

NEWS RELEASE May 13, 2008 Contact: Julie Funasaki Yuen, 808-454-4821

Public Information Officer

## COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY FOR UH WEST O'AHU THIS SATURDAY, 9 A.M., LEEWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE TUTHILL COURTYARD

**PEARL CITY** --- This spring is a special time for 67 UH West Oʻahu graduates who will receive their diplomas or certificates on Saturday, May 17<sup>th.</sup> The commencement ceremony will be held at the neighboring Leeward Community College (LCC) Tuthill Courtyard. Seating for guests will open at 8:30 a.m. and the ceremony will begin promptly at 9 a.m. Graduates are expected to greet friends and family members immediately after the ceremony at 10 a.m. in the LCC Theatre Courtyard. Ample parking is available in the LCC Parking lot.

Of the 102 UH West Oʻahu graduates, 31 will receive their baccalaureate in Business Administration, 10 in Humanities, 16 in Public Administration and 37 in Social Sciences. Sixteen graduates will receive certificates in various programs including Applied Forensic Anthropology, Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management, Healthcare Administration, Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies and Substance Abuse and Addictions Studies.

University of Hawai'i Vice President of Academic Planning and Policy Linda Johnsrud and University of Hawai'i Regent Ronald K. Migita are scheduled to speak at the commencement. April Casey, one of this Saturday's graduates, will speak on behalf of the graduating class. Casey recently accompanied UH West O'ahu Assistant Professor Monique Mironesco to the Western Region Campus Compact/Continuums of Service Conference in Portland, Oregon, where they co-presented a paper about their experiences as part of "Politics of Food," a class entirely based on service learning. Graduating with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Sciences with a concentration in Psychology, Casey is currently a physical education teacher at Hoala School in Wahiawa.

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Last fall, UH West O'ahu became a four-year, comprehensive university when it served its first class of freshmen. The University offers quality education, small classes and personalized attention at convenient locations. A new campus in the City of Kapolei is scheduled to serve students in fall 2010. For more information about UH West O'ahu, visit uhwo.hawaii.edu or call 454-4700 or toll-free (866) 299-8656.