway, BYU–Hawai‘i president. “It’s generously focused on a program that works, focused on individual students, and this is why we are so grateful, so deeply grateful for the Yamagatas.”