



Resolution and Commitment to Reducing Plastic and Waste on Maui

University of Hawaii Maui College (UHMC)

THIS RESOLUTION, signed and affirmed on the date stated below by the Chancellor of UHMC, with the full support of its students, faculty and staff, makes dedication to its purpose according to the following:

WHEREAS the UHMC campus has through the years demonstrated leadership and commitment to responsible waste management on its campus, and;

WHEREAS students and faculty of UHMC have conducted surveys, audits, public meetings and research into best management practices for its waste, and;

WHEREAS the results of this investigation demonstrate that campus recycling efforts have been reasonable and adequate but that the global system for ultimate resource management and reuse has deteriorated to the point that it is unlikely that items collected at UHMC (and across Maui, as well as elsewhere) are truly being recycled in a manner which extends them as replacements for virgin resources¹, and;

WHEREAS the accumulation of waste, in particular plastic in our oceans nearby is a product of, and likely to increase as a result of failed recycling efforts, which is a condition that UHMC feels compelled to address as an island leader in sustainability;

NOW THEREFORE the University of Hawaii Maui College, by and through its Chancellor hereby pledges to take action to reduce its waste to minimal levels within five years, commencing with the following which shall be instituted as immediately as possible as Phase I of this commitment:

PHASE 1 (Year 1, by December 2019): Plastic Bottle Ban

- 1) UHMC shall modify procurement practices to ensure that no vendors or suppliers shall provide items using single-use, disposable plastic bottles to the UHMC campus.
- 2) Concurrently, with funding support from the Operations & Maintenance department and Sustainable Living Institute of Maui (SLIM), a UHMC subsidiary, there shall be installed not less than ten additional water filtration stations which shall provide purified water to campus occupants, with the goal of not less than one station per occupied building.
- 3) UHMC shall distribute not less than five hundred reusable beverage mugs to campus occupants, which shall support the use of water filtration stations above.
- 4) A UHMC collaboration of entities, including the Sustainable Living Institute of Maui (SLIM), the Student Ohana for Sustainability (SOS), the Sustainable Science Management (SSM) BAS program and the UHMC Sustainability Committee shall establish, implement and perpetuate education and information materials, events and signage which explains the propriety of these Resolution steps.

¹ County of Maui interview (2018) - 40% of current plastic recyclables on Maui go to the landfill.

PHASE 2 (Year 2 and 3): Plastic Free Future

- 1) UHMC shall develop a waste-free event kit (incl. reusable water coolers, silverware sets, reusable cups, and a recommendation list of reusable and compostable products) for use on campus to support the implementation of plastic free strategies at campus events.
- 2) UHMC shall conduct an annual waste audit to collect data on a regular basis to inform prioritization of current needs for waste reduction efforts.
- 3) UHMC shall evaluate other plastic products used on campus to prioritize other plastic free initiatives and conduct cost-benefit analyses of new policies and procedures to reduce campus waste.
- 4) UHMC shall pursue improvements to composting efforts of green and food waste (e.g. food waste collection in every building; campus composter).
- 5) UHMC shall develop partnerships with community organizations to develop better practices across Maui for the future health and well-being of the island.
- 6) UHMC shall identify and evaluate other projects that may arise using the Sustainability Lens framework.

PHASE 3 (within 5 years): Waste Revolution

UHMC shall formulate and propose for implementation additional steps to pursue the goal of a waste-free UHMC campus, and to provide leadership for the same for Maui Nui, on a continual basis.

Approved in Academic Senate on April 12, 2019.