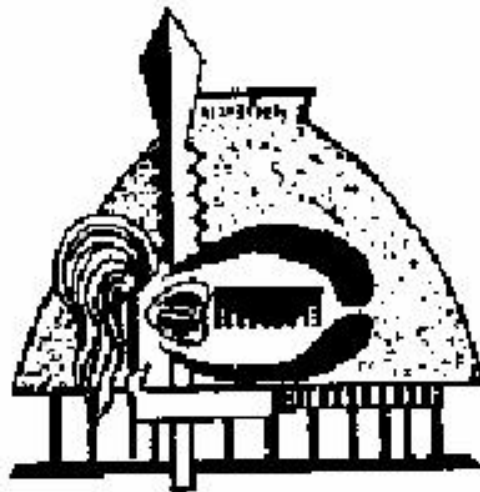


# American Samoa Community College

## 2007

# Annual Report



**American Samoa Community College**

Mapusaga Campus

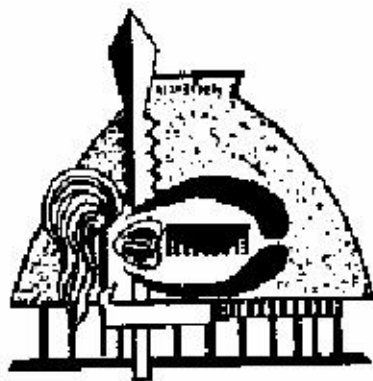
P.O. Box 2609

Pago Pago, American Samoa

Phone: 684-699-9155

American Samoa Community College

2007  
Annual  
Report



## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the American Samoa Community College is to enable successful student learning by providing high quality programs that meet the educational needs of its students and American Samoa.

The American Samoa Community College is an accredited, open admissions, co-educational, post-secondary, Land Grant institution with programs leading to associate degrees and certificates.

The College's programs fall into five areas:

- 1) Programs transferable to other institutions of higher learning,
- 2) Human Resources development in preparation for employment,
- 3) Instruction for the educationally underserved & community extension programs,
- 4) Research in human and natural resources, and
- 5) Programs in the study of Samoa and the Pacific.

The College recognizes its critical role in developing the human capital necessary for American Samoa's economic development and is thus committed to the continuous improvement of American Samoa's workforce. The College further recognizes the significance of perpetuating Samoan culture and language. As the only public institution of higher learning in American Samoa, the College accepts its responsibility for research and instruction in the culture, language, and resources of the Samoan people

## VISION

The Board of Higher Education envisions the American Samoa Community College as the leading U.S. accredited institution of higher learning in American Samoa and the South Pacific region providing quality courses, programs and services for its students enabling them to meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The College strives to adequately prepare its students for matriculating to colleges and universities off-island, joining the labor market, or pursuing an endeavor of choice.

The College recognizes changes in technology and methods of teaching and learning in its pursuit of continuous improvements in its courses, programs, and service.

The College will realize its potential by acquiring adequate resources to become an accredited four-year institution of higher education. With visionary and committed leadership, the College will develop ways to forge ahead while dealing with changes and challenges both locally and globally.





**AMERICAN SAMOA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Message from the President

Talofa.

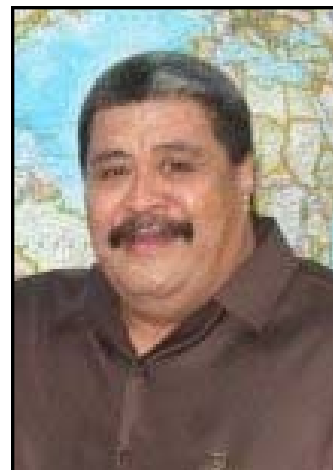
On behalf of the Board of Higher Education, I am pleased to present American Samoa Community College's 2007 Annual Report. We take this opportunity each year to provide the community with a more personal look at the College's activities and highlights.

In addition to basic institutional data, this report features highlights related to accreditation activities, new programs, student and faculty achievements, reports from ASCC many programs, personnel changes and facilities improvements.

We hope you will find this an enjoyable and informative supplement to our other regular college publications. For more information, visit the ASCC website at [www.amsamoa.edu](http://www.amsamoa.edu) or call us at 684-699-9155.

Soifua,

  
Dr. Seth P. Galea'i, President



# BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION



**Standing Left –Right:** Lauifi Tauiliili, Member; Faye Panama, Student Representative; Reverend Lenavaoatua Sekuini Sevaeetasi, Member; Mine Pase, Member; Dr. Seth Galea’i, ASCC President; Pemerika Tauiliili, Vice Chairman; Sapini Situ’u, Member.

**Sitting Center:** Uta Dr Laloulu Tagoilelagi, Chairman

**Not Pictured:** Dr. Claire Poumele, Member





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## HIGHLIGHTS

### KCC-UH Administrator Assists in ASCC Self-Study for WASC



*Robert Franco (bottom left) of Kapiolani Community College sits in on ASCC Curriculum Committee Meeting.*

In preparation for the accreditation visit from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) in 2008, the College began work on the Self-Study component in early 2007. The Self-Study, which the WASC Commission requires a school or college to submit months prior to an accreditation visit, consists of a thorough internal review by the institution of its continuing compliance with WASC standards. During a brief visit to the Territory in February, Robert W. “Bob” Franco of the University of Hawaii’s Kapiolani Community College (KCC) addressed a meeting of the ASCC administration and Curriculum Committee to describe in detail the procedures KCC follows when writing its own Self-Study.

Currently the Interim Director for Planning and Grants Development at KCC, Franco simultaneously serves as a Senior Faculty Fellow for Community Colleges in the nationwide organization Campus Compact, which promotes the incorporation of Service Learning into schools across the nation. Franco began his



## HIGHLIGHTS

academic career as a professor of anthropology, doing research focusing on contemporary Polynesia, and in particular, the Samoan diaspora and urban adaptation. Since then, Franco has made visits to Samoa and other areas of the Pacific for more than 30 years. Since joining the Campus Compact, Franco has provided training in Service Learning as well as technical assistance for more than 140 community colleges and universities in 31 states and three U.S. territories.

Like ASCC, KCC receives an accreditation review by WASC every six years. Describing the Self-Study process KCC has evolved, Franco discussed the “Data Elements” applicable to any institution’s academic programs. Some of the major Data Elements in the KCC Self-Study include Enrollment; Number of Students Per Faculty; Persistence; Continuation; Completion of Degrees and Certificates; Transfer Rate; and Student Satisfaction. “We try to keep our focus on measurable results,” he explained. Franco also discussed the approach KCC takes towards its budget, Tactical Planning and Student Learning Outcomes.

“It was helpful to see the evaluation model used by KCC,” observed Dr. Kathleen Kolhoff-Belle of the College’s Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Advancement. “After our 2002 WASC visit, ASCC identified 25 similar Data Elements that we use for Program Review. We will use this not only for on-going evaluation of programs, but also for our Self Study. There is an increasing need for accountability in all our programs, and we need to be able to evaluate measurable goals and objectives, not only for WASC, but for continuing improvement of academic quality at ASCC.”



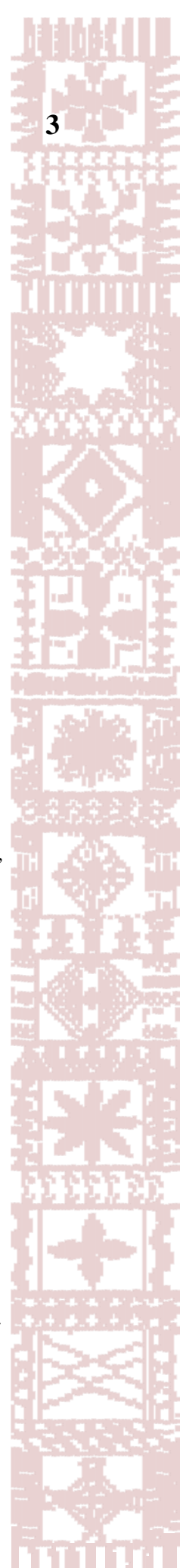
### ASCC Prepares for 2008 Accreditation Review with Self-Study Workshop



*Former President Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i welcomes Jack Pond of WASC*

In April, ASCC hosted a Self-Study Workshop, conducted by a staff member of the WASC Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). During the three-day workshop, Garman “Jack” Pond of the ACCJC familiarized members of the College’s administration, faculty and staff with the purposes and methods involved in the Self-Study they will generate as part of the accreditation process.

Pond, who currently serves with the ACCJC as Vice President in charge of Team Operations and Communication, holds a Master of Arts degree from the University of Hawaii in Teaching English as a Second Language (ESL), and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish and French from the University of Redlands in California. During his visit to American Samoa, Pond conducted four workshops at ASCC. First, he gave a general introduction to the accreditation process for all College faculty and staff. The second, a Self Study Training Workshop, provided information specifically for the members of the College’s Self Study Steering Committee, Standards Committee Chairs, and Co-Chairs. On the third day of his visit, Pond gave a Workshop on Program Review for the faculty, followed by a Leadership Workshop for the College’s Deans and Directors.





## HIGHLIGHTS

Pond has previously visited American Samoa as a member of the 1996 WASC Accreditation Team who evaluated ASCC. During this visit, his second, he noted a number of positive improvements the College has made over the last ten years, and singled out the new ASCC Library and the advances in computer technology on campus as particularly noteworthy.

When asked why parents and students should pay close attention to a school's accreditation status, Pond explained, "Accreditation serves four main purposes. First, it assures the public that a particular academic institution meets commonly held standards of quality. Second, by meeting these standards, this allows for the transferability of student credits from one institution to the next. Third, the federal government only provides financial assistance to students who attend institutions that have gained accreditation from one of the agencies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, such as the ACCJC. Fourth, through a periodic cycle of accreditation review, an institution evaluates its own strengths and challenges as part of the process, and this in turn leads to their continual growth."

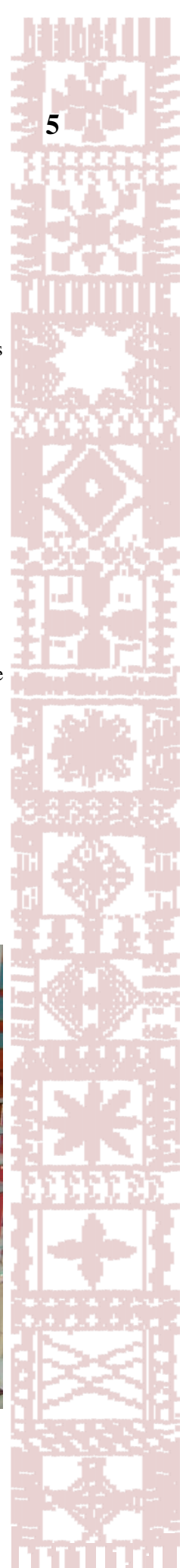


*Jack Pond of WASC receives a traditional fua and to'oto'o from Tialuga Seloti of ASTEP*

## ASCC Career Fair Highlights Opportunities for Students

For young adults, making choices can prove one of the most challenging aspects of their student years. “We can’t make choices for students, but we can do our best to make them aware of the many options they have for their future,” said Dr. Emilia Le’i, Dean of Student Services, whose division sponsored a two-day Career Fair in April to provide students with a broad picture of those options.

On the first day, the Career Fair showcased a number of academic divisions within the College, such as Teacher Education, Land Grant, Trades and Technology, and Samoan Studies. Throughout the ASCC auditorium, students had the chance to speak informally with staff members from each of these divisions about the possibility of majoring in one of these areas. On the second day, representatives from the public and private sectors as well as the military joined the Fair to raise awareness among students of career opportunities in these fields. Participants included Army Recruiting, Marine Recruiting, Navy Reserves, Star Kist Samoa, COS Samoa Packing, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, NOAA Weather Services, the Election Office, Blue Sky Communications, the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, ASCO Motors, Florence Saulo & Associates, and the Fire Department.





Describing the success of this semester's Career Fair, co-organizer and ASCC counselor Galu Satele Jr. explained, "Besides providing the opportunity for the ASCC departments to 'sell' their programs to our students, we also provided the students with networking opportunities with many local public agencies and private businesses. In turn, an event like this assists the participating agencies and companies in their recruiting efforts to hire students from ASCC. Some students had never experienced an event like this, so we exposed them to a Career Fair environment. Now a great number of our students have Career Fair expectations, which they can effectively prepare for in the future."

Besides the off-campus representatives from the public service sector, the business community and the local military, Satele also thanked the other members of the Student Services counseling team, Annie Panama, Mark Mageo and Fualaa Lancaster for their role in organizing the Career Fair. He also credits the Student Government Association, the Admissions Office, the ASCC Security and Custodians, and Dr. Le'i for their efforts towards making the Fair a success.





### ASCC Signs MOU with Army to Continue ROTC Program



***Former President Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i signs Memorandum of Understanding with LTC Rodney F. Laszlo.***

As part of her address during the spring graduation ceremony, President Dr. Adele-Satele-Galea'i made special mention of the College's new, full-time ROTC (Reserve Officers Training Corps) instructor present at the event, SFC Kenneth Thompson. The President also announced the recent signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the College, the U.S. Army, and the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) ROTC program which formalizes the roles and responsibilities of all signatories in the ROTC program at ASCC.

The signing of the MOU brought to a close a period of uncertainty over the continuation of the ROTC program at ASCC. Budget cuts from Washington in 2006 meant that the 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Readiness Command (9<sup>th</sup> RRC) of the Army Reserves, who had agreed to provide ROTC instructors to ASCC, no longer had the funds to compensate them. Upon learning of the budget cuts and their effect upon ROTC at the College, supporters of the program such as Lt. Col. Mapu Jamias, who started the first ASCC ROTC classes in 2000, local Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army Fuga Tolani Teleso, Congressman Faleomavaega Eni, and others took the time to lobby the Army in the interest of finding a solution.



## HIGHLIGHTS



***Capt. Serafina Sauia and SFC Kenneth Thompson***

Rodney F. Laszlo, Professor of Military Science in the UH Manoa ROTC program, commended the four volunteers. “I appreciated the support of all the Reserve instructors. They had full time jobs of their own, yet they volunteered to keep the ROTC program going at ASCC without compensation because they believed in it.”

As a result of the MOU, SFC Thompson joined the ASCC faculty at the beginning of the spring 2007 semester. The son of Dr. George Ernest Tauimanu and Hana Thompson, the ROTC instructor grew up in Matu'u with his four brothers and three sisters. Upon graduating from Matafao Elementary School in 1978, Thompson left for Hawaii to continue his education, and graduated from Honolulu's Farrington High School in 1982. “I joined the Army after high school in order to receive college funds,” he recalls. “However, after serving several years as an Infantry soldier, I thoroughly enjoyed it and decided to make the Army a career. I retired in 2005 after 22 years of service.”

During the College's first Graduate Banquet, SFC Thompson presented awards for Outstanding Achievement in ROTC to spring 2007 graduates Pita Gurr, Faith Hisatake, and Hope Hisatake. Capt. Sauia accompanied Thompson to the College's regular graduation ceremony two days later to give a short speech in recognition of the three award winners. Capt. Sauia has since relocated to Hawaii to take up a post teaching ROTC at Brigham Young University.

Despite the loss of funds, the College's lead ROTC instructor at the time of the budget cuts, Capt. Serafina Sauia, continued to teach part-time at ASCC on a voluntary basis. Maj. Keith Dotts, Capt. Sean Sherwood, and Capt. Greg Dunbar also contributed their time to keep the program going. Simultaneously, all four of these part-time instructors at the College had full time assignments with the local Army Reserves. LTC



**Four Faculty and Staff Honored for 20 Years Service**



In December, the Human Resources Office (HRO) organized a luncheon in honor of four faculty and staff members who reached their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the College. Honorees Dr. Kathleen Kolhoff-Belle, Ms. Regina Meredith, Mrs. Eseta Taotua, and her husband Mr. Fuifui Taotua all serve in very different capacities at ASCC, but have in common a dedication to their work that has seen them stay the course for “the long run”.



Dr. Kathleen Kolhoff-Belle received her B.S. degree in Education from Bowling Green State University, her M.A. in Theater Arts from the University of Cincinnati, and her Ph.D. from the Union Institute, all in her home state of Ohio. She began her career in education at the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, working at a college that served Native Americans for 13 years. When she felt ready for a change, she responded to an offer for a Grant Writing position at ASCC, and from there went on to teach Drama, Speech and English, and for a time serve as Dean of Instruction. Today, she heads the ASCC Office of Institutional Advancement and Effectiveness.







Regina Meredith originally intended to pursue a career as an artist rather than an educator. “As a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader, when we learned about Old America for Social Studies, I drew a black and brown buffalo on a large olive green piece of paper. That drawing gave me a lot of satisfaction, and from that moment I knew what I wanted.” From that humble buffalo, Meredith went on to complete a B.A. in Art/Art Education from Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, PA, and later her M.F.A from San Diego State University. Former ASCC President Dr. Saeu Scanlan asked Meredith to join the ASCC faculty in 1987, and she has served as the College’s Art Instructor ever since. She says, “I thank God for everything, and also my parents Atualevao Heinrich A ‘King Kong’ Meredith and Mary Pena Meredith, my sisters and brother, the ASCC administration and staff, and last but not least, my students.”



Mrs. Eseta Taotua, an instructor with the College’s Adult Education, Literacy & Extended Learning (AELEL) program, says she considers teaching “the noblest profession”, and her experiences in the field have taken her from classrooms in the Independent State of Samoa, to Lupelele Elementary School, and to ASCC. Mrs. Taotua has also taught in the community at sites such as the canneries and church organizations, and in the Early Childhood Education program. She holds a Teaching Diploma from LDS Church School in Samoa, as well as a B.Ed. from the University of Hawaii. She says she would not have completed her studies in Hawaii without the firm support of her husband, Fuifui. “When I attended school off-island, he had to take the role of both father and mother with our children,” she explained.



Eseta’s husband and co-honoree Mr. Fuifui Taota serves as the College’s Supervisor of the Grounds & Landscaping. He earned a Diploma in Tropical Agriculture from the University of the South Pacific in Alafua, Samoa, as well as a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of the Philippines. Beginning at ASCC as an Extension Agent at Land Grant, Mr. Taotua later moved over to the main campus to take the position of Supervisor of Maintenance. Fuifui and Eseta wed in 1972 while still living in the

## HIGHLIGHTS

Independent State of Samoa. Besides his duties at the College, Fuifui also serves as Bishop in the Pava'ia'i Second Ward of the LDS Church.

At the ceremony, HRO Director Komiti Panama-Emmsley reflected, "Any great organization has its roots in service, and service provides the nurturing force that fuels all growth." Board of Higher Education chairman Uta Dr. Laloulu Tagoilelagi and Acting President Dr. Seth Galea'i also joined the proceedings to congratulate the honorees and present them with their gifts.



## Academic Affairs Division

## 2007 Achievements

*Teacher Education Staff***1. Teacher Education – Proposed Four Year Bachelor Degree Program**

The Four Year Bachelor Degree in Teacher Education Program was formally established in spring 2007 with the completion of the curriculum, admission policies, Program Mission, and student learning outcomes. Dr. Lina Scanlan was hired as Director of the teacher Education program. In turn, Dr. Scanlan brought into the program three full-time faculty, Dr. Larry Purcell, Mrs. Rosevonne Pato, and Mr. Sonny Leomiti, one core adjunct faculty Dr. Trudie Sala, and adjunct faculty in the areas of Early Childhood Education and Special Education. The first series of 300 level Education courses were approved by WASC in fall 2007, and to date ten students have been accepted into the program.

*ASCC Nursing Graduation, Fall 2007***2. Nursing Program**

Through the efforts of Gov. Togiola Tulafono, in 2007 the ASCC Nursing Department received \$20,000 in funding to assist with hiring needed personnel. During 2007, 33 students were enrolled in the program: 12 students continuing in the Practical Nursing (PN) program; 13 new students in the Practical Nursing (PN) program; and eight new students accepted in the Registered Nursing (RN) program.

**3. Program Review**

Most ASCC faculty and staff have been assigned to one of the committees working on the Self-Study for WASC. The Academic Affairs Division is focusing on Standard II – Instructional Programs and Student Support Services

Two recognized experts on accreditation visited ASCC to conduct workshops. WASC representative Mr. Jack Pond gave a workshop on standards, evaluation process, and student learning outcomes. Dr. Robert Franco of Kapiolani Community College conducted a workshop on that institution's program review process. Academic Affairs also conducted in-house workshops addressing program review, student learning outcomes, and learning styles.

The second cycle of Academic Program Review 2004-06 was completed.

The Assessment Plan Committee developed a process to assess Student Learning Outcomes in Communication. The process was piloted in fall 2007, using the rubrics method

New faculty positions were created in the Teacher Education, Math, and Language and Literature departments.

**4. New Faculty Hirings by Department:**

- 3 – Teacher Education
  - 1 – Director of Teacher Education
  - 1 – Business
  - 1 – English Language Institute
  - 1 – Marine Science
- 3 – Social Science
  - 2 – Language and Literature





*Dr. Karolyn Braun and young Marine Science students.*



*Marine Science Field Excursion*

**5. Sea Grant Program**

A certificate of proficiency in Aquaculture has been approved.

**6. Marine Science**

Coordinator Ms. Lauren Wetzel is now teaching Marine Science courses, and also working on Marine Science projects both locally and with the University of Hawaii and the National Science Foundation.

**7. New Grant from National Foundation**

Through the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation at the University of Hawaii, ASCC received \$13,000 in funding to support and increase the number of its students majoring in science, technology, engineering, or mathematic (STEM) career fields. In 2007, two graduates of ASCC received LSAMP funding – one to transfer to Texas University as a math major, and the other to attend U.H. Hilo as a marine science major.



*ASCC Concert Choir*

**8. Fine Arts Activities**

The Fine Arts Department presented successful productions of the musical plays “Guys and Dolls” and “Fiddler on the Roof”.

The ASCC Choral Class performed in Hawaii and received an invitation to perform in the annual Hawaii Choral Conference.

A Music Workshop for Orchestra/Band was conducted by Mr. Siuai Laufou, Director of Bands for Kamehameha School in Maui, Hawaii.

From among students auditioning nationwide, three ASCC students were selected to attend Broadway Theatre Project Performing Arts School in Tampa, Florida during the summer.





*Above: "Fiddler on the Roof"  
Center: "Guys and Dolls"*



*Business class presentation on Marketplace Diversity*

### 9. Business Education Department

Students from the department participated in the Business Student International Business Trip to Apia, Samoa and New Zealand. This is an annual trip to Samoa, and the third time to New Zealand, for business students and their instructors. Participants visit businesses in other countries to familiarize themselves with international methods and marketing practices. Students also network with businesses, corporations, and universities regarding the job market, entrepreneurship, and higher education opportunities in business. All funds for the trip are raised by the students and their families.





## Student Services Division 2007 Achievements



In 2007, the Student Services Division worked diligently to provide its various programs and activities that support the educational services of the American Samoa Community College. The Student Services Division oversees the Student Government Association (SGA), Counseling, Tutoring, Peer Mentoring, You Are Not Alone (YANA), School-to-Work, Workshops, the 4-1-1 Newsletter, and other support activities.

### Student Government Association

The Student Government Association (SGA), as is tradition, provided the means for students and the community to contribute to a worthy cause through their sponsorship of the Miss American Samoa Community College Pageant, during which Miss Anneliese Sword was named Miss ASCC for 2007-2008. Through hosting the pageant, SGA continues to provide funds to assist with student activities and scholarships. The SGA also put aside some of the student activity fee to fund the Saili Le Atamai Award of \$250 to the Fall 2007 recipient, Mr. Staniel V. Dimaya.

### Enrollment:

Enrollment figures for 2007 continued the trend of increasing student numbers at ASCC, with a total of 4,361 students (1494 Spring; 1100 Summer; 1767 Fall).

### Graduation and Scholarships:

In 2007, a total of 224 students earned an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree, or completed of a Certificate program. To further their education at stateside four-year institutions, where they will continue studying towards their Bachelor's degrees, 21 students were awarded ASG scholarships while 23 students received ASG Student Loans. Aside from the ASG Scholarships and Student Loans, the Student Services Division awarded six In-House Scholarships totaling \$2,250 during 2007.



*Miss ASCC 2007-2008  
Anneliese Sword*



## STUDENT AND FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

ASCC also held its' first Graduates Awards Banquet in spring of 2007. The Banquet took place at Hong Kong Restaurant for about 130 attendees (students, their families, and special guests). 13 graduates received awards for Outstanding Achievement from various departments and organizations, such as the Fine Arts Department, ROTC, and Community and Natural Resources. Out of the 13 award recipients, Crystal Ho-Ching received the prestigious McDonalds Off-Island Scholarship. The second Graduates Awards Banquet which in fall of 2007 also took place at Hong Kong Restaurant for approximately 100 attendees. The Awards Banquet was again, a memorable event for nine students who earned Outstanding Achievement Awards.

Number of Graduates: 224 (104 spring; 120 fall)

Number of Degrees: 233 (98 spring; 135 fall)

ASG Scholarships: 21

ASG Student Loans: 23

In-House Scholarships: 6 (4 President's Merit; 1 Foundation Scholarship; 1 Saili Le Atamai (SGA) Scholarship).

### Phi Theta Kappa:

PTK induction for 2007 was 42 students earning a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher.



*Reigning Miss ASCC, Danielle Jennings coaches contestants for 2007-2008 title*



### ASCC Phi Theta Kappa Inducts New Members for Fall 2007



The Alpha Epsilon Mu Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society at the American Samoa Community College (ASCC) held its induction ceremony this past Friday evening to induct its new members for the Fall 2007 semester. Family and friends of the new and current PTK members joined the college’s administrators and faculty for an intimate ceremony in the ASCC gymnasium to induct 25 of the “best and brightest” into the prestigious Honor Society.

Guest speaker Mrs. Rosevonne Pato, currently a faculty member of both the Health and Human Services Division and the American Samoa in Education Program, focused on the evening’s theme of “Power Beyond Measure”. Mrs. Pato referenced British poet and author James Allen, who wrote an influential work titled “As Man Thinketh” in 1902. She reminded the audience of Allen’s famous quote, “As one thinks, one is,” as an indicator of the power of the mind and a motivation for putting thought into action. Next, the 25 new inductees took the oath to uphold the values of the PTK, and performed the ceremonial lighting of candles representing the mythical Greek “flame of knowledge”. ASCC Student Government Association President Mele Gaisoa provided the congratulatory remarks for the new inductees.

## STUDENT AND FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

New Inductees: Ana-Alicia Pouono Alvarado; Ana-Stacia Usoali'i Alvarado; Tautalamaiaso Palo Auau; Gwendolyn Kamakaokapunanau Emmsley; Grace Meafou Fa'ata'ita'i; Georgina Hannah Faiga; Tautasi Jr Falana'i; Mile Farani; Christina Arieta Fuimaono; Francis Tully Vito Galuvao; Daniel Elisara Helsham; Aaron Lin; Laura Karma Luana Maez; Emmadora Peninatauteleilani Maez; Elenor Clarice Malaga; Donna Rae Ocampo Mallari; Aleki Si'ufili Mao; Siline Adrin Pa'ama; Filemoni Setu; Krystal Malamalama Soa; Valentine Nikkithia Talamoni; Nicole Moana Filemoni To'o; Rhonda Lanuola Suai Tuia; Faamamali Ualesi; and Richard Wei.

Present Members: Henry Fa'alolo (president); Carleen Tamapolu; Foga'a Sasagi; Jerome Grey; Tupou Sia; Amete Mulipola; Rosita Esene; Ruta Fogavai; Anthony Felise; Eleitino Loi-On; and Manuia Satele (secretary/treasurer).

Phi Theta Kappa recognizes and encourages excellence in scholarship among associate degree students. The Greek words Phi Theta Kappa mean wisdom (Phi), aspiration (Theta) and purity (Kappa). The society bases its programs on its four hallmarks: scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship. The society provides more than \$35 million worth of scholarships annually to students nationwide. Each member is automatically nominated for inclusion in the prestigious National Dean's List, and is also enrolled in the PTK Transfer Database, which links senior institutions across the nation offering scholarships to PTK members.

Every semester, PTK advisors Tafaimamao Tua-Tupuola, Annie Panama, Randall Baker, Elvis Zodiacal and Jim Sutherland review the ASCC Dean's List and other relevant data to determine which students qualify for the membership in the Society. Candidates must have taken at least 12 credits, passed their English 150, English 151 and Math 90 classes, and have earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Qualifying students receive an invitation to join PTK, and most of those invited readily accept the offer.

For more information about the nationwide activities of Phi Theta Kappa, visit their website at: [www.ptk.org](http://www.ptk.org).



**AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTED AT THE FIRST ASCC  
GRADUATE BANQUET (Wednesday, May 16, 2007)**

**McDonalds Off-Island Scholarship:** Crystal L. Ho Ching

**Alumni Awards:**

Outstanding Achievement in Science-  
(Sponsored by the Alumni Association) Noelani Ioasa Tu'u

Outstanding Achievement in Math -  
(Sponsored by Samoa Ford Motors, Inc.) Iliganoa F. Tuiolosega

Outstanding Achievement in Business-  
(Sponsored by K.S. Mart) Dolores-Tautolo Galea'i

Outstanding Achievement in English Language Studies -  
(Sponsored by the Alumni Association) Nathan Magalei

Outstanding Achievement in Samoan Language -  
(Presented by the Alumni Association) - Mathew Turituri  
In Loving Memory of the late Taito Lilomaiva Dr. Penelope T. Ala'ilima-Utu

**Community and Natural Resources Award (CNR)**

Awarded by the Organization for Tropical Studies at  
Duke University to study tropical ecology in Costa Rica Faiane Jacinta Miller (Internship)

Applied, interviewed and offered a job with  
Murphy- Brown Circle Four Pig Farm in Southern Utah Laumata Talofa (Job Offer)

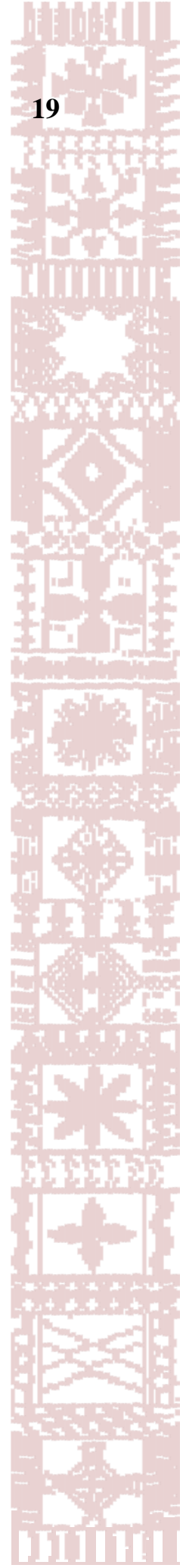
**Fine Arts Department (Drama/Music) Award**

Outstanding Achievement in Drama (Theatrical Arts) Nelly Lafaele

Outstanding Achievement in Music Eric Tue

**ROTC Award**

Outstanding Achievement in the ROTC Program  
Pita Gurr  
Hope Hisatake  
Faith Hisatake



### ASCC Recognizes Outstanding Academic Achievement at Graduate Banquet

Eight graduating students at the American Samoa Community College received special recognition for their outstanding achievements during a banquet for the fall 2007 graduating class held last week. Organized by the College's Student Services Division, the banquet honored students for their exceptional accomplishments in the areas of Math, English, Science, Samoan Studies, Business Education, Trades & Technology, Art and Music, based on selections by the chairpersons of the various academic divisions at the College.

At Tuesday's banquet, Institute of Trades & Technology (ITT) Dean Leusoga Bill Emmsley presented the first award of the evening to Filemoni Setu. Next up, Regina Meredith and Kuki Tuiasosopo of the Fine Arts Department presented awards to Niuafolau Pua for his work in the Visual Arts, and to Toluselau Aulava in Music. ASCC Matai Alumni President Panisia Neueli and Vice President Amio Mavaega-Luvu announced the remainder of the honorees, beginning with Henry Faaolo in Science. The Samoa Ford Motors Award for Outstanding Achievement in Math went to Aleki Mao, while Atonina Tauiliili earned the K.S. Mart Award for Outstanding Achievement in Business. Anthony Felise received this semester's award in Language and Literature, and Siolosega Aga accepted the fall 2007 Samoan Language Award, presented in loving memory of the late Taito Lilomaiava Dr. Penelope T. Ala'ilima-Utu.

Following the presentation of the awards, Board of Higher Education chairman Uta Dr. Laloulu Tagoilelagi said a few words to mark the occasion. "Education has no limits," he reminded the graduates, "and you will have many more opportunities to continue your learning, either through more time in the classroom or just through everyday life."



## STUDENT AND FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Dean of Student Services Dr. Emilia Le'i explained that in addition to providing a venue for recognizing academic achievements, the Graduate Banquet offers an opportunity for graduates, their families, and the College administration and faculty to socialize in an informal atmosphere several days prior to the official graduation ceremony. "We don't make it a requirement that the graduates attend the banquet, although of course we hope they will. It gives the graduates a chance to get together with their classmates for a special evening before they all go their separate ways."

That same evening, the Criminal Justice Division at the College held its own awards ceremony to mark the end of the semester, organized by the Criminal Justice Club. Recognizing the achievements of students within in the department, the Criminal Justice instructors selected Richard Nui for the "Highest Achievement" award, and Athena Dora Simanu for "Highest Achievements in Pre-Law". The Criminal Justice Club also honored Pamata Malae with this semester's "Appreciation Award".

Graduation week held further pre-ceremony activity on the ASCC campus as the Division of Student Support Services (SSS) hosted their Graduates Award Luncheon. The event recognized graduates-to-be who had participated in the federally funded SSS program. SSS provides academic support and counseling for first-generation and low-income students entering college, with the goal of increasing the rate of retention and graduation among this group. SSS Director Dr. Repeka Ala'imoana Nuusa and her staff organized a lively ceremony for 22 SSS graduates-to-be, who joined their instructors from the English Language Institute for a lunchtime celebration of their accomplishments.





ASCC/CNR Student Accepted to Summer Research Program in Costa Rica

*(L-R) Tapaa'u Dr. Daniel Aga, Ms. Faiane Miller, and Dr. Eric Hanson.*

The Organization for Tropical Studies has announced in May the acceptance of Faiane Jacinta Miller, a natural resources student with the Community and Natural Resources (CNR) division at the American Samoa Community College (ASCC), to a summer research experience and cultural exchange program designed for Native American and Pacific Islander undergraduates. Faiane traveled to Costa Rica to participate in The Native American and Pacific Islander Research Experience Program, which will take place from June 4 to July 30. The Organization for Tropical Studies, based at Duke University, covered the full cost of Faiane's internship.

Faiane, the daughter of well-known musician and teacher Harry Miller and journalist Monica Hazelman Miller, described the competitive application process. "I had to write a very detailed essay, in addition to making sure I fulfilled all of the requirements," she said. "Thankfully, my teachers Dr. Eric Hanson, Dr. Carolyn Braun and Malagamali'i Tavita Elisara assisted me in completing the application form and also wrote recommendations for me."

## STUDENT AND FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Upon learning of her acceptance, Faiane's instructor Malagamali'i said he hopes to see more students like Faiane exposed to environmental research in the coming years. CNR Director Dr. Daniel Mageo Aga also congratulated Faiane for her exemplary accomplishment, and said he encourages students in natural resources, general agriculture, agribusiness and family and consumer sciences to pursue similar research and internship opportunities, which occasionally become available.

The Native American and Pacific Islander Research Experience Program works towards introducing qualified undergraduate students to the biodiversity of the tropics. As part of the program, students complete a field research project involving experimental design, data collection, analysis and presentation of results. Participants have the opportunity to interact with the indigenous people of Central America, allowing a first-hand look at the role of Native Peoples in tropical forest conservation. Each student works under a Research Mentor, who assists them with their independent project and provides support during the program. The Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation Program supports the Native American and Pacific Islander Research Experience Program.



### Art Students Gain Experience and Recognition During Summer Excursions

Thanks to the efforts of the committed instructors in the Fine Arts Department, in the near future, more of American Samoa's young adults may have the opportunity make their mark nationally as artists. In summer 2007, Visual Arts instructor Regina Meredith and Dance & Drama teacher Carmela Gallace individually guided small groups of their students through excursions into the mainland arts scene, an experience which considerably broadened the students' perspectives and in some cases offered career opportunities.



Regina Meredith arranged for two of her most promising Visual Arts majors, A.J. Afano and Henry Utoaluga, to spend twelve days surveying the art culture of New York City.

The students arranged travel funds through the sale of their own paintings, displayed earlier in the year during an exhibition at Feleti Barstow

Library. Tony Meredith, Regina's brother who runs the New York studio Dance Times Square, volunteered to provide accommodation at his facility for his sister and her students. This central location provided easy access to many of the city's cultural attractions, such as the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum, the New School of Design, Rockefeller Center, Ground Zero (World Trade Center), Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty, and Lincoln Center.

In addition to their many site visits, Afano and Utoaluga also got hands-on experience learning about Modern Dance from Tony and his partner Melanie Lepatin, and sculpture from Madame Tussauds Wax Museum. Afano reflected, "The trip broadened our knowledge of art itself and its history. We saw the ancient sculptures as well as the modern works that changed the way people perceive art. It really opened our eyes to how far you can go in the world of art, and to how that world has no boundaries."





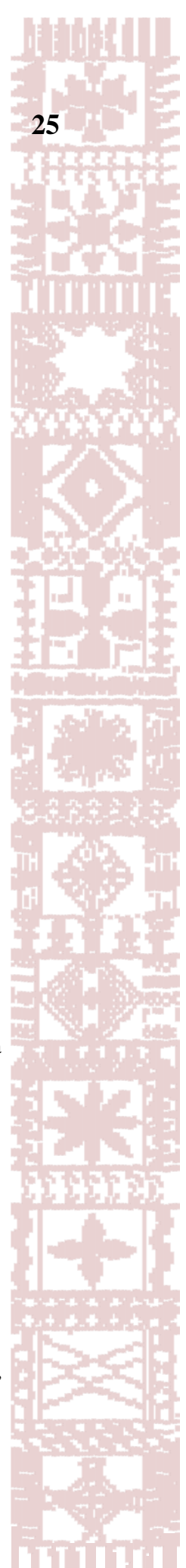
## STUDENT AND FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Three Drama and Dance students had a similar experience during their three weeks attending the Broadway Theater Project (BTP) in Tampa, Florida. Every year, the BTP takes several hundred young hopefuls from across the United States through a rigorous course covering singing, dancing, acting, and all other aspects of Musical Theater. In 2006, Carmela Gallace arranged for a number of her students to submit audition videos to the BTP organizers, who selected Vandella Lealofi, Eric Tue and Jessica Afuola from among thousands of applicants. Gallace's students raised their BTP tuition through a combination of proceeds from their families, the College, and many kind supporters in the community.

In Florida, the ASCC students underwent three weeks of intense instruction from some of the most renowned individuals in the field of Musical Theater, alongside approximately 200 other students from across the nation, as well as Canada and England. Despite non-stop classes from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. daily, according to Gallace, "The three students did a wonderful job representing American Samoa as they proved their status as world-class talents. The director of the program told me that we had stirred up quite a buzz amongst the staff, who talked about the mark that these kids can make in the world of Broadway, TV, and film. Influential people in the theater world from New York and Los Angeles now know about the special brand of artists that come from here."

One such influential entertainment figure, composer/lyricist/ producer Frank Wildhorn, took special notice of Tue's vocal talents and personally invited him to audition for his next Broadway play, "Havana". Another Broadway composer present at the BTP, William Wade, invited Lealofi to audition for a forthcoming Native American-themed show, even saying he had her in mind for the lead role. Afuola, described the BTP as "by far, the most instructive experience I have ever had," adding, "With all this new knowledge I've gained, I plan to work with other students at ASCC who have the same passion as I do."

On behalf of her students, Gallace expressed her gratitude to sponsors Charlie Tautolo of McDonalds, Frank Gaisoa of Taotua Mo Oe Wholesale, Ta'aloga Drabble of Sadie's by the Sea, Tom Drabble of Rubbles, Ike Scanlan of Morris Scanlan Service Station, Oscar Betham of Betham Technologies, Blue Sky Communications, Fine Arts Department Chairperson Namulauulu Dr. Paul Pouesi, and the ASCC Administration.



**ASCC Students Participate in STEM Excursion to Hawaii**

In October, two ASCC students took a four-day excursion to Hawaii to participate in Campus Discovery Days, an initiative aimed at familiarizing promising students from across the American Pacific with academic opportunities available in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (commonly grouped together under the acronym STEM). During their whirlwind Hawaii visit, ASCC students

Anthony Felise of Pavai'ia'i and Jordan Taliva'a of Fagaitua, accompanied by science instructor Dr. Kenneth Belle, toured the Manoa and Hilo campuses of the University of Hawaii, as well as Chaminade University and Hawaii Pacific University, where they learned about STEM support programs, scholarships available, graduate programs, and other aspects of pursuing careers in science and its related fields.

Organized by the National Science Foundation's Islands of Opportunity Alliance (IOA), as part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) program, the Campus Discovery Days event also included students from Guam, the Marshall Islands, the Northern Marianas and Palau. U.H. Hilo serves as the lead institution of the IOA, a collaborative venture by 17 community colleges, colleges and universities throughout Hawaii and the American Pacific to increase the overall number of underrepresented students receiving bachelor degrees in the STEM areas. ASCC joined the Alliance last year, and the October trip to Hawaii marked the first occasion where students from the College took part in the IOA Campus Discovery Days.

Following the Hawaii visit, Anthony described the excursion as "inspiring", and said he felt confident about having a firm support group to help him when he would begin classes as a math major at U.H. Hilo the following January. "As a member of the Alliance, the Hilo campus will provide me with academic support, and will also assist me with scholarship opportunities," he explained. Anthony credits his high school math teacher, Dr. Screeni Panickar, with helping him develop the skills in the subject he hopes to someday teach. "Before I moved to Pavai'ia'i, I attended Fagaitua High School, where Dr. Panickar encouraged me to tutor other students in math," Anthony recalled, "and helping them made me realize the satisfaction that comes when you can make others understand something they usually have difficulty with. I definitely think we need more bilingual math teachers in American Samoa, and I want to be one of them."

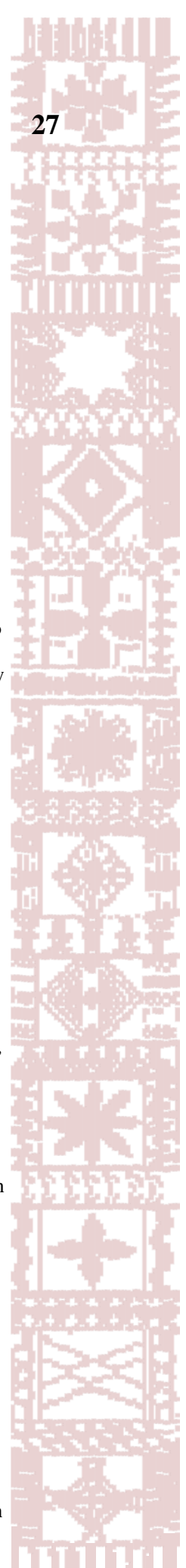
### ASCC Instructor Contributes to Breakthrough Research on Polynesian Migration



Archaeology instructor Dr. David Addison coauthored a paper that appeared in summer 2007 in the prestigious Proceedings of the National Academy of Science. The paper, titled “Radiocarbon and DNA evidence for a pre-Columbian introduction of Polynesian chickens to Chile,” and co-written with scientists in New Zealand, Chile, Australia, Hawai’i, and Canada, caused enough of a stir within the academic community to make national news headlines. For decades, scientists have only speculated that ancient Polynesian voyagers may have reached the shores of South America, but this paper provided the first hard evidence proving that Polynesians sailed all the way to the west coast of the continent at least a century before Columbus. Amazingly, the researchers found the key to this breakthrough in something most of us would probably consider rather un-scientific, namely chicken bones.

Recently, archaeologists in Chile found chicken bones which they radiocarbon dated as approximately 600 years old. Using DNA testing, Alice Storey of the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology & Evolution at the University of Auckland discovered that the bones from Chile carried a rare mutation otherwise only found in chickens from Mele Havea, Tonga, and Fatu-ma-Futi, American Samoa. Previously, scientists commonly believed that the chicken, not indigenous to either North or South America, arrived on the continent along with Spanish explorers in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. However, if Chileans in fact possessed chickens at least 100 years before Columbus reached America, and these fowl carried DNA identical to chickens found in Tonga and Tutuila, this would clearly indicate a pattern of interaction between Polynesians, long recognized as some of the world’s finest sailors and navigators prior to Western contact, and South Americans. Apparently, Polynesians not only reached America before Columbus, but also introduced the chicken to the continent.

Dr. Addison, who holds a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Hawai’i, spent seven years in the Territory working for ASPA before joining the ASCC faculty in 2006. Describing the chain of events which led to the recent scientific breakthrough, he recalls, “I have a longstanding relationship with the Allan





Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology & Evolution at the University of Auckland. The center's founder and director, Dr. Elizabeth Matisoo-Smith, an old friend of mine, visited ASCC in October, and attended the Archeology of the Polynesian Homeland conference here in December of last year.

“Alice Storey, a PhD candidate whom I've also known for years, studies at the University of Auckland under Dr. Matisoo-Smith, and specializes in chicken DNA. She uses it to understand the movement of Polynesians into the Pacific, and their subsequent contacts and interaction between islands. Because Polynesians carried the first chickens to every island, the DNA provides a ‘family tree’ of those chickens, which we can use to trace which of them are related. When we found chicken bones while digging at the Fatu-ma-Futi site as part of the ASPA sewer project, I immediately contacted Ms. Storey and Dr. Matisoo-Smith about the possibility of doing ancient DNA analyses on the bones. Ms. Storey then tested them and compared them with samples from Tonga and South America.”

Dr. Addison went on to explain that the site digging at Fatu-ma-Futi was done in compliance with Section 106 Federal regulations about archaeology, which all local agencies using Federal funding are required to follow. “This is an example of why those laws benefit American Samoa, and are essential to helping us understand our past,” he said. “If it wasn't for the Section 106 law, American Samoa would never have provided a key component in this discovery, and the world wouldn't know about the important role Tutuila and Manu'a played in the history of the whole Pacific.”

Prior to joining the ASCC faculty, Dr. Addison spent seven years doing field research in Tutuila and Manu'a. His work has also taken him to many locations in the Pacific, including Hawaii, the Marquesas Islands, and Palau. “So much of what really happened in the past remains a mystery,” he reflected. “Archaeology lets us discover something new by studying something old, and I enjoy familiarizing the young men and women of American Samoa with the knowledge, techniques and philosophies associated with this field.”



### ASCC Fall 2007 Graduation to Take Place this Friday



The American Samoa Community College (ASCC) will hold its Graduation ceremony for the fall 2007 semester this Friday, beginning at 10 a.m. in the Gymnasium. While the Student Services division of the College has yet to confirm the exact number of graduates, early reports indicate that this Friday's ceremony may see the largest number ever for a December graduation. "If all the students eligible to graduate pass their exams and fulfill all other remaining requirements, then we should have approximately 135 students receiving their diplomas this Friday," said Dean of Student Services Dr. Emilia Le'i.

Ituau Malosi Representative Taotasi Archie Soliai will provide this Friday's keynote speech, and other dignitaries such as Hon. Gov. Togiola Tualafono, Bishop Sonny Aiono, ASCC Financial Aid Board chairman Rev. Ned Ripley, and members of the Board of Higher Education traditionally join the College's administration and faculty for the festivities.

In addition to its spring ceremony, ASCC has also held a graduation in the fall since 1997. "Prior to this, students who completed their graduation requirements in the fall would have to wait until the end of the spring semester if they wanted to take part in the ASCC graduation ceremony, so ten years ago we added the December graduation" explained Dr. Le'i.

The December ASCC graduation ceremony took awhile to catch on, but over the years more and more students have opted to receive their diplomas in the fall rather than the spring. "Our very first fall graduation had less than 40 students," recalled Dean of Academic Affairs Dr. Irene Helsham, but it looks like this semester we'll have the largest number of fall graduates we've ever had."

### Dr. Oreta Mapu Togafau Gives Keynote Address at ASCC Graduation

The Spring 2007 semester at the American Samoa Community College (ASCC) concluded with the College's 46<sup>th</sup> graduation ceremony on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 10 a.m. in the College's gymnasium. This semester's ceremony featured a keynote address by Dr. Oreta Mapu Togafau, who has had a long and distinguished career of public service in American Samoa, Hawaii, and Washington, D.C. Dr. Togafau also holds the record as the longest continuously serving member of the Board of Higher Education (BHE), the governing body that oversees ASCC.

Born in American Samoa to Siaumau and Moli Tufaga Mapu, Dr. Togafau left the Territory at the tender age of 6 months when her maternal grandparents joined the first wave of the local fitafita guard who left along with the Navy in 1951. While her parents continued their military service in California, Dr. Togafau lived with her grandparents in Laie, Hawaii. "My parents would come to Hawaii to visit each year," she recalled, "but my grandparents basically raised me like a proper young Mormon girl in Laie, Hawaii." She later rejoined her parents, by that time stationed in Louisiana, at age 14.

With her father assigned to duty in Viet Nam, she returned in 1968 along with her mother and siblings to American Samoa, where at age 17 she took her first job with the American Samoa Government as a clerk in the Records Department of the LBJ Hospital. The hospital position only lasted for the summer, after which Dr. Togafau got her first experience in the field of education by serving as an instructor at Samoana High School during the 1968-69 school year. Subsequently receiving an ASG scholarship, she attended Northwestern University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, and later completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah in 1973.

Returning to Am Samoa after college, Dr. Togafau took a job with the with the High Court of American Samoa as a Juvenile Commissioner, while at the same time teaching Psychology courses at the ASCC. A year later, the Governor's selection committee unanimously chose her as the Territory's Intern to the Office of Insular Affairs in Washington, D.C. Concluding her internship, she returned home in 1975, and then moved to Hawaii the following year to take a position as Program Administrator for the Samoan School Assistance Program, initiated by the administration of then Governor George Ariyoshi. This program provided tutoring and counseling services for Samoan students at 14 high schools throughout Oahu.





## STUDENT AND FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

In 1977, Dr. Togafau received an award as one of the Outstanding Young Women of America, thanks to a nomination by Governor Ariyoshi himself. During this period, she also served as a member of the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women. That same year, she married Malaetasi Togafau, who at the time worked as Legal Counsel for American Samoa's Delegate to Washington, A.P. Lutali, and the newlyweds made their home in the nation's capitol.

Dr. Togafau continued her career in Washington, first under a short term contract with the Department of the Interior, and next as Staff Assistant to the Territory's succeeding Congressional Delegate, Fofu Sunia. After three years working for the Congressman, she returned to American Samoa to join her husband, who had run successfully for representative of the Ituau district. Dr. Togafau returned to ASCC to serve as the first Director of the Upward Bound Program from 1983-1988, after which she joined Congressman Faleomavaega Eni Hunkin's staff when he won the seat in 1989. Following a long career with Faleomavaega, Dr. Togafau retired in 2005, but continued her public service by accepting an appointment from Governor Togiola Tulafono to her current position as Senior Policy Advisor.

Even while balancing the responsibilities of raising a family with her professional life, Dr. Togafau sought to further her education, and she received her Masters degree in Mental Health Administration in 1982 from the University of the District of Columbia. While working for Faleomavaega, she concurrently joined the BHE in 1993, and remained on the Board until the Governor revised its membership this year. In the midst of her busy career, she nevertheless found time to complete her Doctor in Public Administration (DPA) degree with Golden Gate University in 2001.

Currently in Honolulu to tend to family business, prior to the event, Dr. Togafau relayed via telephone that she looks forward to addressing the graduates at the forthcoming ASCC ceremony. "I won't give my whole speech away in advance," she said, "but I will say that it will touch on the themes of volunteerism and public service." College President Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i explained that Dr. Togafau's many years with the BHE give her a unique perspective on issues facing today's ASCC graduates. "Dr. Togafau has observed the progress of the College for over a decade," said the President, "and I look forward to her sharing the insights she has gleaned during her long association with us."

**ASCC Announces New Administrative Appointments**

In May, the Office of the President announced three new appointments to the College's administration. President Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i welcomed Dr. Falema'o M. "Phil" Pili as the College's new Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Dr. Emilia Sabado Le'i as the Dean of Student Services, and Mrs. Keseta Okenaisa Fauolo as the Director of the Institute of Samoan Studies.



***Dr. Falema'o "Phil" Pili***

Dr. Pili brings with him more than 30 years of experience in public service, finances, and education. Most recently, he served as a member of the House of Representatives from 2004-2006, and other noteworthy posts in his resume include six years as the CFO of LBJ Hospital during the '90s, and 11 years as Director of Finance/Deputy Treasurer for the ASG Department of Treasury between 1982 and 1993.

Dr. Pili also worked at ASCC as an adjunct faculty member from 1990 to 1996, teaching classes in Accounting, Business Management, and Taxation. He received his Doctorate of Philosophy in International Business Administration from Kennedy-Western University in 2003.

Dr. Le'i started at the College in 1984 as a counselor, as well as an instructor in College Life Planning. During the course of her long career as a counselor, she has helped hundreds of students choose the direction of their academic careers both within ASCC and beyond. Originally from the island of Kaua'i in the Aloha State, Dr. Le'i earned her Bachelor of Science in Education degree from Truman State University, her Masters degree in Education from Brigham Young University, and in 2004 her Doctorate in Public Administration diploma from Golden Gate University. She served in the capacity of Acting Dean of Student Affairs since the beginning of the spring 2007 semester.

A mainstay in the Social Science department since joining the ASCC faculty in 1995, Mrs. Fauolo has the distinction of incorporating into her teaching numerous outreach projects in areas ranging from Service Learning to Public Health, Distance Learning and Samoan Culture. Since 1997, she has presented five papers

## TRANSITIONS

at workshops and conferences both on and off island, and her students have nominated her for inclusion in the last five editions of the national publication “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers.” Fauolo earned three degrees from Waikato University in Hamilton, New Zealand, including her Masters in Social Sciences. As Director of the Institute of Samoan Studies, she now has the responsibility of coordinating the College’s Samoan Studies curriculum, formerly divided between the Samoan Language and Culture department and the Samoa and Pacific Studies (SAMPC) department, into a single program.

“Our selection committees take into account the qualifications as well as the service records of each candidate for positions here at the College,” said Dr. Satele-Galea’i. “I fully support their choices of Dr. Pili, Dr. Le’i, and Mrs. Fauolo for these important roles at ASCC, and offer them my congratulations and encouragement.”

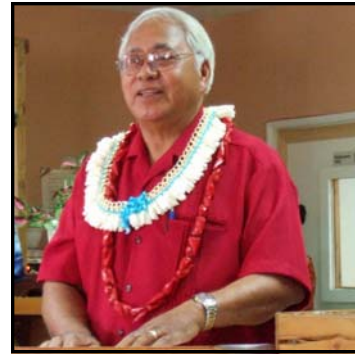


*Former President Dr. Adele Satele–Galea’i and Mrs. Okenaisa Fauolo-Manila, Director of the Samoan Studies Institute*



### BHE Announces Dr. Tagoilelagi as New Chairman

The Board of Higher Education (BHE), the governing body that oversees policy decisions at ASCC, announced in October their selection of HTC Uta Dr. Laloulu Tagoilelagi to the post of chairman. HC Pemerika Tauiliili, previously chairman for the past six years, remains with the BHE in the position of vice chairman.



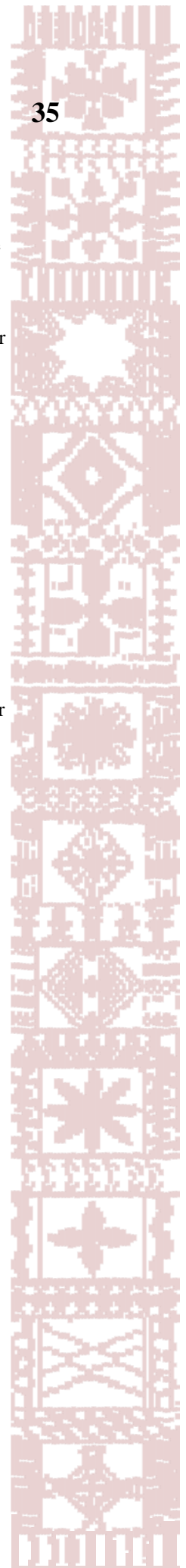
HTC Uta Dr. Laloulu Tagoilelagi, who joined the BHE along with five other new members last year, brings with him over 33 years of experience in the field of education, including a previous tenure as Director of the Department of Education. Since 2000, he has served on the staff of the Governor’s Office, currently as Commissioner of Insurance. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Oklahoma State Christian College, and went to receive his Masters and Doctorate degrees from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. “Teaching is my profession, so it is in my blood, and education is where my heart is,” said Dr. Tagoilelagi. “As BHE chairman, I hope to enhance education in American Samoa at the college level.”

Tauiliili shared some of the significant accomplishments made by the previous BHE. “We set five priorities in areas where ASCC has made great strides,” he reflected. “We have worked with the ASCC administration in developing the Teacher Education program, now enjoying capacity enrollment. Another priority of the BHE, the college’s Nursing Program, has graduated a record number of Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses. The Trades & Technology Institute continues to move forward under the leadership of a new Dean, and with renovated facilities and improved equipment. The College Bound program, designed to attract more high school students to ASCC, enjoys its highest enrollment to date. I take special pride in the establishment of the Samoan Language and Culture Institute, which now combines research, the development of teaching materials, and courses in Samoan and Pacific studies, along with an outreach component in the community, under one division.”



Tauiliili continued, “With the help of Capital Improvement Project funds from the Department of the Interior, most of the college’s buildings have been renovated. This source of funding also aided us in the construction of the new Library. The College has renovated the former auditorium, transforming the space into one large lecture classroom, with additional smaller classrooms and offices. We currently have plans for a new multipurpose auditorium and Student Center, provided we can locate the resources for this ambitious project.”

As he embarked on his new role as BHE chairman, Dr. Tagoilelagi formulated some of his goals. “I would like the Board, the President, and the faculty to continue working harmoniously to raise the level of student academic performance,” he said. “I would also like to see a long term Professional Development strategy to meet the needs of ASCC instructors. After we ensure our new accreditation status with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, I would like to work towards establishing additional four year programs in the coming years.”



ASCC/BHE Accepts President's Resignation

In early December, the Board of Higher Education announced its acceptance of President Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i's notice of intent to resign. "Dr. Satele-Galea'i met with the Board," said Chairman Uta Dr. Laloulu Tagoilelagi, "and gave a moving account of her time spent as President of the College. She also shared the details of her recent medical challenges. The Board feels the utmost sympathy for Dr. Satele-Galea'i, and we wish her the best as she these challenges. While she tried her best to maintain her role of ASCC President during her illness, she can now concentrate fully on her healing process, while the College can move ahead at full capacity. In view of the circumstances, we feel her decision to step down as President has worked out best for all concerned."

Dr. Tagoilelagi also confirmed that current Acting President Dr. Seth Galea'i would assume the role of interim ASCC President as of January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008. "Dr. Galea'i has done an exemplary job of keeping the College on course during the President's extended leave," said Dr. Tagoilelagi. "ASCC also has accreditation visits in 2008 from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and Dr. Galea'i has taken a strong leadership role in the preparation for them, so the Board considers it crucial that he continue leading ASCC as we work through this process."

While on island for a brief visit, Dr. Satele-Galea'i took the opportunity to set things in order for the transition of the ASCC Presidency. After meeting with the BHE, the next day she gave a farewell address before the ASCC faculty and staff. During her address, the President appeared in upbeat spirits as she delivered what she good-naturedly referred to as her "Last Lecture". As Dr. Satele-Galea'i conveyed what she considers her most important lessons learned during her tenure as ASCC President, her address encompassed wisdom from Samoan proverbs, timeless advice on the nature of students, and even tips for maintaining good health.

Dr. Satele-Galea'i shared the concept of the "Gifts of Life", taken from a book written by a man severely injured in a car accident. "When you come close to losing everything you have, as the author of this work did," explained the President, "you only have left the Gifts of Life, which I would consider dreams, family, friends, giving, gratitude, laughter, learning, financial stability, problems because they make you stronger, work because it gives value to your abilities, perfect days, and the ultimate gift of love and service to others." She ended by presenting Dr. Seth Galea'i with several gifts she herself had received when she began her tenure as President, as a symbol of "passing the torch" and wishing him well as he leads the College.



*Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i bids farewell to ASCC Faculty and Staff*



Teacher Education



For the fall semester 2007, the Teacher Education Department (TED) showed an increase in its number of students majoring in Teacher Education. With more public relations on the Teacher Education program, there is steady trend of more students attending ASCC to earn a teaching degree.

TED offered more sections of its introductory education courses in order to accommodate the growing interest. Three new faculty members were hired to bring the TED department to three core faculty, one of whom also serves as the field coordinator for all practicums. Dr. Larry Purcell brings his doctoral experience in teaching and learning to the department. Mr. Sonny Leomiti further adds his instructional technology and curriculum background. Mrs. Rosevonne Pato brings with her educational psychology and curriculum background as added strength. Teacher Education also welcomed Dr. Trudie Sala as core adjunct faculty for the American Samoa Education Program .

A major recruitment push was made during 2007. The Director spoke on several radio shows and the television program Talofa Samoa. Several articles appeared in the local newspapers showcasing the new faculty and the student organization Lumana'i Educators. The latter competed in the SGA club competition and took second place overall. TED set up a recruitment table during the fall and spring registrations to distribute brochures about the Elementary Education programs.





SAMOAN STUDIES INSTITUTE (SSI)  
2007

**SSI ESTABLISHED**

On May 17 2007, Samoan Studies Institute (SSI) was officially established. Three College programs are housed under the Institute: the Samoan Language Department, Samoa and Pacific Studies, and the ANA Grant Program. The SSI vision is expressed in its logo, seen below.



*Dr. Minareta Thompson*



The vessel (*alia*) represents American Samoa moving forward into the future. It moves forward not on ocean, but on a continuously woven mat that is infinite. The mat strands (*lau fala*) represent how we weave traditions and changes through time. An umbrella of protection, the net ensures that American Samoa's *alia* remains on course and does not capsize.

**MOU with Tafesilafa'i**

ASCC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in July 2007 with Tafesilafa'i, a Los Angeles Samoan community-based, non-government organization. The MOU is housed under SSI as part of its community and outreach programs. SSI provides services such as conducting workshops on language use, Samoan art, and many other related topics.

**SSI Media Directory**

More than 100 video documentaries by SSI on Samoa and the Pacific by have been made available to ASCC faculty through its Media Directory. Copies of this directory were also mailed out to government agencies. The National Parks, Land Grant, and high school teachers are among those who have bought video/DVD copies of SSI documentaries to support their programs.



**SSI Works with American Samoa Community Cancer Network (ASCCN)**

An MOU was signed in September 2007, making the SSI responsible for Samoan translations of cancer-related terms for the use of the ASCCN in their literature for Samoan speakers.

**MOU with University of Vermont Students International Training Program**

Once a year, the University of Vermont organizes a trip for its students to American Samoa and the Independent State of Samoa. For several years now, through its previous Samoan Studies programs, ASCC has hosted these students during their visits to the territory. SSI signed an MOU in October 2007 with the SIT to ensure that this program is aligned with the SIT mission. The SSI will strive to ensure that this program to is beneficial for both ASCC and SIT students.

**Showcasing Samoan Programs, November 2007**

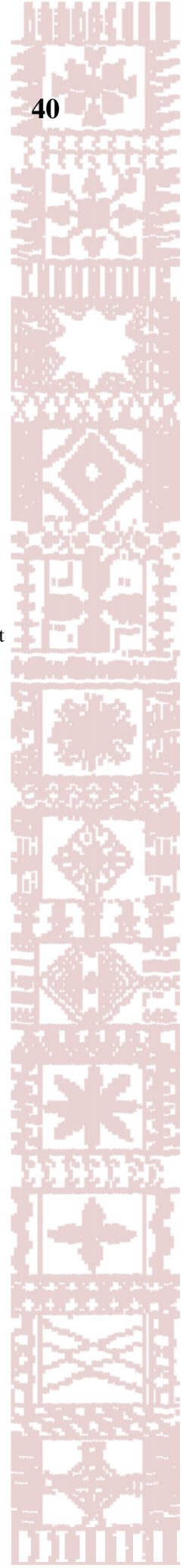
In November, SSI faculty and staff put together a number of students' performances, some including their written work. ASCC faculty and students, as well as the public, enjoyed these programs.

**Publication**

Dr. David Addison published article an in the Journal of Samoan Studies. His article, "Carbon Dating for Tutuila and Manua", includes evidence based on DNA research that Polynesians traveled to the coast of South America long before Columbus.

**Staff Development**

Micah Van der Ryn and Tamari Mulitalo Cheung took extended leave for graduate studies. Micah worked at completing his dissertation in ethnography at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, while Tamari attended National University of Samoa for her Masters in Samoan Studies. In addition, Evile Feleti was accepted into University of Hawaii M.Ed. cohort program offered via DOE. Teleiai Christian Ausage has completed his post graduate diploma in Samoan Studies from the National University of Samoa. During 2007, he worked on his thesis for his masters.



**INSTITUTE OF TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY**



In March of 2007, the Board of Higher Education established a new Institute within ASCC, the Institute of Trades & Technology (ITT). Formerly a department, the newly created ITT will be the platform from which trades, technology, and some pre-engineering programs will be launched according to Dean Leusoga “Bill Emmsley. As an institute, ITT is able to create a School of Engineering Technology (SET), Apprenticeship Training Program (ATP) and Workforce Development Programs (WDP), which are essential for successful workforce training programs and economic development initiatives. Emmsley stated the immediate goals of the ITT are to re-evaluate and modify ITT’s curriculum; updating faculty credentials and certifications; upgrading of equipments; and improving facilities.

In June, Emmsley assembled a group comprising the principal owners of various private companies in the territory to comprise the Private Industry Advisory Council (PIAC). The stated purpose of the PIAC is to encourage members of the private sector to provide input as the ITT develops its educational programs, in order to ensure that the programs and courses offered remain aligned and relevant with the demands of the workforce. Over 30 individuals representing various industries in the trades and technologies fields attended the first PIAC forum. Also, public sector counterpart called, Pubic Entity Advisory Council (PEAC) is likewise in place.

In October, the ITT became American Samoa’s first Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Certification Center. In the past, dedicated automotive technicians in the territory had to travel to the United States or Guam to sit ASE exams. In a letter to test administrators American College Test (ACT), ITT Dean Emmsley addressed the isolation of American Samoa and focused on the lack of certified automotive technicians on island. Emmsley suggested that ASCC become a test site. ACT responded affirmatively, and Mr. Sal Poloai now serves as the administrator of the ASE test for ITT. ITT is working to bring other certification institutions into its “Authorized Test Center” long-term plan.





## PROGRAMS

In addition, ITT signed an agreement with Honolulu Community College (HCC) to collaborate in areas of course articulation, faculty exchange, curriculum development and professional licensing and certification processes. Also, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) was signed by the President of ASCC and Director of Education formalize the “2 + 2” initiative for ITT and Tafuna Polytechnic to begin working together as one seamless unit.

Through the summer and fall of 2007, the ITT worked with the ASCC Curriculum Committee in a review of its new and modified courses. The ITT modified or developed its courses to reflect both public and private need. As part of the process, ITT submitted modifications and new courses to the Curriculum Committee, which consists of all department chairpersons at the Colleges and has the responsibility of approving all courses. In the spring of 2008, the ITT offered its “new and improved” curriculum to students.





**NURSING DEPARTMENT**

**Strategic Goal**

The Board of Higher Education set as a strategic goal the strengthening of the Nursing Department by 2009, as measured by an increased number of nursing graduates, and increased pass rates in Nursing License Exams. The ultimate goal is to better the community by providing a greater degree of qualified nurses in the health care system, working at LBJ Hospital and in the Department of Public Health.



**2007 Accomplishments**

In June 2007 the Nursing Department accepted 11 Practical Nursing (PN) students, nine female and two male students. The department also accepted six Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), all full-time employees, to its Registered Nursing program. By August, 14 of the 17 PN students completed their program. Five of 14 graduates passed their national exam (LPN), thereby increasing the number of licensed nurses at the hospital. Additionally, four graduates were Certified Nurse Aides working full-time at LBJ, while five were studying to take their license exams.

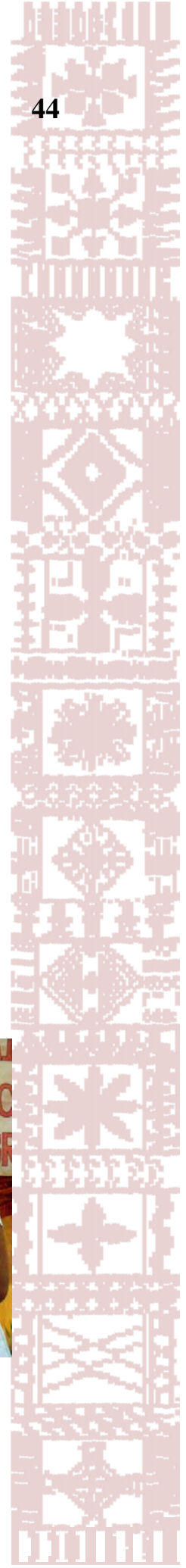
In October, the Nursing Department received an award from the Governor for \$120,000 to cover students' stipends, bonuses for instructors, supplies, and equipment for fiscal year 2007 – 2008. The Nursing Department also received an award of \$25,000 from the Department of Commerce to cover the nursing review course for all non-licensed nursing graduates at LBJ and Public Health. Funds helped enable candidates to pass their Nursing Council Licensure Exam by providing round trip airfare and per diem for instructors from University of Hawaii at Hilo and Hawaii Pacific University who agreed to assist.



## PROGRAMS

The ASCC Nursing Department has continuously worked with the Hawaii/Basin Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and in 2007 received an award of \$48,000 for 2007 - 2008. The ASCC Nursing Department is now also known as the new AHEC based center in American Samoa. The objective of this grant is to increase healthcare professionals by recruitment, personal development programs, and licensing review courses for BSN, PN, RN, and other Allied Health areas such as Pharmacy, Laboratory, Radiology, and Respiratory Technicians.

Renovation to the old Mapusaga Clinic is expected to be completed by 2008. The Nursing Building will consist of two faculty offices, a computer lab, a conference room, and two classrooms. An extension to the back of the Nursing Building will make it possible to move the nursing lab once it is completed, but in the meantime, the lab remains at the main campus. This newly renovated building was the effort of Mr. Ah Sue, Mr. Michael Maung, Mr. Kenape Aumavae, and the maintenance team. A new addition to the Nursing Department staff is Ms. Francine Amoa, who was hired to coordinate the various activities planned for American Samoa. She was previously employed by AHEC Hawaii at the John A. Burns' School of Medicine.





**SERVICE LEARNING**

**2007 Highlights**

The Hawaii Campus Compact focuses on integrating higher education with community service. Since joining the Compact in 2001, ASCC has steadily increased its integration of Service Learning into its curriculum. On a voluntary basis, instructors from across the academic spectrum have offered an optional Service Learning component to their classes, which gives students the opportunity to learn through providing needed services in their community. Service Learning takes on a special meaning in American Samoa, where many hold dear the concept/value of “tautua” (service).

During fall 2007, seven departments took part in Service Learning projects. Instructors from the Math, Business, Music, Fine Arts, Samoan, and Education departments, along with the English Language institute, offered a combined total of 19 classes with a Service Learning component in their syllabi.

Math Department

During their free time, students of instructor Mrs. Letupu Moananu taking Math 250 and 280 provided tutoring for remedial classes such as Math 151. Aside from providing support for students in the remedial classes, those in Math 280 also tutored students needing assistance with the 250 class.

Business Department

Business instructor Mrs. Faofua Fa’atoafe incorporated Service Learning into her Business 200, Business 225, and Marketing 200 classes. Students in these classes had the opportunity to assist with the residents of the Nazareth Home for the Elderly twice a week. The Business students helped the residents with their evening meals, and provided other services such as cleaning their rooms and reading stories to them. The students also cooked and served a Thanksgiving breakfast for the residents at Nazareth Home, and closed their Service Learning project with a donation of goods and an entertainment performance that same day.



*Business class prepares donation for Nazareth House*



*Visitors from Hawaii Campus Compact join ASCC faculty for donation to Nazareth House*

Music Department

Arts Department chairperson and Music instructor Namulauulu Dr. Paul Pouesi gave students in four of his classes the opportunity to work with different sections of the choir in the village of Vatia. For a week, the Music students conducted workshops for the Vatia congregation on topics such as vocal training; techniques of conducting; music fundamentals; playing the organ and piano; and theory and sight reading. The Music students introduced young congregation members to musical instruments such as brass, strings, woodwinds, and percussion to help choir directors with musical accompaniment.



Music instructor Mr. Kuki Tuiasosopo gave students in three of his classes the chance to teach members of the CCJS in Fagatogo the history, pedagogy, and musical and cultural aspects of the ukulele. Over 40 of Mr. Tuiasosopo’s students participated, and were welcomed by young members of the CCJS Fagatogo eager to learn about the ukulele.

Art Department

Students in Art 160, taught by Ms. Regina Meredith, provided a valuable service to the College and to the community by constructing the stage settings and props for the ASCC production of the play “Fiddler on the Roof”, performed November 29<sup>th</sup> – December 1<sup>st</sup>. The Art students’ work served as a means of community outreach to promote the emerging theatrical talents of young adults in American Samoa.

English Language Institute

Instructors in the English Language Institute (ELI) have long stood at the forefront of incorporating Service Learning into their classes. Students of Mrs. Florangel Calumpang participated in a program for disabled children organized by the Center for Families of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities (CFIDD). The ELI students contributed their time at the CFIDD Center in Ottoville, helping the staff with the children.

Samoan Department

As part of an ongoing Intergenerational Project, students in three sections of Samoan 111, taught by Mrs. Tamari Mulitalo-Cheung, interviewed elderly people in the village of Vatia and transcribed those interviews. Mrs. Mulitalo-Cheung’s students in Samoan 154 edited two works submitted by previous classes as part of the same project.

Teacher Education Department

The four full time instructors in the Teacher Education Department have all made Service Learning a part of their classes. Students of Dr. Larry Purcell participated in a Language Arts classroom at Pavaiai Elementary School twice a week, where they assisted instructors with teaching reading and writing. Mr. Sonny Leomiti, Mrs. Rosevonne Pato and TED Director Dr. Lena Scanlan also had their students go to elementary schools to assist teachers, for which they received credit for Service Learning Field Work.





STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The Student Support Services (SSS) Project provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, makes available cultural enrichment activities, and motivates students towards the successful completion of their postsecondary education. Services provided by SSS include instruction in reading, writing, study skills and mathematics; guidance and counseling; academic advising; tutorial services and peer counseling; activities to provide a wide range of career options; and exposure to cultural events and academic programs.

In November 2007, the SSS provided two awareness presentations for the SSS participants, staff and ASCC students. The first presentation was on “STRESS”, its root cause symptoms, and strategies students can utilize to combat it in their lives. The second presentation focused on the spiritual aspects of problem solving. Both encouraged students to stay in college, graduate, and become contributing members of society.

The main speakers were High Chief Leiatua Lealiifano Leuga Turner, Director of Youth and Women Affairs, and Pastor David Katina, Senior Pastor of Koinonia Church in Hawaii. In order to be prepared for victory over daily temptations, the participants were taught two songs. The young ladies sang the “AIU” (selfish) song while the men sang the “AISU” (begging) song. These songs remind the young ladies to keep themselves pure and the men to refrain from sexual harassment. The function ended with entertainment and lunch provided by the SSS club members and staff.



*Above and Below: SSS Entertainment*

*Above L-R: Samoa Leau, Dr. Irene Helsham, SSS Counselor Hipa Neria, and SSS Director Dr. Repeka Nu’usa*



**AMERICAN SAMOA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

During 2007, American Samoa Small Business Development Center (AS-SBDC) continued its commitment to help and train entrepreneurs and individuals interested in a better understanding of how to start and how to operate a business. AS-SBDC trained clients in the areas such as Supervision, Business Management, Finance, Marketing and Customer Service.

Basic Computer Training, as well as Advanced Microsoft Excel and Access Seminar were added to the AS-SBDC training schedule to assist in the development of training for employees of the American Samoa Government, with the goal of preparing a better labor force for the Territory.

The Center trained 185 clients and counseled 289 during 2007. There were also 33 Long-Term Clients (clients with five contact hours or more), and 41 Extended Engagement Clients (clients with five or more contact and prep hours). Over a 12-month period, AS-SBDC accounted for a total of 22 Business Start-Ups, with an overall Capital Infusion of \$1,041,399. Fifty jobs were created and retained.

AS-SBDC has continued working with the American Samoa Department of Commerce in the area of international trade by creating seminars relevant to successful trade and trade missions between American Samoa, the Independent State of Samoa, Fiji, The Kingdom of Tonga, New Zealand, China, and Japan.

The Charitable Foundation for Bank of Hawaii awarded the AS-SBDC a second grant of \$10,000.00, bringing the total awarded to date to \$20,000. These funds will assist in the completion of the center renovations and building upgrades.



*SBDC Director Herbert Thweatt (far right), and his staff welcome visitors from off-island.*





**University Center for Excellence  
on Developmental Disabilities**



*Ms. Tafaimamao Tupuola, Director of UCEDD*

The mission of the American Samoa University Center for Excellence on Developmental Disabilities, Education, Research and Service (AS-UCEDD) is to build and enhance the local capacity to improve the quality of life for individuals of all ages in American Samoa with developmental disabilities. Through its activities, the AS-UCEDD strives to maintain and enhance cultural integrity as it addresses the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities.

In 2007, UCEDD activities included training and/or technical assistance, community service, in-service training, or dissemination of information in the following area of emphasis:

**Quality Assurance**

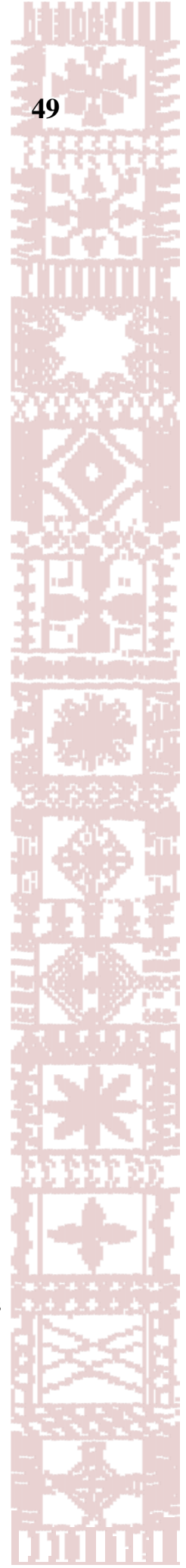
- A continuous effort was made to build an inclusive approach in addressing abuse issues with children with disabilities. This included collaborations with a multidisciplinary team made up of individuals from Child Protective Services, Attorney General Office, LBJ Social Services, and the Department of Public Safety. In June, the UCEDD provided training to prospective foster care parents on children with disabilities. The presentation covered disability awareness, rights of a foster care parent on educational services for a child with a disability, services available, and how to advocate for a foster child with a disability.

*Participants:* 11

*Audience:* Foster parents

**Emergency Preparedness:**

- In July, UCEDD Director Tafa Tupuola made a presentation at the U.S. DOD Homeland Defense-Joint Task Force workshop on emergency preparedness. In support of the U.S. President Executive Order on the need to address special needs population in emergency planning, the UCEDD addressed topics such as special accommodation, accessible emergency shelter, transportation, communications, and special health conditions.
- In August, Community Trainer Genevieve Young delivered a continuation of the G197 Emergency Preparedness for special needs in-service training, using the ASCC Emergency Plan. Several case scenarios were used that would require participants to use an existing plan to respond to emergency cases of both the natural and manmade variety. Campus maps were used for participants to identify routes and facilities accessible to safely relocate individuals with disabilities. Following this eye-opening experience,





participants provided input on what needed to be included and enhanced in the current existing plan to better serve the special needs population.

*Participants:* 12

*Audience:* Faculty, Administrative Services, Trades & Technology, Land Grant Staff, Security, and Human Resources.

**Early Intervention & Education**

In September, the UCEDD, in collaboration with the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council and Protection & Advocacy, delivered a briefing to policy makers in local legislative committees that can support the effort of the Triagency in reaching their territorial goals. One goal is to establish early intervention legislation to require early vision and hearing screening for newborns. This early detection will enable an early intervention for services before a youngster starts early childhood programs or kindergarten.

**Disability Awareness**

- March was declared as Disability Awareness Month. The UCEDD delivered community awareness on this topic live on 93 KHJ radio. Topics discussed included full inclusion, appropriate ways to communicate, social equity, and perception of people with disabilities.



**GEAR UP AMERICAN SAMOA**  
2007-2008



In its second year, 2007, GEAR UP American Samoa (GUAS) served a single cohort of 863 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from 13 cohort schools throughout the western district of the island. This number of students is seven less than last year (870), which is well within the established attrition percentage. The project was on schedule to complete all planned program activities and components for Year-Two.

**Major Outcomes**

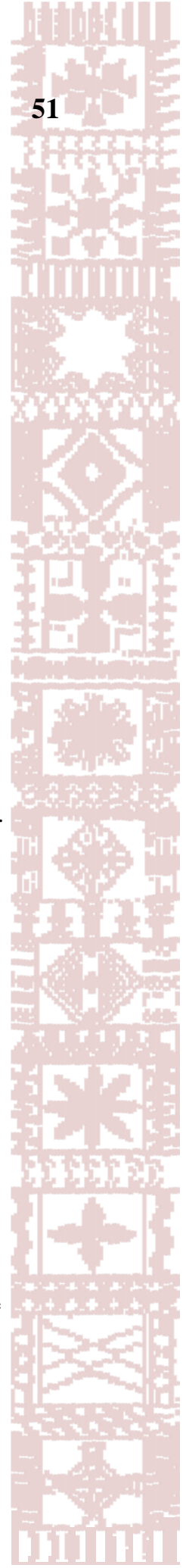
Year-Two GUAS project activities yielded a number of significant outcomes in line with its original program plan. The project has established all necessary personnel, equipment and technology infrastructure to successfully implement and report on all proposed activities over the six year initiative; secured firm collaboration with its 16 partner agencies and organizations; and forged a close working relationship between ASCC, the project applicant, and the American Samoa Department of Education, a central ingredient to long-term program success.

**Major Successes**

GUAS made significant strides in Year-Two in a number of areas, most notably:

***Technology Integration***

GUAS has now fully equipped 100% of the classrooms at the 13 elementary schools with the necessary hardware, software and licensing to take full advantage of the project's e-learning opportunities. During Year Two, GUAS purchased 85 laptops, 13 printers, universal licenses for 62 teachers and coordinators and 863 students, and three software programs (Math Trek, Easy Trek and TALL). GUAS conducted an average of 20.3 hours per teacher of technology training to ensure they could work effectively in basic computer programs, as well as the three new e-learning software packages. Additionally, 70% of the students who attended the after-school sessions received an average of 32 hours of computer-assisted learning.





***Professional Development and Teacher Training***

GUAS provided 75 hours of professional development for 28 teachers who attended summer training prior to the start of the 2007-08 school year. Training covered general topics, including tips on general classroom instruction techniques, understanding and dealing with teen issues, and preparing for the Pre-Praxis examination. Technology training was also provided to introduce to teachers to the e-learning software and the MarkBook e-grade book management system.

***Wrap-Around Services (WAS)***

Wrap-Around Services (WAS) have proven to be a very strong component of the project. GUAS currently collaborates with 16 partner agencies to conduct a full array of WAS for cohort students and families. A total of 31 WAS sessions were conducted in Year-Two, each consisting of approximately 1-2 hours of presentation and participant engagement. The American Samoa National Olympic Committee (ASNOC) joined as the newest GUAS Major Partner, providing physical fitness information and activities that complement the health outreach being conducted by other partners. The WAS were extremely well received by GUAS families. Parent evaluations indicate that 68% would “strongly agree” that they will use the information provided; 71% replied “strongly agree” that they would recommend this event to others; and 69% replied they would “strongly agree” that the event was productive.

***After-School Services***

GUAS provided approximately 259 hours of tutoring, 32 hours of computer assisted learning, and two hours of mentoring to each of the approximately 70% of students in the cohort who attended the after-school sessions. GUAS was able to retain 20% (11) of the seventh grade cohort teachers to stay on as tutors for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade cohort, which provided continuity for the students.

***Partner Relationships***

GUAS currently collaborates with 16 partner agencies from a cross-section of the community, including government agencies, technology firms, community-based non-profits, and private businesses. Monthly partner meetings are well attended, with an average of 20 representatives participating each month.

***GEAR UP American Samoa Website: <gerarup.as>***

During Year One, GUAS established a website for information on all existing activities and links to the GUAS Partners. A calendar of events is maintained, as well as the classroom grade management program will be fully operational in the coming months. News Articles and photos of our cohort schools can be accessed by visiting the GUAS website at: [www.gearup.as](http://www.gearup.as).





**Sea Grant**

In 2007, Sea Grant conducted a variety of activities that demonstrated its continuing commitment to promote and develop educational programs in marine science, as well as to provide outreach services that support the development of the aquaculture industry and marine stewardship in American Samoa.

*New Sea Grant Extension Agent*

In August, Sea Grant hired Mr. Ephraim Temple as the American Samoa Extension Agent to provide extension services for the Territory. Daily extension activities included conducting frequent site visits to provide solutions and advice to local aquaculture farmers.

*Tilapia Feeds Specialist*

Dr. Chhorn Lim of the USDA Agricultural Research Services visited American Samoa in December of 2007 to assess available resources and design a recipe to be used by local tilapia farmers in producing their own feeds at the ASCC Aquaculture Research and Training Facility. The recipe and facility have been in use since to produce over 200 lbs of tilapia feed. Mr. Temple coordinated a workshop at which Dr. Lim instructed 20 attendees in tilapia nutritional requirements and feed production using ASCC facilities.



## PROGRAMS

### *Manu'a High School Aquaponics Curriculum*

UH Sea Grant collaborated with ASDOE and CNR/Land Grant to establish an aquaponics system in the forestry greenhouse at Manu'a High School. With Sea Grant supervision, students installed tanks, plumbing and pumps to support both tilapia and vegetable crops.

### *Local Ocean Advisory Groups*

Mr. Temple represents ASCC on the AS Governor's Coral Reef Advisory Group and the Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council. Through these two groups he is able to integrate student learning activities with current issues approached by local agencies. Several internship opportunities were developed during 2007 to be implemented in 2008. Mr. Temple also participates in other ocean groups including the Pala Pals and in developing future goals and activities to be conducted in the marine environment by local agencies.





**COMMUNITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
FY '07 Annual Report

**VISION**

To be the leader in responsible stewardship and development of the Community and Natural Resources of American Samoa.

**TOFA MAMAO/VAAI MAMAO/MITI**

Ia avea ma Taitai e lagolagoina le tausiga ma le atinae i alaalfaga, atoa ma ala manuia faale-natura.

**MISSION**

To provide the people of American Samoa appropriate science based and timely information and services in the areas of Community and Natural Resources. We treat our clients, students and colleagues with respect and empower them to be equal partners in their own success. Our words and actions show an appreciation for diversity and exemplify the finest of the fa'asamoa.

**SINI/AUTU/MISIONA**

Ia avatu i tagata uma o Amerika Samoa ia faamatalaga e faavae i saililiga faa-saeinisi, atoa ma galuega eseese e tautua atu ai i alaalfaga ma ala manuia faale-natura. Matou te galulue ma tupulaga aoga, uo ma e masani, ina ia amanaia ma faaaupagaina i latou, ina ia o gatasi a latou taumafaiga mo le manuia. O a matou upu ma galuega e faailoa atu ai lo matou agaga faamalo mo mea eseese, ina ia avea ma faataitaiga o le matagofie o le Aganuu Faa-Samoa.





**Research-Entomology**  
**Dr. Mark Schmaedick**

**Biology and control of disease carrying mosquitoes.** The mosquito-borne viral disease dengue fever reappeared in the territory early in the year. Over the last three years ASCC CNR has conducted research to identify key breeding sites of the dengue carrying mosquitoes in collaboration with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Samoa Department of Health. The research results have been shared with the community through television programs and brochures. A brochure was distributed in Samoan and English on dengue vector source reduction and a new 30-minute television program was filmed describing the CNR mosquito research. The ASCC CNR entomologist joined several meetings of the American Samoa Department of Health’s epidemiology group to provide information on mosquito control, and the 10-minute ASCC CNR video “*Taua Fa’asagatau i le Namu: Puipui Lou Lu-mana’i*” [“The Fight Against Mosquitoes: Protecting Our Future”] was also aired on the local TV station. Research on dengue throughout the world has determined that the most effective prevention is the elimination of mosquito breeding sites. Now that local research has identified the most important dengue vector breeding sites in American Samoa’s villages, disseminating this information will help families and communities respond appropriately and protect themselves from the dengue threat.

**Environmentally sound pest control for vegetable crops.** Increasing the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables is an important national and local goal for reducing the incidence of chronic diseases related to obesity and overweight. Production of fruits and vegetables in American Samoa is challenging due to the serious pest and disease problems associated with the territory’s tropical climate. Farmers need effective tools to control pests without endangering human health or the environment. ASCC CNR evaluates selected reduced-risk insecticides for their efficacy against local pests. By identifying environmentally sound, yet effective, pest control products, ASCC CNR can help farmers select pest control options that help increase production of healthy produce without damaging side effects for the environment or human health.

**Research-Plant Tissue Culture Program**  
**Emily Ilaoa**

**Program: Small Farms**

**Activity: Taro Micropropagation.** Three local taro varieties — Niue, Manua, and Alafua Sunrise are added to the Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory (TCL) taro collection. Twenty-eight (28) new taro hybrids from CePaCT (formerly known as SPC) were received this year and currently on multiplication which will undergo with the Taro Evaluation Program for Taro Leaf Blight (TLB) disease resistance, growth characteristics and corm palatability. Twenty-four (24) hybrids were taste tested and evaluated last year; added to the 10 hybrids from the year before. Out of the 34 hybrids that 17 hybrids were considered good and acceptable by the farmers to eat, grow, and sell.



## PROGRAMS

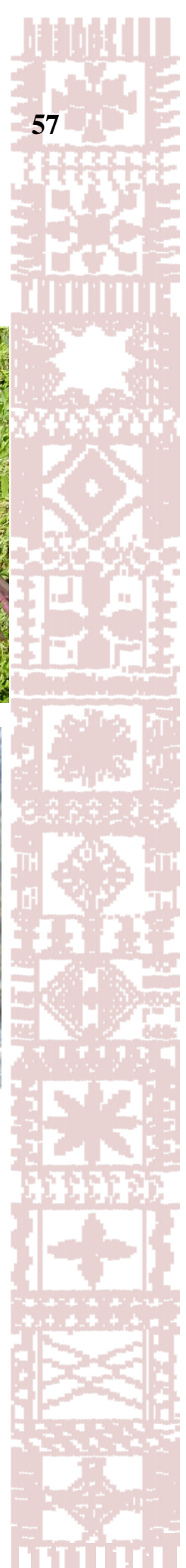
**Impact:** Preserving these three traditional Samoan taro cultivars in our germplasm collection will help insure their availability for breeding, experimentation, etc. in the future. These new hybrid varieties give a greater diversity of disease resistance to TLB and helps American Samoa improve its taro selection. The success of the Taro Evaluation Program is reflected in the list of farmers waiting for us to multiply and provide planting material for the selections from previous taste tests. At least 20 farmers have signed up to host the next field trial on their land. These accomplishments enhance the community's knowledge and positive attitude towards Community and Natural Resources (Land Grant).



Picture above: Taro plot on the Land Grant Station  
Top right picture: MAL-06 ranked the best on the taro taste test on March 2007.



**Activity: Breadfruit Initiation.** The breadfruit cultivar 'Ma'afala,' 'Puou,' and 'Maopo' were collected and under different experiments and seasons for multiplication. 'Ma'a,' 'Aveloloa,' 'Kalakala,' 'Fia Ma'opo' and 'Sago Sago' are initiated from local cuttings in addition as part of a new TCL project. Further disinfection methods and trials are used to improve the survival rate of the explants. The trials were based on those used by the SPC-RGC and the breadfruit program at the National Tropical Botanical Garden in Hawaii and a variation and combination of results from such trial. Multiple media are used to force the first group of breadfruit to multiply.



**Impact:** Determining the best initiation method will speed up the micropropagation process by increasing the number of successful initiations, providing healthier explants, and reducing latent *in vitro* contamination. I may be able to provide the entomology department with pest and disease-free plants on a regular basis for their Seychelles scale-rearing project in the future.



Fia Maopo tip



Fia Maopo tip trimmed to 10



Breadfruit tips 4 weeks after the initiation

**Activity: Provide information.** I am assisting three students from South Pacific Academy and one from Samoana High School with their science fair and symposium projects in plant tissue culture. I also provided information to teachers and students on the goals of plant tissue culture and their importance to American Samoa when they came by during their field trips.





**Impact:** Instructing students in plant micropropagation gives them an introduction to the sciences in general and to job opportunities in the field. It is a relatively new plant propagation method in American Samoa and the students are ambassadors for the technique and the CNR program.



South Pacific Academy Science Fair



Samoana Science Fair student

Tavita's Agriculture Class



**Research-Water Quality & Obesity Grant  
Dr. Don Vargo**

Program: **Human Health and Well-being**

Activity: Overweight prevalence in schoolchildren. Between October 16, 2007 and April 25, 2008, we visited eight elementary schools and three high schools to measure students in grades K to 12 for body mass index, or BMI. Data from 4,214 students revealed that the overall prevalence for overweight was about 35%, slightly higher than the rate last year. The results are ready for printing and will also be available as Technical Report No. 48 at [http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/adap/ASCC\\_LandGrant/technical\\_papers.asp](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/adap/ASCC_LandGrant/technical_papers.asp).



Research Technicians Ms. Tamara Pereira and Mr. Sanerive Fuiava collecting height and weight data of a Matatula Elementary School student.

Impact: This research project is being done in cooperation with the AS Dept. of Health and the AS Dept. of Education. The results provide policy makers with evidence-based data to allow them to formulate policy to help combat the obesity epidemic.





## PROGRAMS

Program: **Ecosystems**

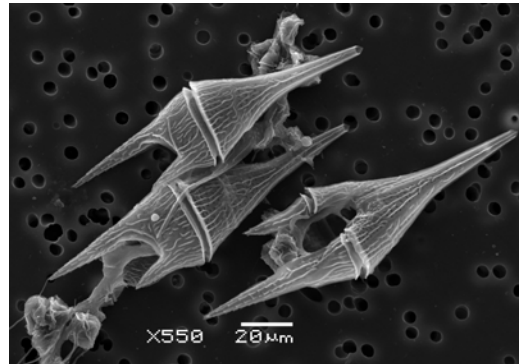
Activity: Watershed protection. During the late summer of 2007, residents of Pago Pago were troubled by the persistent appearance of dark brown water at and near the head of the harbor. Working with the Dept. of Marine and Wildlife Resources and the Phytoplankton Monitoring Lab in Charleston, SC, we identified the cause as a dinoflagellate, *Ceratium furca*. This normally harmless alga was undergoing a bloom fueled by the presence of excessive amount of nutrients in the harbor's water. Such blooms are known as "red tides," owing to their color.

Working with the Pago Pago pulenu'u and the AS Football Association, we deduced that the nutrients were coming from the new soccer field in Pago Park. ASFA's fertilizer schedule showed that large amounts of nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizers were being applied to the well-drained field.

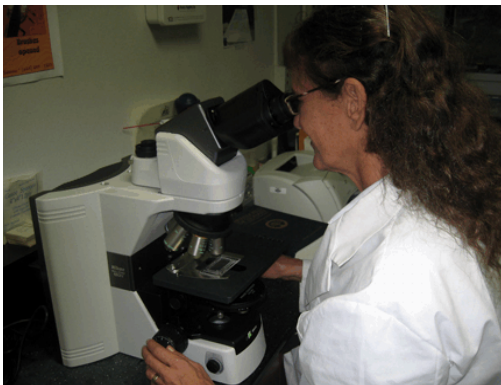
Impact: Once the source of nutrients was identified and the level of fertilizers applied was reduced, the alga bloom immediately subsided and has not returned.



Pago Harbor with notice-able red coloring.



*Ceratium furca*, the dinoflagellate responsible for the "red tide."



Volunteer Researcher Mrs. Agnes Vargo counting dinoflagellate in a sample of Pago Harbor water.



Research Assistant Ms. Sharon Fanolua performing chemical analysis on Pago Harbor water.



**1. FAMILIES, 4H AND NUTRITION PROGRAM**

**EFNEP:**

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is about helping people with limited resources improve the quality and adequacy of their family diets. More than 1,500 adults and 2,000 students were served by EFNEP program for the year 2007.

EFNEP paraprofessionals provided basic nutrition education for the adults and youths of American Samoa. The lessons included basic nutrition, meal planning, food preparation, food budgeting, and food safety including food demonstrations.



**FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCE:**

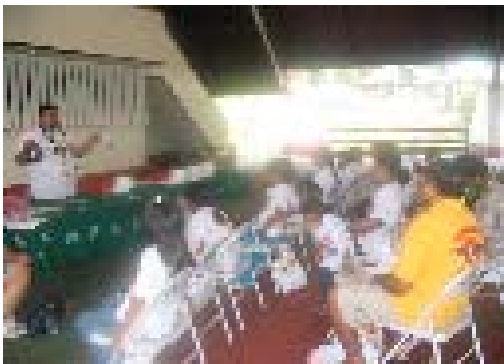
The Sewing and home crafts programs continued to be very popular. This program introduced sewing into the villages and church organizations where it remains a high demand program today. This year 98 women and 5 men completed the Basic Sewing program and received certificates.



**THE 4-H PROGRAM**

The mission of the 4H Program is: To assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing lifelong skills, and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society. More than 2,000 students were served by the 4H program this year through schools and 4H village clubs.





**2. AGRICULTURE EXTENSION PROGRAM**

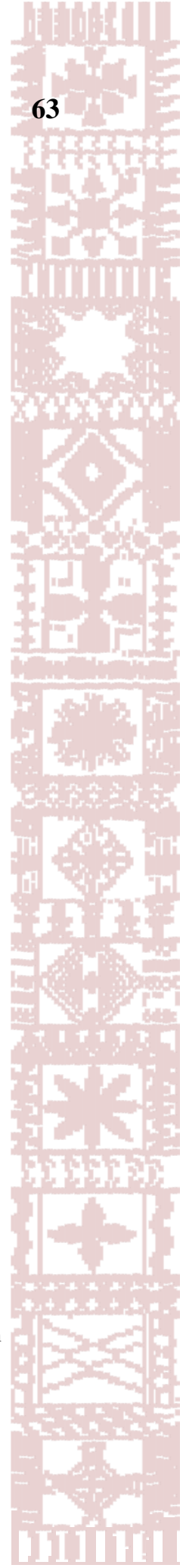
**TARO TASTE TEST :**

The CNR Taro Evaluation Program concluded with a series of Taro Taste Tests to evaluate the eating qualities of the Taro-Leaf-Blight resistant varieties. The highlight of the final taro-taste-test was when the Director of the local Department of Agriculture and his staff joined the CNR Director and his staff in deciding what taro varieties are suitable for our territory. The farming community was also invited to take part in this very important event.



**PROGRESSIVE AGRICULTURE SAFETY DAYS**

The highlight of the first ever Progressive Agriculture Safety Days in Fiti-uta and Faleasao Elementary Schools was seen in the close working relationship between the ASCC-CNR staff and other local Government Agencies such as EPA, DOC-CRAG, and Public Health. The aim of this event was to educate children on the many safety issues in and around homes and plantations.





**FACILITIES**

During 2007, work continued on the new ASCC Lecture Hall and adjoining facilities, which will include two classrooms and offices in the first and second floor. This took place in the site of the former ASCC Auditorium.

The former Department of Health Clinic on upper campus was renovated to house the Nursing Program. The Nursing Department now occupies its new location. The GEAR-UP Program also has a new location in the newly renovated building next to the Gymnasium formerly occupied by Adult Basic Education.

Two new classrooms and offices were added to the Small Business Development Center to meet the need of this program for more space. SBDC plans to use its new classrooms to expand its offerings of seminars and other training activities.

The Teacher Education Program building has underwent extensive renovation, as did the building that houses the Art Department. The kitchen area of the Cafeteria was also renovated.

Nine small structures consisting of cement tables and benches, along with roofs for protection from the sun, were constructed on lower and upper campus to serve as areas where students can socialize.

Work was completed on all repairs to Faculty Housing, as well as any necessary replacement of air conditioners in ASCC classrooms. All campus buildings were re-painted over the past year.

Future plans include the completion of the new Procurement Office, and for the Bookstore to be moved to a new location.

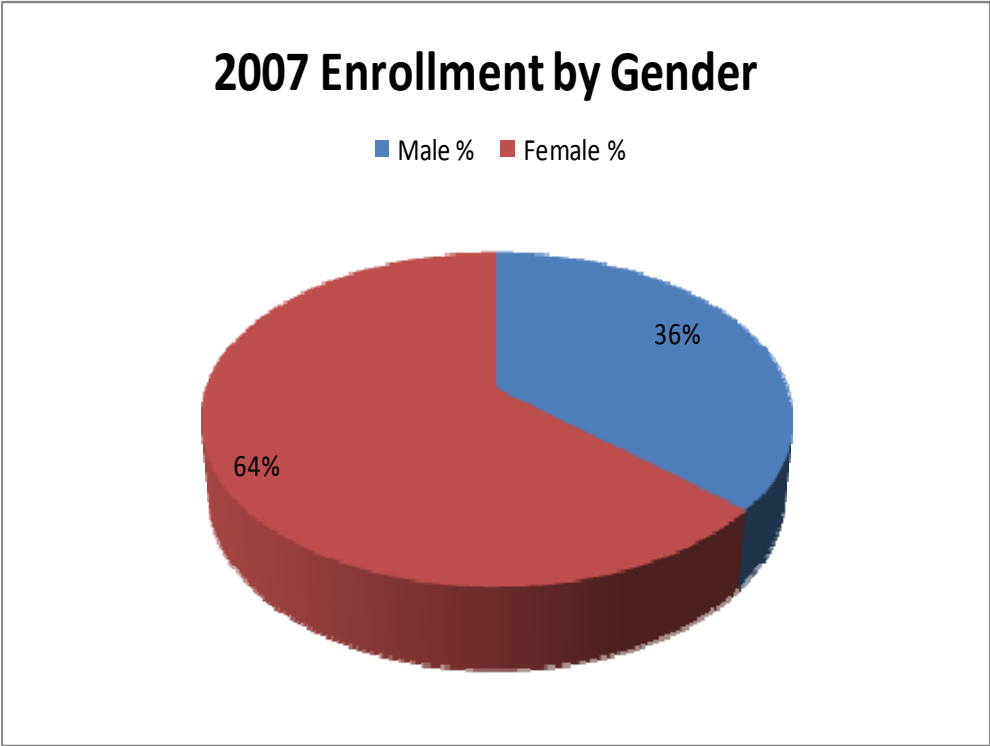
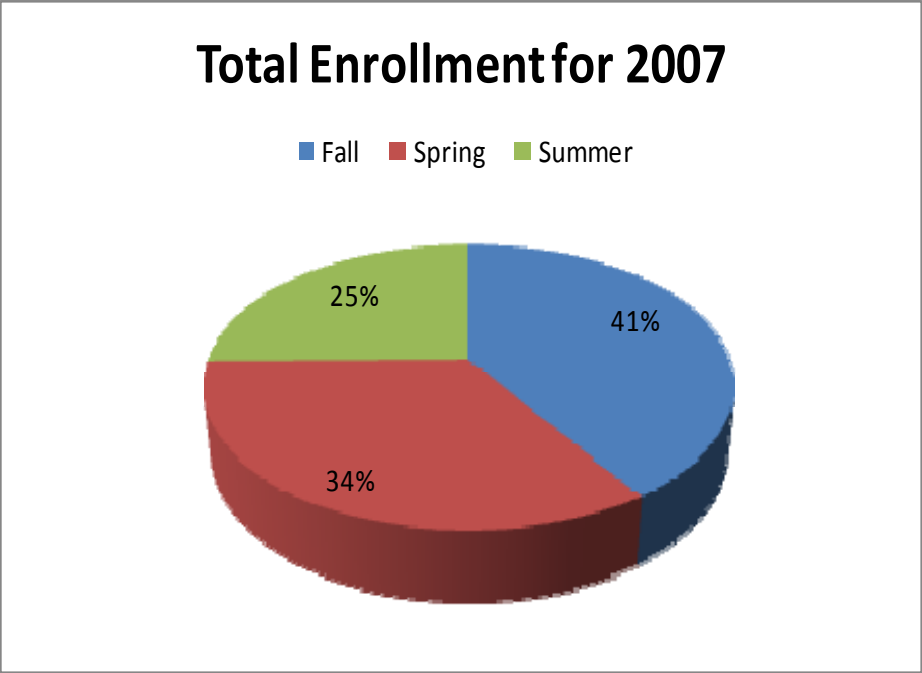




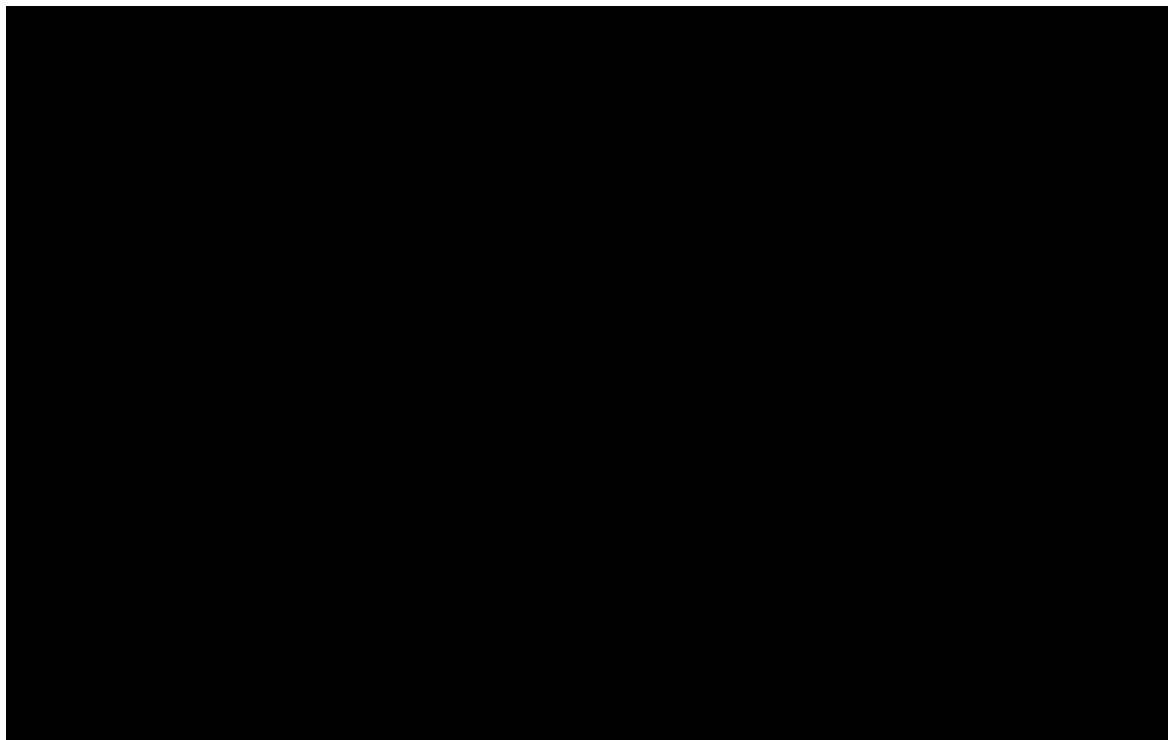
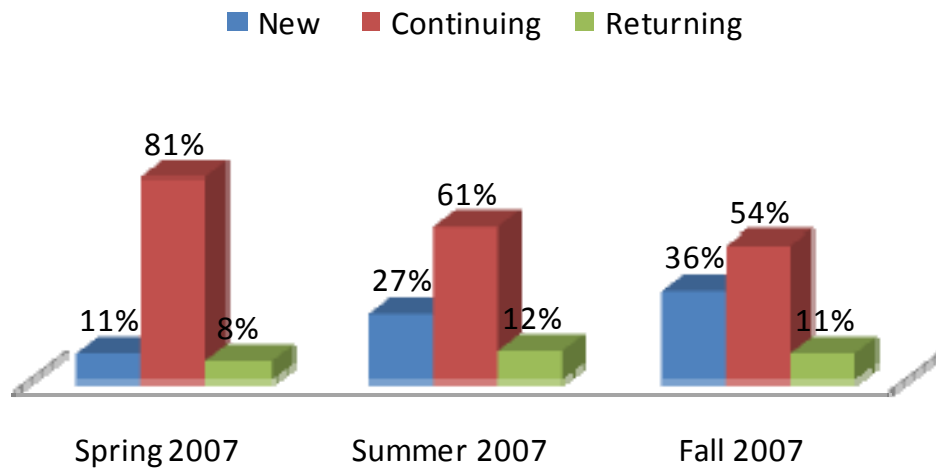
## LIBRARY

The year 2007 witnessed another fruitful year of information delivery and library services to the college population and the community of American Samoa, with a total of 184,005 individual library users, 16,096 individual computer users, and 585 new library cards issued. Library collections have been continuously growing with the acquisition of new and updated materials, focusing on the development of education books and periodicals to support the four-year Teacher Education program. Our Special Collection is well-maintained and has been heavily used by students doing Samoan research, and the free Samoan Websites were posted on the shelf. Government documents have been reorganized in numerical orders in accordance with the U.S. government's document rules. A library users' survey was distributed and returned with positive responses and some suggestions for further services. The library has finished painting the exterior walls with its original colors. The library continued to receive materials from other libraries in the Pacific region and individual donors.

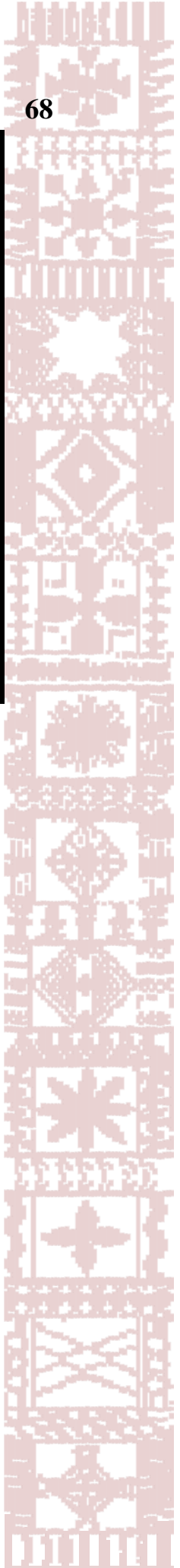


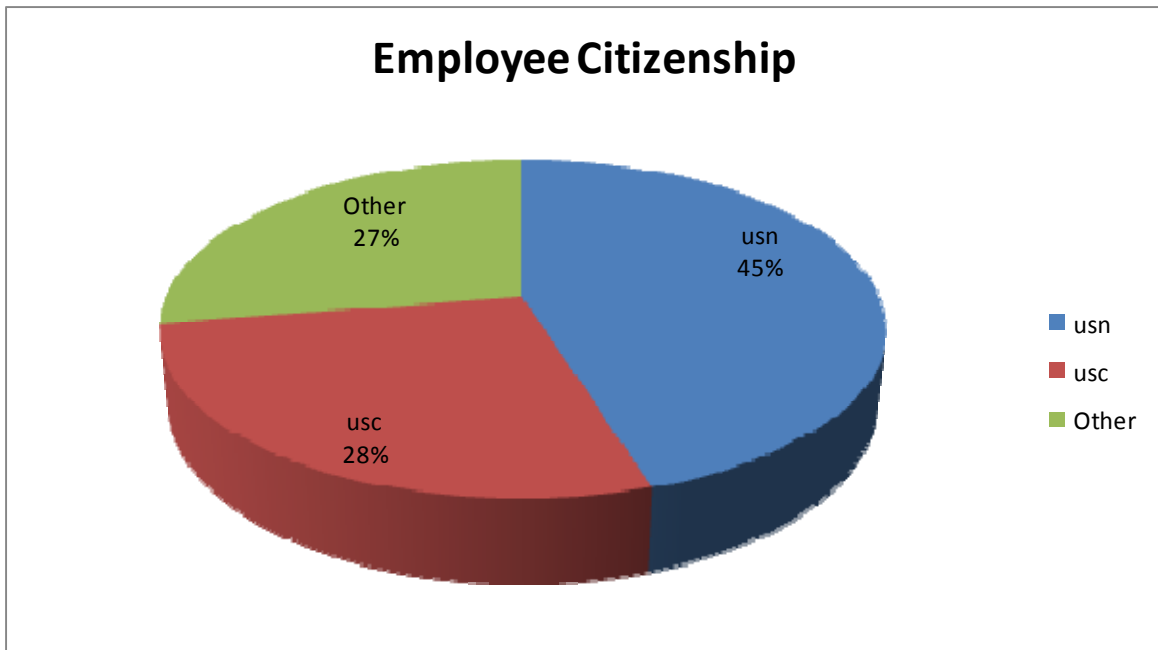
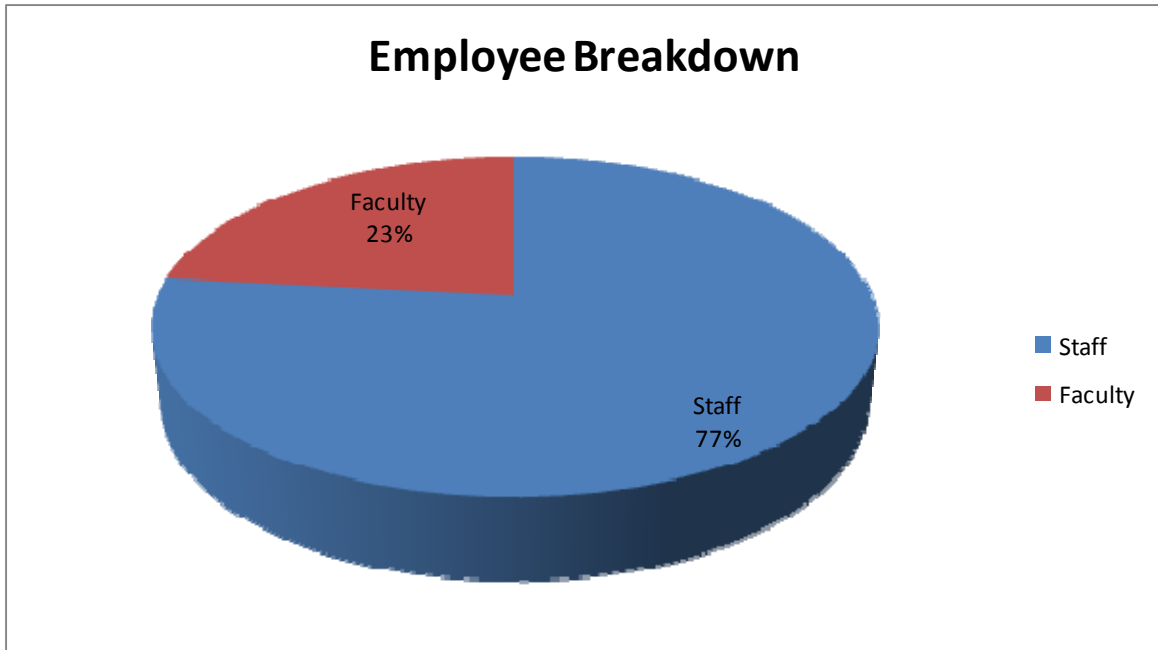


## 2007 Enrollment by Status for All Students

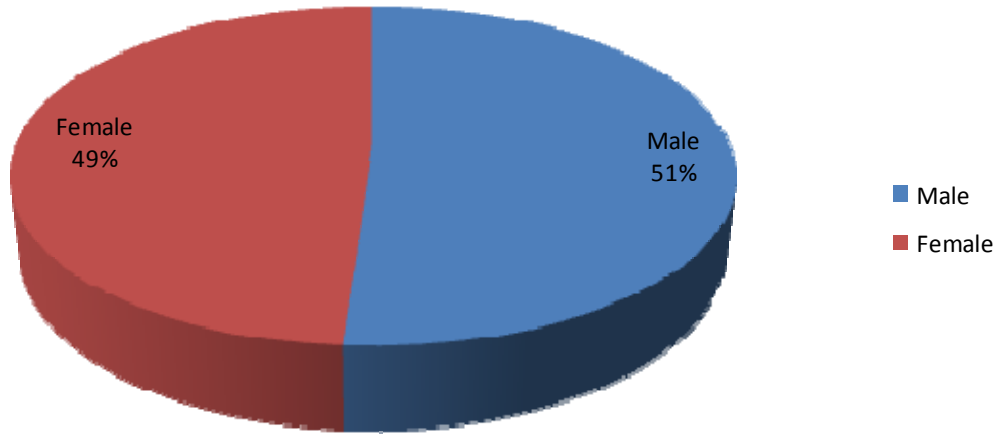




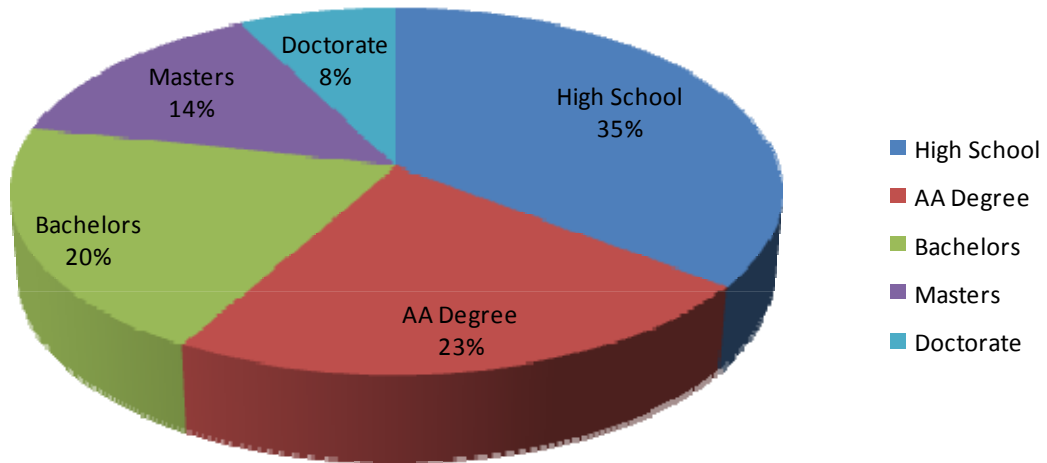




### Employee Gender



### Employee Level of Education



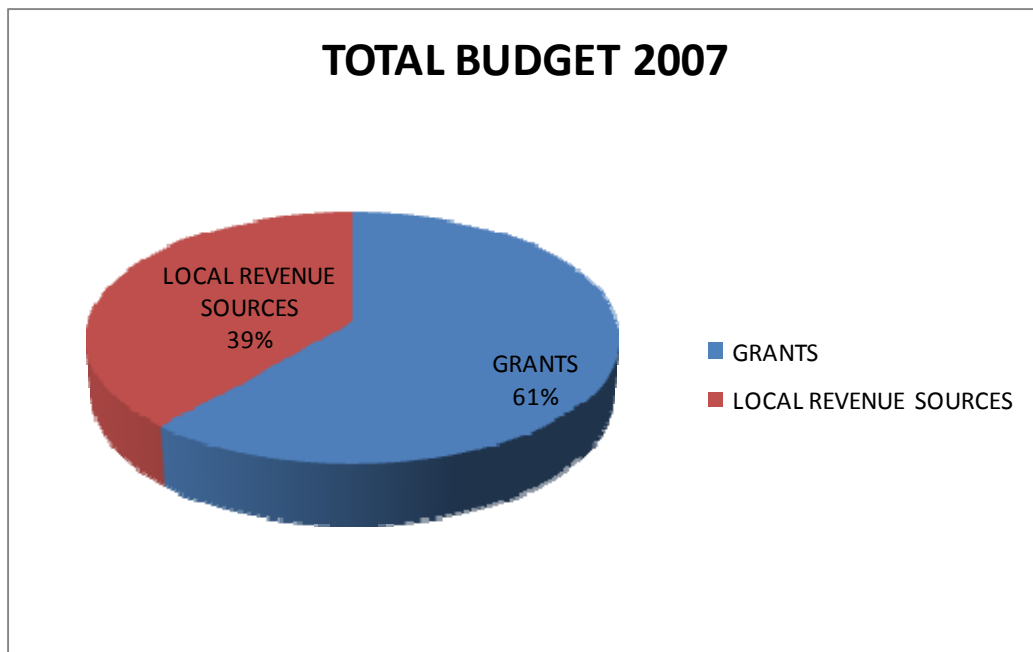


# BUDGET

LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES	
GENERAL FUND SUBSIDY	2,131,000
DOI GRANT-IN-AID	1,358,000
ESTIMATED REVENUES TO BE COLLECTED AT ASCC	2,062,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,551,000</b>

GRANTS	
FEDERAL GRANTS	3,145,935
ENDOWMENT FUNDS	362,565
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,508,500</b>

BUDGET	
BHE - LOCAL	5,551,000
FEDERAL GRANTS	3,508,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,059,500</b>



GRANTS LISTING FY 2007		
GRANTS NAME	DIRECTORS	AMOUNT
<b>FEDERAL GRANTS</b>		
Small Business Development - SBDC - 106	HERBERT THWEATT	\$199,999.00
Adult ED. & Family Literacy Act - ABE - 360	TAITAIFONO OTINERU	\$217,771.00
University Center for Excellence - UCE - 354	TAFA MAMEA	\$165,000.00
Title IV Student Support Services - SSS - 381	REBECCA NU'USA	\$219,587.00
Service Learning-Hawaii Compat - 390	FA'ALAFI ELISAPETA	\$20,000.00
Upward Bound - UPB - 702	ELIZABETH LEUMA	\$220,000.00
CIP 2005 - CIP - 385 Continue from 2005	JOHN AH SUE	\$240,000.00
College Renovation - 2006 (DOI) - CIP - 385	JOHN AH SUE	\$451,250.00
CIP Plumbing (DOI) - 342 Continue from 2003	JOHN AH SUE	\$250,000.00
CIP Electrical (DOI) - 343 Continue from 2003	JOHN AH SUE	\$440,550.00
Administration for Native Americans ANA - 348	MINARETA THOMPSON	\$206,000.00
Trades & Industries - 347	BILL EMMSLEY	\$634,880.00
Gear Up Samoa - GUS - 380	ROY FUA	\$676,490.00
		<b>\$3,941,527.00</b>

<b>LOCAL GRANTS</b>		
Am. Samoa Teacher Education Program - ASTEP	TIALUGA SELOTI	\$240,939.00
CSBG - TRADES - 369	BILL EMMSLEY	\$10,000.00
CSBG - ADULT ED./COMPUTER LITERARY	OTINERU TAITAIFONO	\$40,000.00
BOH/SBDC - 107	HERBERT THWEATT	\$10,000.00
DOE/ECE - TQE - 361	LINA SCANLAN	\$22,400.00
NURSING	LELE AH-MU MAGEO	\$25,000.00
SCHOOL TO WORK	EMELIA LEI	\$72,000.00
		<b>\$420,339.00</b>