BACKGROUND OF THE CENTER

The HRCFS was established by the Hawai‘i State Legislature in 1971 to collect and disseminate information about futures studies and to conduct futures research for public and private groups within the State, the region, and throughout the world (Chapter 222).

Locally, the HRCFS recently transferred its administration from the Social Science Research Institute to the Department of Political Science. The Department has proven to be an invaluable resource. The move has also allowed the HRCFS to work more closely with the Alternative Futures Graduate program in the Department. The Alternative Futures 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 Institute for Alternative Futures (IAF), in Alexandria, Virginia, one of the oldest and most respected futures consulting firms in the world, or with the HRCFS itself. The HRCFS also cooperates with the Program in Public Administration, the School of Architecture, the School of Travel Industry Management, and other 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 is a major futures resource. For example, the HRCFS was responsible, with IAF, for creating the concept and development 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 participate in the Masters in Space Studies (MSS) program at the main campus in Strasbourg and the Summer Session Program (SSP) that is held in different locations around the world (most recently, the University of West Australia, Adelaide; the University of Bremen, Germany; Federico Santa Maria Technical University, Chile; and Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand).

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

Externally Funded Research and Training Projects:


- The Center has a formal exchange agreement with the Korea Information Strategy Development Institute (a government sponsored research institute, affiliated with the Office of the Prime Minister under the Korea Council of Economic and Social Research Institutes).

- In addition, from October 2004 through December 2005, Mr. Jae-Cheol Kim, Director of Planning and Management, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, of the
Republic of Korea, and Director of the Planning Division of The Korean National University of Arts, has been assigned by the Ministry to the Center to conduct research and studies to enable Korea to further develop its popular culture industries from a more futures-oriented perspective.


A book based on the conference (Fairness, Globalization, and Public Institutions: East Asia and Beyond by Jim Dator, Dick Pratt, and Yongseok Seo) was published by the University of Hawaii Press in 2005.

**Current Major Activities of HRCFS**

- Project management of the "Futures of UH" portion of the UH Centennial Celebration.

- Official advisor to the Sustainability 2050 Legislative Caucus.

- Member of Sustainability 2050 Task Force Consortium.

- Futures workshops and training for the UH School of Travel Industry Management in preparation for major grant seeking collaboration between the HRCFS and TIM.

- Proposal on planning services for the preparation of a development plan for infrastructure related to the handling and transport of liquid bulk petroleum products within its statewide commercial harbor system. Hawaii State Department of Transportation. In cooperation with Marc M. Siah & Associates, Inc, Honolulu.


- Proposal for a week-long workshop on the futures of democratic governance for the officers of the Farmers Party of Cambodia (Postponed from November 2005).

• Monthly “Futures Salons” bringing together local futurists, students, and community leaders in a discussion of emerging issues and trends.

• Pending re-launch of the Manoa Journal of Futures Studies.

• Proposal for “horizon scanning” for the United Kingdom’s Office of Science and Technology, with Fast Futures, Inc.

• Proposal for “horizon scanning” for the futures of imaging and imaging technologies for Konica-Minolta, with Fast Futures, Inc.

Recent Books and Monographs

Jim Dator, Dick Pratt and Yongseok Seo, *Fairness, Globalization and Public Institutions: East Asia and Beyond*. University of Hawaii Press, 2005


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 publications in books and journals


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

Jim Dator, "Bright future for unions?" in Arthur Shostak, CyberUnion. M. E. Sharpe, 1999

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 Publications in Newspapers

Manfred Zapka and Jim Dator, "Hawaii must prepare now for oil decline," Honolulu Advertiser, November 17, 2005, p.A14

Recent media references about the Center


Interview with Maria Lenhart on the future of travel and tourism for the professional magazine, Travel Professional. February 2

Telephone interview with Radostina Konstantinova from Sophia, Bulgaria for the magazine, Politika, comparing views of the future of east Europe in 1991 with now. January 6,


John Griffin, "We can shape Hawaii'i's future, or react to outsiders' visions," Honolulu Advertiser, January 18, 2004, p. B3f


October 18, November 12, Interview with Asahi Shimbun reporters. Article appeared in Asahi Shimbun, November 27, 2002

July 15, 26, 29 Telephone interviews with Joshua Davis of Wired Magazine about the practical uses of futures studies. Article appeared in Wired, October 2002, p. 48


Keiji Oshita interview in Japanese, in East West Journal, April 15, 1999


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

Visitors to HRCFS:

Researcher in Residence 2004-2005: Jae-Cheol Kim, Director of Planning and Management, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, of the Republic of Korea, and Director of the Planning Division of The Korean National University of Arts

July 14, Carlos Figueiredo, Director, Prospective Division, Planning Department, Government of Portugal, Lisbon

April 4, Jonathan Peck, Vice President, Institute for Alternative Futures, Alexandria, Virginia
March 2, Ryota Ono, Associate Professor, Department of Business Administration Aichi University, Japan, lecture on images of the futures of students in Japan, Hawaii and Singapore.

February 24, Consultation with Susan Jurow, Vice President, National Association of College and University Business Officers, about a futures program we will help them hold in Honolulu, Summer 2006

**Presentations at International Conferences**


July 21-August 11, Summer Session of International Space University, on the campus of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver. Co-Chair, Space and Society Department

July 23, Academic Council meeting

July 26, "What? Me Worried? Social/Cultural Implications of Near Earth Objects." For the Theme Day Panel on Small Bodies in the Social System," 1211 Forest Sciences Center

July 27, "What futures studies is and is not for space projects"

July 27, Departmental class "What is 'Space and Society'?"

July 28, "Using futures studies in your theme projects"--TP Fire, TP Robotics, TP NEO.

August 2, Departmental Activity "Space and Time Day". Visit to Storeum. Discussion with Canadian Futurist Ruben Nelson, and walking tour of Vancouver with City Planner, Hugo Blomfield.


**Presentation at Conferences on US Mainland**

May 18, "Judges as futurists: How you can help them think more usefully about the futures." First Circuit Court Federal Executives Meeting, York Harbor Inn, Maine.

**Presentations for national conferences held in Hawaii**
March 17, "The future, seven years later," Western Bar Association National Convention, Maui Sheraton Hotel

Presentations in Hawaii

January 5, Alternative Futures of America, for Culture Studies Workshop, Center for Asia-Pacific Exchange, Campus Center room 309

January 20, "Real Tsunamis," Polsc 315

January 20, "Futures Studies for Architects" Arch PhD program seminar

February 7, Presentation to University Community Partnership group on Hawaii 2107 as the focus for the futures part of the Centennial Celebration.

March 5, "Thinking usefully about the future", for Kanu Hawaii, CTA Honolulu Office

March 18, "Architectural design for preferred behavior on Mars," Prof. Liza Lockard's Architecture 201 class

April 19, "Media, past and futures," Prof. Yoshi Amae's Politics 190 class, Webster 114

April 22, "Earth Day, RIP: 1972-2005 ", UH Manoa Earth Day Celebration, Sustainability Courtyard

April 26, 28, May 3, Futures Module, Public Administration Program

June 7, "Hawaii as a Dream Society?" for the Cyberpizza discussion group, Marine Science Auditorium, UHM

June 21, "Which futures for you?" for Introduction to Cultural Anthropology Class, Prof. Lynette Cruz, Hawaii Pacific University

July 15, "Futures of Media," for Politics of Media Class, Prof. Yongseok Seo

July 18, "Futures of Hawaii," for Ethnicity in Hawaii class, Prof. Noel Kent

August 30 Meeting with members of the 2050 Legislative Caucus, Room 16, Hawaii State Capitol.

September 22, "Real Estate!? The future is Icons and Dreams!" Hawaii CRB Chapter Annual Meeting, Japanese Cultural Center

October 18, Second meeting with members of the 2050 Legislative Caucus, Room 225, Hawaii State Capitol.
October 25, "From 'Hawaii 2000' to 'Sustainability 2050' and Beyond," for the inaugural meeting of the 2050 Sustainability Task Force. State Capitol, Conference Room 407

November 18, “Best Practices from the VA Judiciary Commission on the Future” for the 2nd meeting of the 2050 Sustainability Task Force. State Capitol, Conference Room 211.