Maui College and Leeward CC were awarded a three year $350,000 grant through the Perkins Program entitled "Aquaponics Workforce “Program of Study” for UHCC aligned with Hawai‘i DOE-CTE – Natural Resource Agribusiness Pathway." The project included:

* Year 1 – Consortium building to develop, pilot, and evaluate a series of non-credit courses leading to non-credit third-party certified credentials for entry-level technicians aligned to industry certification (e.g.,Technician I).  Roll-out to consortium CCs non-credit certificate courses that are aligned to DOE Natural Resources Production CTE pathway.  In fall 2015, the consortium coordinator and campus representatives will develop curriculum and recruit students for a sequence of two courses beginning in spring 2016 which will lead to two non-credit certificates in the Applied Science of Aquaponics.  In spring 2016, consortium coordinator and campus representatives will develop assessment and evaluation rubrics.  In summer 2016, consortium coordinator and campus representatives will begin evaluating these courses and certificates in preparation for ProjectYear 2.
* Year 2 –Begin work to bridge non-credit curriculum to credit curriculum by developing credit courses and certificate(s).
* Year 3 – Implement credit courses leading to industry-aligned certificate(s) that can provide opportunities for non-entry level, higher employment opportunities in aquaponics (e.g., Technician II or higher).