TO:                  Erika Lacro, Vice President
University of Hawai‘i Community College System

FROM:            FT Cross Campus Working Group

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DATE:               March 12, 2021

SUBJECT:      FT Phase II Cross Campus Discussion
Response to UH Community College Organizational and Resource Plan #3

DESCRIPTION OF CROSS CAMPUS PROCESS

On March 1, 2021, in response to the UHCC Organizational and Resource Plan #3, Dean Nagle (UHMC) and Dean Chock (HonCC) convened and facilitated a faculty cross-campus discussion around the UHCC Fashion Technology (FT) academic programs.

The following objectives for the meeting were identified:

1. To offer facilitation for faculty of related program areas and across campuses to review academic programs, offer potential solutions and prioritize potential solutions in response to VP Erika Lacro’s January 26, 2021 Plan #3.

2. To support development of faculty recommendations for repositioning UHCC academic programs for FY22 and beyond.

The cross campus working group convened to review data, discuss specific guiding questions outlined in the Organizational and Resource Planning framework, and recommend next steps for the following campuses and programs:
Honolulu Community College Fashion Technology
  o HonCC FT AAS graduates are technical employees or in technical management and pursue entrepreneurship as well as work in the industry. In addition, Hawai‘i Industry working professionals attend classes to update their skills and seek promotions within the garment industry. HonCC FT program keeps up with current technology in the Hawaii Garment Industry.

Maui College Fashion Technology AAS
  o MauC FT AAS focuses on entrepreneurship, not large manufacturing. Students are often returning students who are seeking upskilling and are sometimes professionals in the garment industry seeking promotions. Graduates often find niche retail market or work in local fabric stores.

KEY DATA INDICATORS AND SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The group reviewed the following data to frame the discussions.

a. VP Erika Lacro’s January 26, 2021 Plan #3 and all recommendations for academic programs, in particular FT listed on p.14 and 15.

b. ARPD data for each program summary analysis:
  i. The overall health of HonCC FT is identified as “Cautionary” with 48 majors, 71% completion rates, and 89 projected county job openings.
  ii. The overall health of MauC FT is identified as “Healthy” with 19 majors, 51% completion rates, and 8 projected county job openings.

c. Estimated UHCC FT lecturer costs per semester
  i. The estimated cost for all UHCC FT lecturers AY 2019-2020, based on courses estimated at 3 TEs at a step A lecturer rate of $1691, totals $55,803. This is the reason why experienced lecturers are able to change from F2F to Hybrid modalities with seamless transition.
  ii. While some lecturers are required to teach specialty areas, the lecturer budget is a potential area for reduction but will not enable the students to graduate or transfer on a yearly basis.
  iii. Lecturer TEs are needed since hand skilled teaching is required via lab hours. FT teachers cover the sewing and technology tutoring needed.

d. Low enrollment numbers and small programs report (UH IRO data)

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Screenshot of Small Programs Report (UH IRO)
i. HonCC FT CA and AAS were both identified on the small programs report. The AAS had a class average of 11 and a three year average of 9.3 graduates per year.

ii. MauC FT CA and AAS were both identified on the small programs report. The AAS had a class average of 9 and a three year average of 2 graduates per year.

iii. Both programs noted low enrollment and low graduation numbers are projected to continue for at least the next year as both programs lost students in Spring 2021 and Fall 2020 because of student challenges with online learning. FT programs are focused toward hand skills/concepts as performed in the garment industry versus theory only.

iv. Contributing to four low enrolled classes per year are the Cooperative Education courses controlled by another program. These courses have not been attended since Fall 2017 semester. These courses have been requested for deactivation in KSCM.

PROGRAM NEXT STEPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPONSE TO MEMO

1) Continue updating alignments including courses, program map to reflect articulation changes between HCC, UHMC and UH Manoa

   ● HonCC FT AAS to continue work to align with the UHM/FDM program so HonCC FT AAS graduates can transfer seamlessly to a BA program.
   ● HonCC FT and MauC to meet as a PCC to follow up on alignment reflecting recent changes and program maps.
   ● Align number of electives and program requirements.

2) Schedule identified lecture courses together and online to encounter low enrollment and save costs.

   ● Program coordinators will meet to prioritize the scheduling of shared courses. Courses to consider include: FT 216, FT 111, FT 40, FT 221, and FT 200.
   ● Request campus support for professional development for lecturers to transition to online instruction for lecture only courses.
   ● Seek campus support so programs can enhance online learning support for students, especially those taking hybrid or online skills courses.
   ● Consider offer specific specialty classes every 2 years rather than every year

3) Expand marketing and recruitment efforts

   a) Target different market audiences when recruiting for FT
   b) Seek campus support to promote CTE programs in the high schools through workshops, exercises to generate interest in the FT pathway with teachers who have a fashion background.
4) Recognize that non-credit offerings is not a comparable option for FT as the audience is often tourists or retired community members who are looking for hobby classes, rather than the comprehensive 150 hours required to teach basic sewing. Non-credit courses also do not offer any industry-recognized or measurable credential toward pursuing a career in fashion technology.