Next Steps to Your Future: A Statewide COVID Response Initiative for the Class of 2020

University of Hawai'i Community Colleges / Hawai'i P-20
Class of 2020

• Approximately 10K graduating from public high schools
• As of Spring Break: 9K public HS seniors identified for graduation based on Q3 performance.

Challenges
• **Learning loss**: 1 quarter of teaching and learning
• **Gap in onboarding**: Missing Q4 UHCC recruitment and onboarding activities
• **Summer melt**: L-O-N-G summer
• **Bleak employment alternatives**
As of 5/1, 93 Hawaii HS grads have registered for UHCC Fall 2020.

College Board National Weekly Survey of High School Students - results of 12th graders

Why Next Steps?

HS grads are likely to delay college

How have your college plans changed as a result of Coronavirus (COVID-19)?

- I’m less likely to consider colleges outside my home state: 18%
- I will focus on colleges with lower cost: 32%
- I’m more likely to delay starting college: 45%
Next Steps to Your Future Onramp Initiative

**P20 Summer Advising Initiative**
- Connected with over 1,700 seniors in transitioning to their post-high school plans
- Personalized support and info to guide them in their "next steps"
- Texting nudge campaign

**UHCC Summer Next Step Program**
- Support student transition with Next Step: Career Exploration classes
- Students can explore career options
- Take career exploration and content courses
- Qualify for Stronger Together Hawai‘i Scholarship

2534 students reached
“Going Rates” of Hawai‘i Public High School Graduates Into the University of Hawai‘i System – Fall 2019 vs. Fall 2020

Sources: ODS IRO_Base, Census; State of Hawai‘i Department of Education and administrative offices of private and charter schools
The "going rate" is the percentage of high school graduates from the State of Hawai‘i entering the University of Hawai‘i without delay following high school
Positive FAFSA Results

• Increased FAFSA completion rates for public high school seniors by **1 percentage point** over the 8 weeks **63.4% to 64.2%**

• As of July 31, Hawai‘i ranked #1 in the nation for highest positive change in FAFSA completions year over year!
Next Steps to Your Future

Can you share a specific student success story from this summer's initiative?

Alana Haitsuka-Fernandez
(Honoka'a High & Intermediate School)

https://vimeo.com/472569617
Program Overview
Virtual Advising
Hawai‘i P-20
Advising Project Design

Advising Categories

- College
- Career
- Military
- Undecided

Last question: Do you plan to attend college, work, or join the military in Fall 2020? Text back COLLEGE, WORK, MILITARY or NOT SURE.

TRANSITION ADVISORS WILL...

- Build rapport with all students while encouraging capacity building to make students capable of taking actionable “next steps”.
- Serve as a reliable professional who will support students throughout the entire summer with their questions, challenges, or uncertainty.
- Be a translator and connector. Offer to translate various unclear information for students, and connect them to the necessary points of contacts to achieve Fall 2020 goals.
- Offer tips and resources to develop personal and professional career skills.
Messaging/ Mobile “Nudging”

**NEXT STEPS to YOUR FUTURE**

Hi, I’m Mrs. Haitsuka! I’m here to support you with your plans! I will:

- Send weekly texts w/ important tips & info
- Respond to your questions & connect you to resources
- Provide 1:1 support over phone or computer

I’ll respond ASAP on weekdays 9am-3pm. I may take 1-2 days on weekends to get back to you :) To learn more: P20Hawaii.org/NextSteps

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Hello! Just wanted to remind you that there are only two weeks left in this Next Steps Advising program. I am available to meet with you through Zoom or to talk on the phone. Please take advantage of this opportunity to meet 1-on-1 with an advisor to get help or have your questions answered! I am happy to help 😊

Candy Davis · 7/13/20 | 03:00 PM

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Part of applying to college is also applying for financial aid, which can include grants ($$ you don’t have to pay back). Do you still need to submit FAFSA or complete verification? Can I help?

30,000+
HAWAII STUDENTS SUBMITTED THEIR FAFSA ALREADY

“The FAFSA was the key to help pay for college, by accessing grants, loans, and scholarships. I don’t happen to have $12,000 for total cost of attendance so...”

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**REVIEW YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARD LETTERS FOR COLLEGE**

Award letters tell you how much you have left to pay for college.

Here’s an example of how your actual cost to attend might compare between 2 colleges:

- **Overall Cost to Attend**: This is the advertised starting price.
- **Financial Aid Award**: Free $$ you don’t have to pay back

**Text back to review your award letters together :-)***

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A

| $20K | $10K | $10K |

B

| $40K | $35K | $5K |

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*Text back to review your award letters together :-) *
Highlights

**NSF Advising**

1,700+
Class of 2020 graduates

39,145
text messages sent to students (starting June 1)

55.9%
engagement rate

20,214
text messages sent by students in response
THE OVERALL EVALUATION

What were we able to evaluate?
1) Demographic information of student participants
2) “Pre-Test” and “Post-Test” surveys
   ▶ 1st survey took place a couple weeks in (June 15th through 22nd*)
   ▶ 2nd survey took place during the last week (July 22nd through 28th)
3) Post-Next-Steps counselor focus groups (July 21st & 22nd)

What were we not able to evaluate?
1) Student outcomes (e.g. college enrollment, persistence to the second semester)
   ▶ This data is not yet available
Almost 19% of 2020 HIDOE seniors participated in next steps.

There were 2,154 participants in a class of 11,457 seniors.
STUDENTS COULD PARTICIPATE IN TEXTING, COURSE WORK, OR BOTH

- Texting: 32.9%
- Course: 44.9%
- Texting + Course: 22.2%

n = 2,154
Males in the texting program were underrepresented, compared to the 2020 senior class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>HIDOE Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>44.9%</td>
<td>51.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>55.1%</td>
<td>49.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 1,187
representation of economically disadvantaged was similar to the 2020 senior class for texting.

Econ. Disadvantage Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>No Econ. Disadvantage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Econ. Disadvantage</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
<td>36.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Econ. Disadvantage</td>
<td>67.2%</td>
<td>63.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 1,187
NATIVE HAWAIIANS WERE SLIGHTLY UNDERREPRESENTED IN THE TEXTING PROGRAM

Ethnic Breakdown

Asian: Participants 21%, HIDOE Total 16%
Filipino: Participants 26%, HIDOE Total 27%
N. Hawaiian: Participants 23%, HIDOE Total 26%
Pac. Island: Participants 8%, HIDOE Total 7%
White: Participants 15%, HIDOE Total 17%
Other: Participants 8%, HIDOE Total 7%

n = 1,187
TEXTING PARTICIPATION ACROSS ISLANDS WAS CLOSE TO 2020 SENIOR CLASS REPRESENTATION

Island Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Island</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>HIDOE Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kauai</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maui</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oahu</td>
<td>69.2%</td>
<td>67.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 1,187
Most students involved in the texting portion had academic goals.

- College: 82.1%
- Not Sure: 12.2%
- Work: 3.4%
- Military: 2.3%

n = 1,177
PRE-TEST SURVEY (N = 345)

Responses to "How did you hear about the Next Steps program?"

- Letter, 48%
- Social Media, 31%
- Postcard, 12%
- TV ad, 7%
- Newspaper, 1%
- Radio, 1%
What issues were addressed by Next Steps?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FA/Scholarships</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning about options</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-management</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety/Uncertainty</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic concerns</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of motivation</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class schedule</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased responsibility</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost concerns</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deciding on a goal</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Post-Test Survey

Barriers remaining after Next Steps

- Anxiety/uncertainty: 35%
- Cost concerns: 33%
- Time-management: 32%
- Finding a job: 28%
- Increased responsibility: 27%
- Lack of motivation: 24%
- FA/Scholarships: 22%
- Personal issues: 20%
- Health concerns: 20%
- Academic concerns: 17%
90 participants completed both the pre-test and post-test.

Both pre-test and post-test featured three repeat questions:

1) “To what extent do you currently feel prepared for your next steps after high school?” (1 = “Not at all prepared,” 5 = “Very prepared”)

2) “How confident are you that you will achieve these plans?” (1 = “Not at all confident,” 5 = “Very confident”)

3) “Using a rough percentage, how much of your post-high-school plan have you achieved?”
PRE-TEST VS. POST-TEST

Increases from Pre-Test to Post-Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Pre-Test</th>
<th>Post-Test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How prepared do you feel?</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How confident are you?</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PRE-TEST VS. POST-TEST

Increase in perceived completeness from Pre-Test to Post-Test

How much of your plan have you achieved?

34%

60%

Pre-Test

Post-Test
Program Overview

UHCC Classes
Next Step: UHCC classes

High Schools
- 40 high schools, 16 charters
Next Step: Course Offerings

Career Exploration Courses

- 1-3 credits
- Online synchronous or asynchronous
- Themed and traditional courses
- Course outcomes
  - Self-exploration & Self-assessment
  - Career Exploration
  - Setting a Career Goal
  - Education & Training Research
  - Create a Career Plan

Content Courses

- 1-3 credits
- Online synchronous or asynchronous
- May fulfill general education requirements
- Major specific
# Faculty Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th># Career Exploration Instructors</th>
<th># Career Focused Instructors</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii CC</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honolulu CC</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapiolani CC</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kauai CC</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leeward CC</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maui College</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windward CC</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>57</strong></td>
<td><strong>34</strong></td>
<td><strong>91</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Next Step: By the numbers

- 121 total classes offered across 7 campuses
- 1437 took a career exploration course
- 617 students took a content focused course
- 4,185 UH credits earned
- 77% enrolled in a UH campus for fall 2020
Next Step: Fall 2020 Enrollment

941 enrolled at a UHCC for the fall 2020 semester

UHCC students enrolled in a total of 11,593 credits

558 enrolled at a UH baccalaureate institution

4-year students enrolled in a total of 8,091 credits
Next Steps: Financial Aid

**FAFSA**
- 89% of all Next Step students completed the FAFSA
- Of students registered for UH, 27% are Pell eligible

**Stronger Together Hawai‘i Scholarship**
- Over 500 students applied for the scholarship funded by Hawai‘i Community Foundation and First Hawaiian Bank Foundation
- 370 students were awarded
- Average award was $6200
Partnering with Office of Institutional Effectiveness
Was this your first time taking a college class?

Percentage based out of N/314

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes, this was my first college class.</th>
<th>No, I took one or more college classes in high school</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>177 students</td>
<td>136 students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students who had never taken a college course before had an opportunity to learn skills and gain confidence before embarking on their academic journey this fall:

“I benefited because I was able to get a perspective of what a college class may look like. My teacher also made sure to use Laulima for our class which was helpful because we were able to have a better understanding of how to use it when we go to college.”
Money, health, and safety are top concerns for Next Steps students. Addition write-in responses included issues of uncertainty in career path, fewer opportunities during the pandemic, both physical and mental health issues, transportation, time, and work responsibilities.
How much did participating in the Next Step Career Exploration class help you... 

*Percentage based out of N/314*

Students who answered *somewhat/a lot:*

- Build confidence to pursue future goals | 93%  
  - 291

- Become comfortable with taking an online class | 91%  
  - 286

- Identify the post high school education or training for my career goal | 84%  
  - 264

- Select a career goal | 84%  
  - 263

- Pick a college major or program of study | 81%  
  - 254

- Decide to go to college this fall (starting August/September) | 75%  
  - 235

- Meet other students | 68%  
  - 213

“I was able to push forward when I wanted to give up. The class gave me an opportunity to create goals and look forward to going something with my life.”
I participated in Next Steps Career Exploration to...
(Check all that apply.)

“These courses offered me the chance to earn free college credits and explore the different career pathways without the guilt of having to pay for them. It [has] also given me a smooth transitioning back to school after this long break.”

Percentage based out of N/314

- Earn free college credits | 89% | 280
- Explore career options | 71% | 224
- Take an online class | 65% | 205
- Be eligible for the Stronger Together Hawai‘i Scholarship | 60% | 189
- Other | 4% | 11
How likely are you to recommend Next Steps to high school graduates looking for help with their future career goals? 

N=314

"I got the chance to learn from amazing instructors who really gave us a unique perspective of the world."

On a scale of 1-4...

96% of students would recommend Next Steps. 80% were very likely. 16% chose 3 on the 1-4 scale.

Only 4 students (1%) would not at all recommend it. 10 students (3%) selected 2 on the 1-4 scale.

Not at all! 😞 Very likely! 😄
How did you benefit from your Next Step Career Exploration class?

[Open-Ended Responses]

Percentage based out of N/271

“...I learned a lot about myself such as the best times for me to study and I did a project for my class which helped me learn more about my dream career.”

“I got the feel for the online life and started my long journey of college. It also helped me figure out who I am and what I want.”
Possible Impact

- College participation rate of Hawai‘i HS Grads into the UH system increased by 1.3 percentage points.
- College participation rate of public HS grads into UH was up by .5 percentage points.
- First-time freshman enrollment at UHM reached 2,184 marking the third annual straight increase and highest number recorded since 1981.
- First-time freshmen at UHH increased for second straight year from 449 to 462, highest number since fall 2013.
- Nationwide, CC enrollment is down 9.4%; compared to UHCC is down 3.2%.
Next Steps

Spring/Summer 2021
Questions?
Next Session: Workforce – Bridging the Digital Divide: Solving our Digital Equity and Literacy Challenges as Path Towards Economic Resiliency

Wednesday, December 9, 2020
10:00am – 11:00am