



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII®  
WEST O'AHU

**NEWS RELEASE**  
Dec. 6, 2012

**Contact:** Kalowena Komeiji, (808) 371-6679  
kalowena@hawaii.edu  
Director of Communications

**COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY FOR UH WEST O'AHU  
SUNDAY, DEC. 9, 10 A.M., UH WEST O'AHU GREAT LAWN  
First commencement ceremony to be held at new Kapolei campus**

**PEARL CITY** --- Sunday, Dec. 9, is a special day for 166 University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu graduates who will receive their degrees and certificates during commencement ceremonies at the UH West O'ahu Great Lawn. This commencement ceremony marks the University's first to be held at UH West O'ahu's new campus in Kapolei.

"We are proud and excited to have our very first commencement here in Kapolei and are looking forward to celebrating many milestones at our new home in the years to come," said UH West O'ahu Chancellor Gene I. Awakuni.

UH West O'ahu graduates will receive their baccalaureate in Applied Sciences, Business Administration, Education, Humanities, Public Administration and Social Sciences. Graduates will also receive certificates in various programs including Applied Forensic Anthropology, Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management, Health Care Administration, and Substance Abuse and Addictions Studies.

Richard Dahl, president and CEO of the James Campbell Co. will deliver the keynote address. University of Hawai'i System Vice President for Community Colleges Dr. John F. Morton will attend and University of Hawai'i Board of Regents' Tom Shigemoto will address the graduates. Alyssa Gampong, one of this year's outstanding UH West O'ahu graduates, will speak on behalf of the graduating class. A resident of Waialua, Gampong is graduating with a Humanities degree with a concentration in English. For three years she served as a member of the Associated Students of UH West O'ahu, took part in the launching the University's first student newspaper and participates as a student blogger.

All are welcome to attend commencement. Guests may arrive at 9:30 a.m. Commencement tickets will be distributed to graduates and seating is limited to those with tickets. Standing room is available for all other guests. The commencement ceremony will also be projected live on a big screen in C208. Guests with disabilities are encouraged to view the ceremony from this location. Graduates will greet guests following the ceremony at 11 a.m. On campus parking is free and open to the public.

The commencement ceremony will be streamed live on the UH West O'ahu website at [uhwo.hawaii.edu/commencement](http://uhwo.hawaii.edu/commencement).

###

UH West O'ahu became a four-year, regional comprehensive university when it served its first class of freshmen in fall 2007. The University offers quality education, small classes and personalized attention at convenient locations. UH West O'ahu serves

approximately 2,000 students at its brand new, state-of-the-art campus that opened in the City of Kapolei in 2012. For more information, visit [uhwo.hawaii.edu](http://uhwo.hawaii.edu), [twitter.com/uwestoahu](https://twitter.com/uwestoahu), [facebook.com/uwestoahu](https://facebook.com/uwestoahu) or call 689-2800 or toll-free (866) 299-8656.