



## **IUPS Statement of Mission and Accreditation**

International University of Professional Studies (IUPS) is legally established as a nonprofit tax-exempt corporation, in the State of Hawaii and the United States of America for the purpose of providing advanced degree studies worldwide.

IUPS was founded in 1988 on the island of Maui by Dr. Irv Katz and a group of leading university educators. At that time, it was referred to as Pacific University of Hawaii, later as International University of Hawaii, and in 1993 was renamed International University of Professional Studies. The founders selected the State of Hawaii as a central point in the Pacific arena and the Island of Maui for its magnificent setting.

IUPS traces its philosophy back to 1964, when the elementary and secondary departments in Harvard's School of Education and the Union for Research and Experimentation in Higher Education turned its attention to the establishment of more innovative and alternative educational programs. The foundation of our educational model is the British tutorial system and its success and effectiveness at raising the competencies of adult students in a manner exceeding the potential of more traditional American educational models.

The IUPS mission is to establish an alternative, nonresident learning system, which is mentor-based, individualized, and self-paced. The driving purpose of the founders was to foster the advancement of the human condition and the improvement of major world problems through increased awareness states: cognitively, emotionally, physically, socially, as well as spiritually. Our intention is to educate professionals who will support the essential quest for individual awareness, and bring "heart and soul" into organizations, educational, and governmental institutions worldwide.

To build a solid foundation for our university community, the founders intentionally aligned its programs with the international standards in higher education. From the very beginning, IUPS was committed to the appointment of highly qualified academics from the international community of higher education and research. Likewise, we are dedicated to the construction of superior academic and research programs. In practice this means that the standards expected of our students are relevant and rigorous.

Accreditation by any of the six regional private associations recognized by the U.S. Department of Education is not necessary to grant degrees in the United States. International University of Professional Studies has deliberately chosen not to pursue that route as it offers the university greater flexibility in granting credit for past relevant experience. It also allows for considerably lower tuition fees and the flexibility we believe is necessary to fulfill our mission.

*Before undertaking any program of study in higher education or training, International University of Professional Studies strongly advises that interested applicants consult regulatory boards or councils relevant to their career path and where they plan to practice — such as licensing authorities, professional associations, universities, and prospective employers — to*

*determine with clarity if a degree from IUPS will meet their professional requirements. While we can attest to the superior quality of our degrees and the rigorous expectations placed upon our students, we expect that our applicants will take the necessary steps to assure themselves that their IUPS degree will meet the standards of their professions under the laws of their home countries and local jurisdictions before making application to the university.*

In summary, IUPS is not accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Secretary of Education. Note: In the United States, many licensing authorities require accredited degrees as the basis for eligibility for licensing. In some cases, accredited colleges may not accept for transfer, courses and degrees completed at unaccredited colleges, and some employers may require an accredited degree as a basis for eligibility for employment. At the same time, non-accreditation is not the equivalent of non-recognition and our degrees have received acceptance at a global level, which is not surprising given our program, faculty and reputation.

For further clarification of this important issue, please contact us at [university@iups.edu](mailto:university@iups.edu)