BACKGROUND OF THE CENTER

The story of the Hawai‘i Research Center for Futures Studies (HRCFS) is one of impressive contributions from very limited resources. The HRCFS was established by the Hawai‘i State Legislature in 1971 to collect and disseminate information about futures studies and to do futures research for public and private groups within the State, the region, and throughout the world (Chapter 222).

Locally, since that time, the HRCFS, located within the Social Science Research Institute (SSRI) of the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, has proven to be an invaluable resource. It has provided futures-oriented information and conducted workshops for almost all State and City agencies as well as for many commercial and nonprofit local groups throughout the State.

The HRCFS also works closely with the Alternative Futures Graduate program within the University of Hawai‘i’s Department of Political Science. That program, created in 1977, has produced scores of women and men who have gone on to become professional futures consultants in many fields, locally, nationally, and worldwide. One component of the Graduate program is a paid internship that many students experience either with the HRCFS or with the Institute for Alternative Futures (IAF), in Alexandria, Virginia, one of the oldest and most respected futures consulting firms in the world. The HRCFS also cooperates with the Program in Public Administration, and other SSRI and University units on applied futures-oriented projects especially in global change and environmental management in Hawai‘i and throughout the Pacific Island region.

Nationally, the HRCFS has itself become a major futures resource. For one example, the HRCFS was responsible, with IAF, for creating the concept and reality of “judicial foresight”--incorporating futures studies into judicial administrative decision-making. This began with work done by the HRCFS with the Hawai‘i State Judiciary from the 1970s onward. Subsequently, the HRCFS has engaged in judicial foresight activities indirectly with all, and directly with ten, other U.S. state judiciaries, as well as with the U. S. federal judiciary, many national and state bar associations, and more recently with several foreign judiciaries, primarily in the Asia-Pacific. The State Justice Institute, a U.S. federal agency for state judiciaries, made the category “Futures and the Courts” one of its major funding categories specifically because of work done with and through the HRCFS and the IAF. The HRCFS has also consulted with many other governmental units, universities, businesses, religious organizations, and nonprofit entities throughout North America.

Globally, the World Futures Studies Federation (WFSF), the premier world organization of groups and individuals conducting futures research at a professional level, chose the Center to house the WFSF
Secretariat during the 1980s and early 90s, and awarded the HRCFS its highest honor for excellence in futures research in 1994.

The Center has been an Affiliate Campus of the International Space University (ISU) of Strasbourg, France since 1996. As such, UH faculty and students have participated in the Masters in Space Studies (MSS) program at the main campus in Strasbourg and the Summer Session Program (SSP) which is held in different locations around the world (most recently, University of Bremen, Germany; Federico Santa Maria Technical University, Chile; and Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand).

Similarly, ISU MSS students come to the University of Hawai'i campus each year for their Placement Program. HRCFS and ISU also cooperate in various research and training projects.

**Current research projects and proposals:**

--- Conference on "Globalization, Public Institutions and Fairness", Sponsored by the Hawai'i Research Center for Futures Studies and the Public Administration Program, in cooperation with the Center for Korean Studies, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and the World Academy of Art and Science. Funded by the Globalization Research Center and the State's Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

   Originally planned for Hawai'i September 20-22, 2001, but postponed until January 5-9, 2002
   See <www.fairglobe.hawii.edu>

--- Environmental Protection Agency Grant Number: 2001-STAR-K2 "Assessing Future Teleportation Technologies" (pending)

--- "Initiatives in the New Economy," in cooperation with the Space Policy Program, McGill University, Montreal, Canada (pending)


**Visiting faculty and students**

During March, the Center hosted Dr. Kaoru Yamaguchi, Professor, and Associate Dean, Graduate School of Management, Nagoya Sangyo University, while he researched and wrote an article on systems theory in futures research

**International Space University student placements:**

1999-Laurance Higgs (UK)
2000-Jonathan Ricketson (Australia)
2001-Sandra Janosik (Canada) (interned with Tom McCord, Hawai'i Institute of Geology and Planetology).

**Public lectures at UHM sponsored by the HRCFS:**

February 1, "The social psychology of small groups in space" by Prof. Sheryl Bishop, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

March 21, "Futures and Labor Unions" by Prof. Arthur Shostak, Drexel University, Pennsylvania

September 13, "Futures studies at Rand" by Michael Scheiern, Instructor, Security Studies, Rand Graduate School, California
September 14, "Improving methods of futures research" by Kaipo Lum, Director of futures research, Hawai'i Medical Service Association

October 19, "Red Sun as an example of writing futures scenarios" by the authors of Red Sun, Rick Ziegler and Patrick Patterson, Professors of History, Honolulu Community College

November 2, "Futures of intellectual property law," by Deborah Halbert, Professor of Political Science, Otterbein College, Ohio.

**Recent books and monographs**


Tae-Chang Kim and Jim Dator, eds., *Co-Creating a Public Philosophy for Future Generations*. London: Adamantine Press, 1999 (From a conference held in Honolulu, sponsored by the HRCFS, and funded by the Future Generations Alliance of Kyoto, Japan)


**Recent journal publications**


Jim Dator, "When courts are overgrown with grass: Futures of courts and law," *Futures*. Vol. 32, No. 1 February 2000


Jim Dator, "Return to long waves," *Futures*, Vol 31, No. 3/4, April/May 1999

Jim Dator, "From tsunamis to long waves and back," *Futures*, Vol 31, No. 1, February 1999

**Recent articles about the HRCFS**

John Duchemin, "When tourism falters, there's no backup," *Honolulu Advertiser*, October 7, 2001, p. G1 ,2

Wade Kilohana Shirkey, "Futurists hope Y2K won't end thinking about possibilities," *Honolulu Advertiser*, December 31, 1999

**Workshops and presentations during 2001**

**International presentations**

June 27, "Alternative futures of public service" for the South Australian Division of the Institute of Public Administrators, Hilton Hotel, Adelaide, Australia

June 28, 29, Plenary speech on judicial foresight; panel on judicial ethics. Australian State Judges Conference, Adelaide, Australia

August 10-23, Lectures and workshops on futures studies, governance design, and space ethics. International Space University, Bremen, Germany

August 20, Consultation with Futures Group, Deutsche Bank, Frankfurt, Germany

October 7, "Maintaining confidence in our legal institutions: Future challenges." Asia/Pacific Law Conference 2001, Park Royal Hotel, Christchurch, New Zealand

December 17, 18, Lectures and workshops on futures studies and governance design, MSS 02, International Space University, Strasbourg, France

**Presentations on the US mainland**

January 19, Plenary Futures Panel, Virginia State Bar Association Convention, Holiday Inn, Williamsburg, Virginia

March 3, "Mars or Bust!" For the Panel on "Socrates in Space" Contact 2001 Biltmore Hotel, Santa Clara, California

May 7, Lectures on Futures Studies for the Public Administration Program, Southern Oregon University, Ashland

May 8, Futures workshop, Oregon Institute of Technology, Klamath Falls
November 3, Meeting of the Executive Council, World Academy of Art and Science, Miyako Hotel, San Francisco

November 13-17, Affiliate Network Conference, Academic Council meeting, and Curriculum Planning Meeting, International Space University, California Polytechnic University, Pomona, California.

**Presentations in Hawai‘i**

January 12, "Hawai‘i Legislators as applied futurists," for Representative Hermina Morita and the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection, Capitol Building, Room 315

January 16, 17, "Alternative Futures for the United States," Center for Asian-Pacific Exchange, Hemenway Hall, UHM

January 29, "What's left to sell?" Honolulu Association of Realtors, Tree Tops Restaurant, Honolulu

February 18, "Judicial and Legal Foresight," Western Attorney General's Conference, Sheraton Waikiki Hotel

March 29, Futures workshop, class in "Security Policy", Prof. Joan Johnson-Freese, Asia-Pacific Center for Security, Waikiki

April 24, "The end of the expert", class on "Internet Anthropology", Prof. Les Sponsel, UHM

May 1 and 3, Futures modules, Public Administration Course, UHM

May 11, "A simple question to the graduates," Graduation Address, University of Hawai‘i, Maui Center

July 10, Discussion of technology and society, Channel 2 TV morning show


Aug 7, "Alternative futures of the United States, " Center for Asian-Pacific Exchange, Mandarin Room, East West Center

October 15, Consultation with Col. Arthur Morrill, Director of Logistics, and his staff, US Air Force, Hickam Air Force Base

October 29, Judge of designs for Barber's Point, Architectural Design class, Prof. Amy Anderson

November 26, Discussion with Speaker of the Hawai‘i House of Representatives, Calvin Say, and House Leadership, about Hawai‘i's economic futures. Capitol Building, Room 431