Kaʻao Framework

Hua: A catalyst to transform.
The big ‘WHY’.
Why are they here?
Why did they decide to come to college?
Why do they want to get a degree?

Haʻalele: An embodied flight from the community.
How must they prepare?
What must they do to be ready to go to college?
Who do they have to talk to?

Huakaʻi: A sequence of life and deaths.
What do they need to leave behind?
Who do they need to leave behind?
Where do they leave from?
Who will bring the new life to them?
How will this new education bring improvement to their life?
Who will help them along this journey?
Hoʻi: A reintegration back into the community.

How will you take your degree and learning back to your community?
How will you support the community that you come from?
How will you help your lāhui?
What will you now do with this degree?

We have decided to use the story of Māui and lassoing the sun as our traditional kaʻao and an example of how kaʻao can remind the students and faculty about this journey that is being taken.

Hua:
Day was too short, his mother and the women needed to dry their kapa, food couldn’t be prepared in time. Māui was a dutiful son and wished to assist his mother and the village.

Haʻalele:
He had to prepare for the journey. Seek advice of his grandmother and grandfather, go to Paeloko and prepare the cordage, get the stone for the club from his grandmother, took food from his family to sustain him.

Huakaʻi:
Left his village and family, traveled a long way to the top of Haleakalā, beat the sun to submission, fought Moemoe who taunted him.

Hoʻi:
Upon his successful battle, he returned to his community as a leader, he helped his community with their work and sustenance, provided for the future ease of life.