

KAI ULU

HPU Alumni Currents

A Message from Dean Allison Gough: Entrepreneurship



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Acting Dean of the College of
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University

Having the unique experience of overseeing two different colleges at HPU has underscored how entrepreneurship thrives at the intersection of disciplines, blending business acumen with creativity and a commitment to societal impact. The most successful entrepreneurs often have a mix of liberal arts and business backgrounds, a combination that cultivates both innovative thinking and practical skills for identifying and acting on opportunities. If someone like Leonardo da Vinci were alive today, he would undoubtedly be considered a knowledge entrepreneur, harnessing ideas from business, the arts, and science to address complex challenges and to develop unique solutions and using testing and experimentation as part of the design process.

Entrepreneurship is ultimately a mindset that transcends any one field or major. Although traditionally associated with launching businesses for profit, today's students are often motivated by a drive to make meaningful, positive change. Many now focus on purpose-driven entrepreneurship, creating ventures that are as much about social, cultural, and environmental impact as they are about financial success. Our students analyze models of social entrepreneurship from around the world by examining such brands as Tom's, Kiva, and Solar Sister and learn to create for themselves mission driven business models and sustainable revenue frameworks, and how to measure and scale social impact.

[Full Message](#)

**HPU'S
MAKERSPACE**

**THE
CURRENTS**

COMPETITION SHOWCASES REMARKABLE ENTREPRENEURIAL TALENT



Innovation is a core part of HPU's identity, and the talent within the University is remarkable. Students consistently demonstrate ingenuity, creativity, and an entrepreneurial spirit.

On March 14, that spirit was on full display as the winners of HPU's inaugural Makerspace Competition were announced before a packed auditorium at Aloha Tower Marketplace.

The event brought together 30 students comprising 16 student teams, each presenting their innovative product designs in a hands-on competition. The Makerspace Competition was made possible by a generous donation from an anonymous donor.

Students competed individually or in teams for cash prizes, including a \$1,000 first-place award in each of the competition's four challenge categories: community impact, smart living, cultural creativity, and HPU inspired. One first-place and one second-place team were selected per category, with second-place winners receiving \$500.



The competition was judged by local leaders and HPU partners, providing students with a valuable opportunity to connect with key figures in the community. Judges evaluated projects based on originality, marketability, profitability, and their ability to solve a specific problem. Additional

[HPU School of Nursing Dean and Faculty Present at Stigma Education Day](#)

[Sports Management Study-Away Course Held at HPU's Las Vegas Campus](#)

[Hangin' at the Reef Podcast: Celebrating the History of Aloha Tower](#)

[HPU Center for Academic Success \(CAS\) Staff Present on First-Year Experience](#)

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considerations included ease of manufacturing and potential for expansion.

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THE CURRENTS



**HPU School of Nursing
Dean and Faculty Present at
Stigma Education Day**

Dean Edna Magpantay-Monroe, Ed.D., and Assistant Professor Derek Cegelka,



Sports Management Study-Away Course Held at HPU's Las Vegas Campus

With Las Vegas emerging as a major hub for professional sports franchises, HPU's new campus served as the perfect

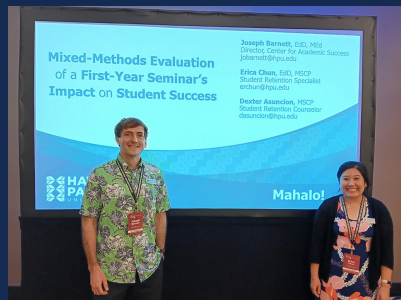


Hangin' at the Reef Podcast: Celebrating the History of Aloha Tower

Professor of History Douglas Askman, Ph.D., joins host Jeffrey Rich, sharing his

Ph.D., recently presented their research at the 2025 event hosted by Chaminade University of Honolulu. HPU Professor and Sigma Theta Tau Gamma Psi at-Large Chapter President Patricia Burrell, Ph.D., delivered the event's closing remarks .

[Learn More](#)



HPU Center for Academic Success (CAS) Staff Present on First-Year Experience

CAS Director Joseph Barnett, Ed.D., Student Retention Specialist Erica Chun, Ed.D., and Student Retention Counselor Dexter Asuncion, MSCP, recently presented their research at the 44th Annual Conference on the First-Year Experience in New Orleans.

location for a sports management study-away course held from March 3-9 for 18 undergraduate students. Southwest Airlines and an anonymous donor made the unique learning opportunity possible.

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EnergyTech University Prize Awarded to HPU Professor

Assistant Professor of Engineering Arifur (Arif) Rahman, Ph.D., is among 10 faculty members across the country to win a 2025 EnergyTech University Prize Faculty Track award. Rahman was recognized for empowering students to develop market-ready solutions by integrating entrepreneurial fundamentals into curriculum.

extensive knowledge of Aloha Tower, which will celebrate its centennial in 2026. They also delve into an exciting student-led project to revitalize the tower's stories.

[More Info](#)



HPU Student Leaders Grow at Ho'opili Hou Conference

Nine HPU student leaders were selected to participate in the Ho'opili Hou Conference held on Maui earlier this semester, joining other university and community college students to develop leadership skills, foster community, and engage with Hawaiian cultural values and practices.

[Click Here](#)

[Full Article](#)

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

HPU ALUMNA PATRICIA NAYLOR '10



Have you ever walked into a lingerie store and thought, this bra does not fit me correctly even though it's my size? HPU alumna Patricia Naylor had a

Alumni Involvement

The HPU alumni 'ohana spans the globe, and all opportunities are available in-person or virtually. We invite you to explore how you can make a meaningful difference by sharing your time and talents to support our students. Your involvement will create lasting, transformative impacts on their personal and professional growth.

HPU Connect

HPU Connect makes it easy to get in touch with fellow alumni and support current students. Every HPU member adds value and prestige to our community.

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Career Connections

similar experience one afternoon, but instead of simply moving on, she took that frustration and turned it into a business idea. Naylor founded Rumeur Lingerie in San Diego, aiming to improve women's health, psychology, and body image through proper bra fitting.

Growing up primarily in Melbourne, Florida, Naylor was accustomed to a life of mobility. Both her parents served in the Navy, and she moved frequently before settling in Florida. Following in her family's military footsteps, she enlisted in the U.S. Air Force as a Russian cryptologic linguist, serving for four years. Naylor then pursued her education, obtaining a BA in psychology from HPU and later an MBA in Business of Health from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Her diverse background in psychology, health, and the military ultimately laid the foundation for her entrepreneurial journey.

"I always knew I wanted to help people, but I didn't initially know how. I started as a biology major, but switching to psychology was one of the best decisions I made," Naylor said. "The small class sizes and personalized attention at HPU played a crucial role in my academic experience. I loved having access to professors and mentors. It made a big difference for me, especially as a nontraditional student balancing school and starting a family. I am incredibly grateful for the education I received at HPU."

[Full Article](#)

Networking, mentorship opportunities, and continued involvement with the HPU campus.

Upcoming Events:

Debunking Startup Myths: A Blueprint to Entrepreneurial Success with David and Chris Sinkinson
Thursday, April 3rd
9AM PDT

[More Info Here](#)

Managing Up: How to Get What You Need from the People in Charge with Melody Wilding
Thursday, April 10th
9AM PDT

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