Hawaiian Language Tech: Past, Present, Future

But first, a question…

History

- Tech initiatives began approx. 18 years ago
- Most target Hawaiian immersion and Hawaiian Medium schools, university level Hawaiian students.
- Biggest issue then: Fonts, Keyboards
  - Standardizing Hawaiian fonts
  - "HI" standard, fonts modified by HK
  - Mac keyboard developed in-house
  - Keyman program licensed by HK for free distribution to all Hawaiian speakers

Leokī

- FirstClass Intranet System
- Interface completely translated into Hawaiian
- Provides:
  - Private email
  - Public and private conferences
  - Chat
  - File transfer
  - Voice email
- Approx. 600 current users
- Home of our online Hawaiian Language classes
  - Will be discussed later

Kualono – WWW Server

- Established in early 1995
- Bilingual from its inception with a few exceptions
- Online laboratory for many technology projects that followed, including classes
- Technology pages:
  - http://www.olelo.hawaii.edu/enehana/
Apple Computer, Inc.

- Donated first computers for Leoki and Kualono
- Granted permission for translation of ClarisWorks/AppleWorks
- Provided some technical support
- In 2001, offered to build Hawaiian language support into OS X. OS X now includes:
  - “Hawaiian” keyboard
  - ’okina and kahakō in many fonts shipped with OS
  - Hawaiian ‘locale’, which activates
  - Sorting routines – vowels, Hawaiian consonants, other consonants.
  - Day of week and month in Hawaiian, date formatted DD/MM/YY

OS X International Support

The Present

Online Classes

- HAW101/102/201/202 Classes on Leoki
- Started in Fall 2002
- Now administered by the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo
- Have taught to over 500 students around the world
- Delivered via Leoki because of
  - Responsiveness over dialup connection
  - Cross-platform Mac/Windows Client
  - Record and playback audio without Java
  - Ability to use custom fonts and/or Unicode
  - Also uses Moodle for auto-corrected practice exercises
- Students use the English Client, not the Hawaiian one.
Ka Leo Hawai‘i

- 630 hours of interviews with mostly native speakers from 1972–1989
- Programs cataloged in FileMaker Pro database
- Phase 1 complete – all tapes digitized and NR
- Legal consultations to ascertain copyright status and indigenous knowledge issues
- Funding received under Title III grant

Kōmike Hua‘ōlelo: New Lexicon

- Lexicon Committee – coins new terms as needed:
  - Science, math, sports, technology, other areas needed to address needs of contemporary society
  - Coordinated by Hale Kuamo‘o, published by UH Press
  - Māmaka Kaiao published as companion to Pūku‘i/Elbert, searchable and downloadable from Ulukau
  - Switching over to Matapuna for online maintenance

Ulukau

Microsoft

- 8 years of efforts to build relationship bore no fruit
- Unicode support now available in many Windows applications, the Office Suite
- Outstanding issue: Unicode spell checking
- Member of Technology Adoption Program (TAP) and Natural Languages Group (NLG)
Podcasting

- HAW101 Podcasts support on-campus and online classes
- Nahenahe.net podcasts – Hawaiian music website – podcasts recorded in Hawaiian

http://www.olelo.hawaii.edu/olelo/hoolele101/

Videoconferencing

The Future...

- It's the present for others, but we're not quite there yet...

Social Networks: Ning

Mobile Computing

- Some string localization in iPod/iPhone
- Keyboard coming (hopefully)
HE MAU NĪNAU ANEI? ANY QUESTIONS?