Title: Promising High School Student Program [2001-2002] [2002-2003]

Purpose:
- To evaluate the effectiveness of the Promising High School Program by measuring the retention and success of students.

Background:
- The Promising High School Student Program is a tuition waiver program. Criteria for awarding tuition waivers are made at the college.
- Concerns of whether the cost of the program is beneficial to the college have been raised and recommendations on changing the criteria, modifying or reducing the size of the program have been requested.

Assessment Activities:
- A break out by majors is provided and matched to the retention or transfer of students within the UH system.
- Students' GPA and cumulative credits are compared with their retention at HCC and within the UH system.
- Students are looked at to see, as a group, what their rates of retention were for the first year.

Findings:
- 38 students accepted PHS waivers and attended Honolulu Community College for the 2002-2003 academic year.
  - 8 students [21%] did not return after the first year.
  - 21 students [55%] continued into the second year at HCC.
  - 30 students [80%] stayed within the UH system.
- Average cumulative credits after first year in 2001-02 was xx credits and xx credits in the 2002-03 cohort. This did not include credits of students who did not continue after the first semester.
- 2001-2002: 7 students [18%] choose liberal arts; 31 [82%] enrolled in technical programs.
- 2002-2003: 9 students [24%] choose liberal arts; 29 [76%] enrolled in technical programs.
- Cumulative GPA for continuing first year students was broken out by less than 2.0, 2.0-2.9 and above 3.0:
  - 2001-02 students: 0, 7, 11
  - 2002-03 students: 1, 15, 6
- 17 of 38 [45%] students in 2001-02 did not enroll within the UH System after the first year.
- 8 of 38 [21%] students in 2002-03 did not enroll within the UH System after the first year.

Assessment:
- Retention within the UH system and HCC over the two-year period varied too much to establish a trend.
- Retention was greatest among vocational technical students.
- Overall retention rate within HCC was lower than the average rate for the college.
- The returning rate for promising high school students from spring to fall 2001 to HCC increased from 43% in 2001-02 to 53% in 2002-03.
- UH system retention for Promising High School students increased from 50% in 2001-2002 to 79% in 2002-03.
- The First Year Success Program conducted in 2002-03 may have assisted in increasing retention.
- After one-year voc-tech students had completed more credits than the liberal arts students. Voc-Tech students averaged 24 credits; liberal arts students earned 17 credits.

Action Plan:
- Continue to study for trends over multiple years to determine if the assessment would warrant changing what high schools are offered PHS waivers and if they should be restricted to vocational-technical programs. Re-evaluate after the 2003-2004 cohort finishes its first year.

Prepared: October 2003 by Admissions and Counseling