We welcome you as one of the newest members of the BYU–Hawaii Ohana.

We hope you will enjoy the wonderful spirit on campus and that you and your family will enjoy great blessings throughout your service here. I wanted to share with you the essence of our mission, so that you might be able to connect with that mission and its accomplishment in your own work. Our mission was set by prophets of God at the outset of the school, and has not changed since then. Essentially our mission consists of:

Integrating both academic learning and spiritual learning. That is, we want to educate the whole person and provide each of our students with a foundation for a lifetime of learning both spiritually and academically.

Developing young men and women of character and integrity who can provide leadership in their homes, their communities, their professions, and in building the kingdom of God. We often refer to our mission as developing learners, leaders and builders – or simply as learn/lead/build. Indeed we seek to develop these wonderful young people into genuine gold, such that they “cannot be bought and sold” but will be an influence for peace internationally (David O. McKay, CCH Groundbreaking, 12 Feb 1955).

To assist in accomplishing this three-fold mission of BYU–Hawaii, we enlist your support in each of the four educational commitments:

1. Enlighten their minds and spirits by helping them:
   a. Learn the truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
   b. Gain an abiding, life-directing testimony of Jesus Christ, His Church, and His leaders on earth.
   c. Live a chaste, righteous life and develop Christ-like character traits.
   d. Practice self-initiated service to others.
   e. Encourage the pursuit of all truth.

2. Enlarge their intellect by helping them:
   a. Obtain a broad university education based on the world’s arts, letters, and sciences.
   b. Obtain in-depth knowledge in a major leading to job competence and/or graduate school.
   c. Develop and use the ability to think clearly, learn independently, and solve problems effectively.
   d. Communicate in English at a professional level with others.
   e. Increase their capacity to enjoy beauty, both artistic and natural.
   f. Encourage scholarly research and creative endeavor in partnership with faculty and peers.

3. Provide an intellectual learning environment where harmony prevails amidst diversity by helping them:
   a. Acquire knowledge and appreciation of one’s own and others’ cultures.
   b. Have experiences in student life and in the curriculum that build intercultural understanding.
   c. Gain a profound sense of the fatherhood of God and the kinship of the human family.
   d. Acquire a devout love of God and His Son, Jesus Christ.
   e. Develop genuine concern for the welfare of all members of the human family.

4. Train individuals with productive work skills and a sense of stewardship and accountability by helping them:
   a. Develop a strong work ethic and a standard for excellence.
   b. Assume greater responsibility for the successful pursuit of education.
   c. Accept greater responsibility for managing time, money, and employment obligations.
   d. Obey, honor, and sustain the honor code of the University and the law of the land.
   e. Experience the principles of institutional stewardship, accountability, and productivity through the examples of all University employees.

Thank you for the commitment that you have made to contribute to these wonderful young people and their education. I look forward to our association here.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Wheelwright
President, BYU–Hawaii