At the Dole Cannery Ballrooms on April 24, 2003, the First Annual Public Policy Center Conference focused on sustainability policies -- analyzing the various issues and concerns arising from the increasing number of state, county and community initiatives on sustaining Hawaii's quality of life. The Public Policy Center acknowledged the rich resources of Hawai‘i -- physical, cultural, and human; and invited stakeholders committed to Hawaii to identify public policy options that could forward their work in ensuring that Hawai‘i attains a truly sustainable future.

The conference was opened by Dean Richard Dubanoski, College of Social Sciences, and Interim Director Susan Chandler. Kamehameha Schools Trustee Nainoa Thompson provided a powerful message to participants -- emphasizing the unique strengths of this “place” we call home and the vision and values that can guide us in making difficult choices and navigating change. Paul “Doc” Berry shared his “Paradise Index” to measure our efforts in sustaining “paradise” for future generations. Participants also heard from Bill Kaneko and Joan White, Hawaii Institute for Public Affairs, and Carol Murry, Social Science Research Institute, on the Hawaii Uninsured Project as a significant model for collaboration in creating a sustainable community. Roy Bahl, Dean of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University, provided lessons on and possibilities for financing sustainability. Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Mayor Jeremy Harris and UH President Evan Dobelle shared their experiences and insights to insure a sustainable Hawaii.

**Small Group Work Sessions**

Most of the work focused on intense discussions in small groups covering the following:
A) media and citizen democracy  
B) health  
C) diversifying Hawaii’s economy  
D) equitable and caring communities  
E) tourism  
F) energy  
G) cultural and natural resources

Each group examined issue papers sent prior to the conference; and worked together to examine the “preferred futures” in each of these areas as well as public policy priorities and next steps.

Conference Goals

This is the inaugural conference of the Public Policy Center -- the first of many to come. The goals of these conferences are to:

A) Bring together University faculty and community (business, labor, community agencies) to identify innovative policy and programmatic options to identify and deliberate upon various significant issues of importance to Hawaii and beyond  
B) Identify research and information needs for public policy decisions  
C) Connect faculty and community leaders who can contribute to public policies as they relate to selected of importance to the community and world

Work Session Reports

Work Session Reports detail the work of the seven work sessions covering the following issue areas:

• Group A: Media And Citizen Democracy  
• Group B: Insuring A Healthy Hawaii  
• Group C: Diversifying Hawaii’s Economy  
• Group D: Developing Sustainable And Just Communities  
• Group E: Sustainable Tourism in Hawaii  
• Group F: Ensuring Sustainable Energy Resources  
• Group G: Hawaii’s Cultural And Natural Resources
Each report contains:

A) a synopsis of the discussion is two work sessions --
B) preferred futures and
C) public policy priorities and recommendations / next steps;
D) members of the work session with addresses should you want to contact them; and
E) more detailed notes from the session

2003 Conference Planning and Advisory Committee

Co-Chairs
- Sharon Miyashiro | UH Urban & Regional Planning Dept (DURP) / UH Public Policy Center (PPC)
- James Spencer | Political Science / UH Urban & Regional Planning Dept (DURP)

Members
- Peter Apo | Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association
- Puanani Burgess | Pu'a Foundation
- Karen Cross | UH Program for Conflict Resolution (PCR)
- Scott Derrickson | State Office of Planning
- Tom Fee | UH Institute for Peace
- Mike Fitzgerald | Enterprise Honolulu
- Steve Holmes | Honolulu Sustainability Coordinator
- Judith Inazu | UH Social Science Research Institute
- Bill Kaneko | Hawai'i Institute for Public Affairs
- Gerald Kato | UH School of Communications
- Christina Kemmer | Communications Pacific
- Mary Lou Kobayashi | State Office of Planning
- Bruce Miller | UH Sustainability Office
- Luciano Minerbi | UH Urban & Regional Planning Dept (DURP)
- Carol Murry | UH Social Science Research Institute
- Sanford Murata | Kamehameha Schools
- Francis Oda | Group 70
- Ira Rohter | UH Political Science Dept
- Ramsay Taum | Ala Wai Watershed Association
- Myron Thompson | Success Strategies
- Jane Yamashiro | Enterprise Honolulu
2003 Public Policy Center Annual Conference

Conference Support

- Alex Gage and Regina Gregory | UH Graduate Assistants
- Pat Shields | UH Institute for Peace
- Dana Singer | UH Urban & Regional Planning Dept (DURP)
- Irene Takata | UH Public Policy Center (PPC)
- Yvonne Yamashita | UH Conference Center, Outreach College
Conference Theme: ‘Sustainability Policies’: Developing Policy Issues and Program Actions for a Sustainable Hawai’i

Conference Date: April 24-25, 2003

Conference Place: Dole Cannery

Program Agenda

April 24:

8:00-9:00 Registration

9:00-10:30 Opening Session

Oli and Pule – Kahu Kimo Keawe

Welcoming Remarks – Interim Director Susan Chandler

Defining and Forwarding Sustainability--Some Frameworks for the Deliberations

“The Vision for a Sustainable Hawai’i and How We Get There”
—Nainoa Thompson (60min)

“What makes Paradise ‘Paradise’ ” -- a substantive framework – Paul Berry (20min)

10:30-11:30 Work Session I -- Deliberations on Public Policy Options in Sustaining:

   A. Media and Citizen Democracy
   B. Insuring a Healthy Hawaii
   C. Diversifying Hawai’i’s Economy
   D. Developing Sustainable and Just Communities
   E. Sustainable Tourism
   F. Ensuring Sustainable Energy Resources
   G. Hawai’i’s Cultural and Natural Resources

11:45 Welcome from UH President Evan Dobelle (5min)

“How Sustainable Hawaii-- What Will It Take” --U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye (20 min)

12:15pm Pule

LUNCH

Networking in Discussion Groups

12:45pm Welcome from Mayor Jeremy Harris, City and County of Honolulu

12:55pm Keynote Address: “Financing Sustainability” -- Roy Bahl,
Andrew Young Public Policy Center (30min)

1:25pm “Creating a Sustainable Community through Collaboration: the Hawaii Uninsured
“Walkabout and Networking” (Reports from Work Session I)

Work Session II -- Deliberations on Public Policy Options for a Sustainable Hawaii Groups A-G

Reports from Work Session II -- Next Steps and Action Commitments

Closing Session -- Dean Richard Dubanoski, College of Social Sciences

Reception-- Continue the Networking

April 25: Sustainable projects-- are they working? What’s working? Models for the future

8:00am - 12:00pm -- Site visits to sustainable projects:

Tentative site visits (see site preference form):
Bus 1 -- Windward sites

Bus 2 -- Kalihi/Leeward sites