

NEWS RELEASE March 16, 2015 Contacts: Julie Funasaki Yuen, (808) 689-2604 julieky@hawaii.edu Public Information Officer

UH West O'ahu campus community to "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month April 15

KAPOLEI --- In honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month this April, the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu campus community will participate in Walk a Mile in Her Shoes®, the international men's march to stop rape, sexual assault and gender violence, on Wednesday, April 15. UH West O'ahu students, faculty and staff will participate in a playful walk around the UH West O'ahu campus, many wearing women's high-heeled shoes or decorated slippers, to demonstrate support for efforts to stop the violence.

The walk is meant to put participants literally "in someone else's shoes" as a show of support and solidarity behind the goal of ending sexualized violence against women. Walk a Mile in Her Shoes® at UH West O'ahu will happen at 10:50 a.m. and at 12:20 p.m. on the UH West O'ahu campus starting in the UHWO Courtyard. A supply of women's shoes will be available for participants' use during the march. The event is free and open to the public. All community groups, businesses, and organizations are encouraged to attend. UH West O'ahu Chancellor Rockne Freitas will offer brief opening remarks and participate in the march.

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Established in 1976, **the University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu** offers quality education, small classes and personalized attention with academic programs that emphasize the exploration of interdisciplinary and cross-cultural studies. UH West O'ahu serves approximately 2,700 students at its brand new, state-of-the-art campus that opened in the City of Kapolei in 2012. For more information, visit <u>www.uhwo.hawaii.edu</u>, call (808) 689-2800 or toll-free (866) 299-8656. Find us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

Frank Baird created **Walk a Mile in Her Shoes**® in 2001. What started out as a small group of men daring to totter around a park has grown to become a world-wide movement with tens of thousands of men raising millions of dollars for local rape crisis centers, domestic violence shelters and other sexualized violence education, prevention and remediation programs. For more information, visit <u>http://www.walkamileinhershoes.org</u>