



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
****DIGITAL PICTURES AVAILABLE****

Media Contact: Kapono Ryan
Office (808) 735-4797
Cell (808) 429-2972

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AWARDS \$6.5
MILLION TO CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY AS A NATIVE
HAWAIIAN SERVING INSTITUTION
--NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS TARGETED--**

HONOLULU—July 21, 2008— The U.S. Department of Education has notified Chaminade University that it is the recipient of two Department of Education Title III Discretionary Grants, totaling \$6.5 million. These competitive grants will be used to support Chaminade University's Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, as it expands its institutional offerings and upgrades facilities within the division.

"As a federally designated Native Hawaiian-Serving Institution, Chaminade's diverse learning community consists of about 12% students who are of Native Hawaiian ancestry," said Chaminade President Sue Wesselkamper. "The Title III grants will directly serve this unique population through increasing and strengthening academic opportunities, particularly for students who are interested in the natural sciences."

The first grant, totaling \$4 million, will be used to 100% federally fund Chaminade's latest Natural Sciences and Mathematics Division project that includes building infrastructure for faculty and student biomedical research, renovating instructional and research laboratories, and purchasing cutting-edge instrumentation.

"Chaminade seeks to build excellent life and forensic science programs for students from Hawaii and nationwide and has initiated this comprehensive project to renovate facilities, develop research capacity and enhance program offerings within our division of natural sciences and mathematics" said Chaminade Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Dr. Helen Turner.

The second grant, totaling \$2.5 million, will be used as start-up funding in initiating a nursing program at Chaminade. Chaminade plans to introduce a new Bachelor's of Science degree in nursing, which, upon approvals from the state board of nursing, hopes to experience its first intake of students in 2010.

Celebrating more than 50 years of educating students for life, service and successful careers, Chaminade University is a Catholic/ Marianist university offering programs of study grounded in the liberal arts with day, evening, online and accelerated courses. Chaminade is a Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander serving institution with its main campus located at 3140 Waiialae Ave., Honolulu, HI 96816, and 10 satellite locations around Oahu. For more information, visit the Chaminade Web site at www.chaminade.edu or call (808) 735-4711.

###