

College of Social Sciences

One of the largest units at UH Mānoa in terms of student body size, the College of Social Sciences (CSS) consists of 13 departments and includes approximately 150 current faculty members. It has over 2,000 undergraduate and graduate degree candidates, and graduates over 800 students per year. The college's international focus, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, produces graduates who are poised to become leaders in public and private enterprises throughout Hawai'i and Asia. The faculty is engaged in active teaching and research collaboration with universities around the world. Several recent international agreements at the campus level have originated with global connections initiated by CSS and its departments. Under the leadership of Dean Denise Eby Konan, CSS continues its focus on global programs. A new course, SOCS 180: Intro to Global Studies, fulfills the Global and Multicultural Perspectives requirement and was taught twice during the 2014–2015 academic year to 75 students.

Events and Highlights of the Year

CSS continued to build global partnerships by drawing on the considerable expertise of the CSS faculty in international affairs. In 2014–2015, short-term programs doubled, and many new international partnerships were forged with the following institutions: University of Electronic Science and Technology of China in Chengdu, China (November 2014); Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo, Japan (April 2015); Institut Teknologi Bandung in Bandung, Indonesia (May 2015); Kobe University in Kobe, Japan (June 2015); a trilateral Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with East-West Center to bring faculty from Khon Kaen University in Thailand to study doctoral programs at UH Mānoa (June 2015); and 3+2 agreements between Nankai University and the Economics Department as well as Zhejiang University with the Department of Urban and Regional Planning (DURP), Geography, and the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology.

UH Mānoa announced its first dual-degree program with the Universitas Islam Indonesia (UII). Approved by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), it was offered jointly by DURP in CSS and by the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Planning (FCEP) at UII. The program leveraged FCEP's core strengths in structural, geological, and transportation engineering with DURP's expertise in social, economic, environmental, and policy issues. Students who complete the 2.5-year program are awarded both a Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree at UH Mānoa and a Master of Science in Earthquake Engineering Management degree at UII.

According to Maya Soetoro-Ng, CSS assistant professor, this partnership serves as a bridge to further the efforts of disaster risk reduction and resilience by combining two innovative and important leaders in this field. "It is only with these kinds of collaborative efforts that we will see the kind of multifaceted improvements that will make a meaningful difference in the lives of people in both Indonesia and the United States, and eventually around the world," stated Soetoro-Ng.

CSS' short-term programs continued to grow through meaningful partnerships. CSS ran a one-week professional development program for University of Tokyo (UTokyo) staff, which included English language for Business Communication courses, special lectures and excursions, and meetings with UH Mānoa counterparts in March 2015. UTokyo enjoyed the program and has committed to returning in Fall 2015. In Summer 2015, CSS also ran a three-week short program for students from Tohoku University (TU), combining English language courses with special

lectures and excursions surrounding the theme of Service Learning and the Environment in Hawai'i. Both TU and UH Mānoa students engaged in civic and environmental activities at field sites such as Ka Papa Lo'i o Kānewai on the Mānoa campus and Ho'oulu 'Āina, a sustainable community garden. Similar programs are also being designed for students from other universities in the Asia-Pacific region.

In partnership with Fulbright Canada, UH Mānoa established the state's first Fulbright Canada Visiting Research Chairs program to be housed in CSS under a five-year arrangement set to begin in Fall 2016. The program will support regional cooperation on issues including energy and the environment, Asia-Pacific engagement, indigenous issues, information and communications technology, health disparities, policy, and migration. The visiting chair will enhance research at the college and encourage dialogue between students and faculty from various disciplines. With more than 60 visiting chairs throughout Canada and the U.S., the program has expanded to Hawai'i when Fulbright Canada CEO Michael Hawes signed the agreement with Chancellor Robert Bley-Vroman.



In 2012, a trilateral MOA was signed between Mongolia's National Academy of Governance, Germany's Potsdam University, and UH Mānoa. The agreement stipulated that a conference would be held biennially. This past year, the conference was held at UH Mānoa. Spearheaded by Dick Pratt, it was titled "Perspectives on the Development of Energy and Mineral Resources – Hawai'i, Mongolia, and Germany" and explored factors affecting energy and mineral development in these three places.

In Summer 2015, Dean Konan traveled to China to strengthen existing partnerships, as well as establish new relationships, with institutions in the areas of Chengdu, Zhongshan, Hong Kong, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, and Beijing. In July, she joined the Hawai'i delegation to attend the Chengdu International Sister Cities Youth Music Festival. She was able to meet with municipal government and university officials, all of which were eager to collaborate on several educational programs. She was met with the same enthusiasm by official delegates in Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Zhongshan, and Hong Kong. Many would like to send students to UH Mānoa for short-term study programs and exchanges.

Dr. Konan also joined the Northeast Asia Economic Forum (NEAEF) and Chairman Lee-Jay Cho in Beijing for a special meeting in conjunction with the 10th Young Leaders Program (YLP). NEAEF remains a prominent partner of CSS through joint collaborations including the recently held YLP in Tianjin and Beijing, and the Energy Work Group Meetings, which involved many international and Hawai'i community experts including State Energy Administrator Mark Glick and representatives from Hitachi and Hawaiian Electric Company.

Departmental Activities

The following is a representative sample of CSS faculty and student activities during the 2014–2015 academic year, and is not meant to be comprehensive.

- **Anthropology:** From August 2014 to July 2015, Professor Miriam Stark and her colleagues presented results of their Cambodian archaeological research at international conferences in Paris, San Francisco, Siem Reap, and Seoul. Dr. Jan Brunson was invited by Oxfam India to present at a conference in February 2015 in Kathmandu, Nepal. Professor Barry Rolett helped organize and lead a climate change conference,

“Evolution of the Asian monsoon and its impact on landscape, environment, and society: Using the past as a key to the future,” held in Hong Kong in June 2015.

- Communications: Dr. Jenifer Winter was featured by the Voice of America in a story about Indonesians’ use of social media to foster democracy (September 2014). In the summer of 2015, Dr. Brett Oppegaard presented papers at conferences in Ireland and Puerto Rico. Dr. Hanae Kramer welcomed students from Japan’s Aichi University to her intercultural communications class. Dr. Ann Auman continued to collaborate with the Peking University School of Journalism and Communication to organize their 3rd joint conference on comparative media. She is also working on 3+2 programs and exchanges with several institutions in China and Singapore.
- Economics: Dr. Michael Plummer, director of the Johns Hopkins University Europe campus, delivered the Seiji Naya Asia-Pacific Lecture, “Conflict in East Asia: Economics to the Rescue?” on October 6, 2014. UH Mānoa alumni Ming Liu and Dr. Sumner La Croix (chair) co-published “A Cross-Country Index of Intellectual Property Rights in Pharmaceutical Innovations” in *Research Policy*. Dr. Baybars Karacaovali published “Varying Political Economy Weights of Protection: The Case of Colombia” in *Economics & Politics*. Dr. Timothy Halliday advised John Rush on his PhD dissertation, “Three Essays Exploring the Impact of Natural Disasters on Education and Poverty in El Salvador and Indonesia.” New international exchange agreements concluded between the Department and Kobe University, Keio University, Hitotsubashi University, and a 3+2 MA agreement with Nankai University.
- Ethnic Studies: Dr. Ibrahim Aoudé continued his editorship of *Arab Studies Quarterly* and coedited and published an article in *Biography*, while Dr. Lisa Uperesa coedited and published two articles in a special issue of *The Contemporary Pacific*. Drs. Uperesa and Ty Tengan (chair) further developed the college’s international indigenous partnership with universities in New Zealand by attending conferences, hosting their faculty at UH Mānoa’s 45th anniversary conference, and developing an online training module. Other conference and research activities included Dr. Aoudé’s travels to the Middle East and Australia, Dr. Brian Chung’s trips to Taiwan and Canada, Dr. Monisha Das Gupta (director of the Center for South Asian Studies) published new work on Mexican deportation, and Dr. Roderick Labrador taught a study abroad course in Japan. Drs. Ulla Hasager and Tengan continued to work locally with citizens of the Freely Associated States of Micronesia in civic engagement.
- Geography: The Department remained globally focused in scholarship, with most faculty research and many student projects involving international or global topics. Faculty research included global climate change and regional impacts, with regional research in Russia, Hawai’i, Southeast Asia, and the Antarctica; geopolitics at the borders of India-Bangladesh, U.S.-Mexico, and the Mediterranean region; cultural politics of tourism in Thailand and Myanmar; human-environmental issues in Indonesia, Japan, and China; and maritime boundaries and laws. Strong focus was placed on the Asia-Pacific region, with 30 percent of graduate students coming from Asian countries. The Department also built connections with Zhejiang University, China, in student admissions for its graduate program.
- Political Science: The faculty continued to conduct and publish research on politics in various regions, including but not limited to the Middle East, Asia, and indigenous nations throughout North America and the Pacific. In 2014–2015, the faculty gave invited talks and published in journals based out of several countries. Strong partnerships were maintained with institutions in Paris, Rio de Janeiro, and London, as part of a research cluster associated with the *International Political Sociology* journal. The Indigenous Politics Program (UHIP) is a leader in establishing international partnerships and

exchanges at both the graduate and undergraduate level with universities in Canada, the U.S., and Australia. UHIP was selected to host the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association's (the only internationally-recognized academic association for interdisciplinary scholarship in Indigenous Studies) annual conference at UH Mānoa in 2016.

- Psychology: Psychology had two international visitors, Alex de Andrade (Brazil) and Colleen Ward (New Zealand). Graduate student Xander Krieg won a Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Award (about \$42,000) from the State of Hawai'i Department of Education this year, with the research focus on understanding social anxiety across cultures. He is the first UH Mānoa recipient in the past 12 years. Xander is currently in Japan, hosted by Tokyo University and working on his data collection. Ashley Maynard organized and hosted a meeting of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology in San Cristóbal de las Casas, México.
- Public Administration: Dr. Chris Grandy taught a short, intensive course called Introduction to Public Management: Conceptual Tools for Public Administrators at Shinshu University in Matsumoto, Japan. Dr. Taehee Kim is working with Korean scholar Dr. Taeho Eom from Yonsei University on a project that examines Korean public sector employees. The article, "At the front lines: Examining the Effects of Perceived Job Significance, Employee Commitment, and Job Involvement on PSM," is forthcoming in *International Review of Administrative Sciences*. The Department hosted Chinese scholars Dr. Kaifang Yang from Renmin University and Dr. Jiannan Wu from Shanghai Jiao Tong University to collaborate with faculty about research opportunities.
- Sociology: The Department hosted a visiting researcher from Japan, who participated in a graduate seminar and worked with several graduate students. Four doctoral dissertations and one MA thesis were completed on international topics, with several more in progress. Several of our graduate students have also published on international topics and in international publication venues. Seven of our faculty members (63 percent) have continued to publish work on international topics in international publication venues and to present papers at international conferences, thus enhancing the international reputation of the Department, the College, and the University.
- Social Science Research Institute: The UH Economic Research Organization's Kimberly Burnett was awarded a research fellowship to spend January to March 2015 working with an interdisciplinary team at the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) in Kyoto, Japan, examining "Human-Environmental Security in Asia-Pacific Ring of Fire: Water-Energy-Food Nexus." She developed frameworks for economic analysis of the water-energy-food nexus using examples from three case studies in Japan: water allocation over multiple uses in Obama, renewable energy production in Beppu, and construction of a dike in Otsuchi. Each of these case studies involves choices that will affect inherent linkages between water, energy, and food in each system.
- Urban Planning: Received an extension on a USAID grant "Building Capacity Through Training" and have been working with nine universities in Indonesia to develop Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) curriculum. The efforts to support coursework for a national framework help to bring universities into an important supporting role on DRR. The Department has partnered with the Institut Teknologi Bandung to develop a training program on DRR for the Republic of Indonesia Ministry of Home Affairs. Team members travelled to eastern Indonesia in collaboration with Ford Foundation and HOPE Worldwide to build capacity and support local government DRR efforts. Professors Karl Kim and Dolores Foley were panelists at the Third UN World Conference on DRR in Sendai City, Japan. Professor Foley was a keynote speaker at the University of Gadjah Mada International Conference on Tourism.