Students dress in costume to dramatize the morbid, serious aspect of military research. Below: banners decorate UH Manoa campus.

THE UH ADMINISTRATION INTENDS TO TURN A PORTION OF OUR PUBLIC UNIVERSITY SYSTEM INTO A MILITARY WEAPONS LAB, by signing a contract with the US Navy to establish a “University Affiliated Research Center” (UARC). This would be a Navy research facility to support US war policy. UARC would add to the unprecedented expansion of militarism throughout Hawai‘i, and would have severe effects on academic freedom, environmental security, public health, and our community integrity.

Faculty, students, community members throughout the islands, and even state legislators have been mobilizing to Save UH, and Stop UARC! Please join the fight for our university system... read on.

UNIVERSITIES SHOULD SERVE THE COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC GOOD

Universities should be places of learning and inquiry, the open exchange of ideas, and research that serves the community and the public good. Universities should not be used by the military to further their war aims or to perfect ways of killing or controlling people. In the 1960s and 1970s, students at this and many other universities defended our educational institutions from becoming military research facilities.

UARC IS A NAVY RESEARCH FACILITY TO SUPPORT U.S. WAR POLICY

Today, the University of Hawaii is again threatened by military encroachment. The U.S. Navy and the UH administration want to establish a University Affiliated Research Center for naval weapons research. There are several UARCs throughout the US; each is a research facility at a university which is affiliated with a US military or government agency. UARCs perform specialized research for these government organs, and become ‘trusted agents’ of the government, to further the warfighting capabilities of the United States.

With UARC, our public faciltities and intellectual prowess will be turned from public goals – peace, common welfare, health and wellness – to the military goals of the government. The military would gain control over key scientific research programs to conduct secret research, with no accountability or responsibility to students, faculty or the community. Unfortunately, UH Interim President David McClain, Manoa Chancellor Peter Englert, the Board of Regents and some faculty seem willing to give away UH’s academic freedom to the military in order to get as little as $50 million in research contracts.

MILITARY RESEARCH IN HAWAI‘I: A LONG HISTORY OF SECRECY AND DANGER

Agent Orange, which was used extensively in the Vietnam War, was developed and tested on Kauai by the UH College of Tropical Agriculture. Several of the people involved with the Kauai tests died from cancer and other medical complications (see www.stopuarc.info for more info). Agent Orange continues to contaminate parts of the ‘Garden Isle’ and plagues US veterans and many parts of Southeast Asia. Also, sarin gas (a lethal nerve agent) was tested in the Puna rainforest and near Honolulu in 1967. These tests were kept secret from the public, and were only de-classified three years ago. Sarin is a powerful nerve gas that causes a choking, thrashing death.

U.A.R.C. CONTRIBUTES TO MILITARY EXPANSION THREATS HERE AND AROUND THE WORLD:

• The stationing of a Stryker Brigade in Hawai‘i, which would entail an Army land grab of 25,000 acres, the destruction of Native Hawaiian cultural sites and endangered species and the release of tons of toxic contaminants into the environment.
• The possible stationing of a Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier Battle Group in Pearl Harbor.
• The expansion of ‘Star Wars' Missile Defense programs on Kaua‘i, O‘ahu, Maui and Hawai‘i island.
• The expansion of military space research on sacred mountains – Haleakala and Mauna Kea
• Military recruiters taking our youth to fight their wars.

THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I IS OUR UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

We will not allow our University to be an accomplice to illegal and immoral military policies. We reject secret military research and demand transparency, openness and accountability. WE DEMAND: 1) That the Board of Regents, which governs the entire University of Hawaii system, Interim President David McClain, and UH Manoa Chancellor Peter Englert reject the U.A.R.C. program. 2) Full disclosure and accounting of all past and present military related programs in the UH system, including a list of classified programs and programs conducted under the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai‘i. (continued→)
Manoa Chancellor organizes bogus ‘consultations’

UH Manoa Chancellor Englert has scheduled a bogus 'consultation' on UARC, after more than two years of development and secret negotiation. The time for consultation is prior to a decision, not two years after they have been working to expand militarism at our university. This is unacceptable. Let's demonstrate our opposition to UARC, and call for education, not militarization. Bogus "Consultation" follows. (See below for a report on the ‘consultation’ meetings.)

Thursday, April 21, 2005
UH-Manoa Architecture building
2:30 p.m. Rally and Demonstration
3:00 UARC Bogus "Consultations"

Tell the B.O.R. to “Save UH/Stop UARC”!

Friday, April 22, 2005
Board of Regents Meeting at Windward Community College
Hale Akoakoa Rm. 105
Meet at 8:30 for demonstration of our alternatives to the militarization of our university system

RECENT NEWS

House and Senate panels vote against University classified military research institute

Committees in both the state House and Senate have now passed resolutions which are critical of the UARC proposal. House Higher Education Committee on March 29 passed House Concurrent Resolution 238, urging the University of Hawaii to abandon plans for a research institute to conduct military research for the Navy.

On April 13, the Senate committees on Higher Education and Education/Military Affairs met to discuss another UARC-related resolution, Senate Concurrent Resolution 172. This piece of legislation confirms community’s concerns about the potential dangers associated with UARC. The resolution calls for the University administration to report back to the Senate on the establishment of UARC. An amended version of the resolution passed the senate committees without objection from committee members.

Testifiers spoke from a variety of backgrounds; students, faculty, Native Hawaiian community groups, environmentalists, and even a former member of the UH Board of Regents.

Manoa chancellor leaves ‘consultation’ meeting, leaves people hanging

UH Manoa Chancellor Peter Englert left the April 7 consultation meeting early, leaving several people waiting patiently to speak about UARC. Mr. Englert arranged for the consultation meetings to take place after more than two years of secret conversations and negotiations with the Navy and political officials about establishing the UARC military research facility at UH.

Students, faculty, and community members followed Mr. Englert to his car, to ask him to not ignore people’s concerns and questions on UARC. They then began a nonviolent civil disobedience protest, by standing in front of the chancellor's vehicle and preventing him from leaving Varney Circle. Campus security arrived on the scene, but no arrests were made.

UH, RCUH under investigation for possible mismanagement of classified contracts

The UH Manoa student newspaper has covered a story that throws greater concern on the UARC proposal: the Navy is investigating possible mismanagement of classified military contracts at the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i (RCUH) and UH. For more information, see www.stopuarc.info for a link to the Ka Leo story.

MAHALO & ALOHA AINA