



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
April 27, 2009 at 1:15 pm

by
Karen C. Lee
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, University of Hawai'i

HCR 217, HD1 Requesting the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents to Develop Plans for a Scholarship Program for Hawai'i Residents to Study Abroad

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

The University understands and values the importance of our students, in particular those who are Hawai'i residents, studying abroad as both ambassadors of the United States and the State of Hawai'i as well as recipients of a broader worldview in an increasingly globalized society. While the University supports the idea of encouraging resident students to study abroad, we instead would like to suggest that the resolution request the UH campus administrations with study abroad programs to study the feasibility of creating such a scholarship on their campuses, augmenting an existing scholarship for study abroad students, or exploring alternative avenues for funding.

The reasons for the request are:

1. While the resolution requests the University Board of Regents to develop a scholarship program for Hawai'i residents, all of the information in the resolution pertains only to the Manoa campus. Specifically, it reflects only information about Manoa students who study through the UH Manoa Study Abroad Center. In fact, UH Manoa students can also study abroad through various other mechanisms, such as through international exchanges, where students pay the UH tuition and then attend tuition-free at the international partner university. UH Manoa actually has 61 such options for students and is very cost-effective. Furthermore, the UH system offers study abroad options through Kapiolani Community College and Leeward Community College, both of which have very active study abroad communities.
2. Students who study abroad have access to some funds. They can retain their financial aid if they have financial need or augment their aid due to increased study abroad costs. They also have access to apply for several sources of funding, such as the national Gilman funds or national Freeman funds to study in Asia, Freeman or Honda funds (if UH community college students), and federal Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLASS) funds. UH Manoa students currently have access to some study abroad scholarships at UHM as well.
3. The UH Board of Regents has a comprehensive financial assistance program, created in 2006, which provides for an increase of financial aid and scholarships for students. The program in particular increases aid for Hawai'i resident students, in keeping with the University's mission and strategic goals. It also allows for campuses to develop their own scholarships based on financial need or merit/service, and certainly could allow for the creation or increase of study abroad scholarships, should it be a strategic priority for the campus.
4. Since the creation of a study abroad scholarship is not currently one of the UH Board of Regents approved priorities, we remain concerned about the cost implications generated by this proposal, in light of budget challenges and varying priorities.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the University of Hawai'i.

From: [Kenneth A. Tokuno](#)
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for Study Abroad
Date: Friday, April 24, 2009 3:14:51 PM

Dear Senator Tokuda,

As both an administrator at the University of Hawaii and the father of a UH Manoa student who is currently in Japan via the UH Study Abroad Program, I would like to testify in behalf HCR 217. As you are no doubt aware, as unique and beautiful as Hawaii is, it affords its bright young minds with few opportunities to easily go to other places and see how other people live, eat, play and interact. I confess that I was a little dismayed when my daughter decided that she wanted to attend UH Manoa, even though I think it is a great institution and I am an alumnus of its graduate programs. I had hoped that she would study on the mainland and be exposed to very different ways of life, climate, values and styles. My dismay was greatly attenuated when she told me that she would get this by going to Japan.

In truth, she has. She has now been there for over half a year and it had been the kind of experience that I wish every college student could have. The cost, I fear, is too prohibitive for many local families and many intelligent and eager young students do not even consider this due to the lack of financial support. It should go without saying that more scholarship money for this program would be of great benefit to such students and, in the long run, to the State of Hawaii, as these students will return with the kind of broad perspectives and understandings which daily grow more essential to the needs of our islands for leadership within a global marketplace.

I offer my strongest support to this bill and hope that you and your committee will have the vision to invest in this even while funds are harder to find. It is the best kind of investment for our future and anyone who values education will see the need for it.

Thank you.

Ken Tokuno,
Kaneohe

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Kenneth A. Tokuno
Associate Dean of the Graduate Division
2540 Maile Way, Spalding 359
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Honolulu HI 96822
Phone: 808-956-8950
Fax: 808-9564261

April 24, 2009

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice-Chair

I am writing to strongly support HCR 217, HR 187, Requesting the University of Hawaii Board of Regents to Develop Plans for a Scholarship Program for Hawaii Residents to Study Abroad.

I am a University of Hawaii graduate (for both my BA and MA), former Study Abroad Center alumni, and currently a Study Abroad Center Advisor. I know the benefits firsthand of studying abroad and how important it is for Hawaii residents to get a more global experience. As an undergraduate at UHM, I was a local girl who had never really travelled much, and I dreamed of studying abroad. The primary obstacle for me was a lack of money. I, however, was fortunate enough to receive a UHM Scholarship specifically for study abroad, and that made all the difference. I was able to spend a semester in London, which was hands-down the best experience of my collegiate years. I studied Shakespeare in his birthplace and took an art course that utilized the many and varied museums of London. In addition to taking courses, I was able to experience a different culture and see things from another perspective. The education I got on that UHM Study Abroad Center program went far beyond the classroom and really educated me for life.

I now have the privilege of advising UHM students who want to study abroad. For the vast majority of students that I advise, the primary factor standing in the way of them studying abroad is money. The UHM resident tuition is fairly low in comparison to the cost of attending school overseas on study abroad programs. We would like to be able to offer UHM residents scholarship monies to support their participation in UHM Study Abroad Center programs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Mahalo!
Allison Yap

From: [Judith Kellogg](#)
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Subject: HCR 217 Attn: Jill Tokuda
Date: Sunday, April 26, 2009 9:12:22 AM

Support for HCR 217: Scholarship program for Hawai'i residents to study abroad.

As a UH Professor of English for 30 years, and a former Resident Director for the London Study Abroad Program, I can attest first hand to the extraordinary impact of this program. Students have good reason to describe this as the most formative experience of their college years, and it should be made available to as wide a variety of students as possible. As they learn about areas of the world separate from Hawai'i, their newfound appreciation for the way cultural values and attitudes are formed and perpetuated also allows them to understand the complex intersections between our islands and different parts of the world.

John Donne eloquently asserted that "No man is an island, entire of itself." We are blessed with an extraordinary rich island culture, but it is the reaching beyond our shores that will provide our young women and young men the resources to understand their connectedness to the larger world stage, and return to Hawai'i with a newfound appreciation for local culture as well. Providing scholarships that allow Hawai'i's young people to become enlightened global citizens is the best investment that the state can make, and I strongly urge passage of this bill.

Sincerely yours,
Dr. Judith L. Kellogg
Professor and Associate Chair
Department of English
University of Hawai'i at Manoa
956-3087

From: [Tamara D V Albertini](#)
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Subject: HCR 217; Hearing April 27; 1:15 PM, State Capitol Room 329
Date: Sunday, April 26, 2009 11:51:15 AM

Attention Windward Senator Jill Tokuda

Dear Senator Tokuda,

I am strongly urging you to help develop plans for a scholarship program for Hawaii residents to study abroad. As a faculty who has accompanied UH students abroad on several occasions, I can assure you that scholarships are essential in order to enable deserving students from less affluent families to benefit from an international experience. Considering the current dire economic crisis, the addition of a second language combined with the linguistic and cultural immersion could give our students an advantage over other candidates on the job market.

Please, do all you can to support.

With deep gratitude,

Dr. Tamara Albertini
Associate Professor
Undergraduate Academic Advisor
Islamic and Renaissance Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
University of Hawai`i at Manoa
2530 Dole Street
HONOLULU, HI 96822
Phone (808) 956 6030
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Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
Committee on Higher Education

HCR 217: Requesting the University of Hawai`i Board of Regents to Develop Plans for a Scholarship Program for Hawai`i Residents to Study Abroad.

Hearing Date: April 27, 2009; 1:15 PM; Conference Room 329

Dear Chair and Vice Chair:

My name is Sarita Rai. I am the Director of the University of Hawai`i Mānoa Study Abroad Center and a Windward Resident. I attended and received all my undergraduate and graduate degrees at UH Mānoa and am proud to work there and serve the State of Hawaii and its Community.

I support HR 217 because of its far reaching impact on the young residents and future leaders of the State of Hawai`i. I would like to quote the words of the retired Secretary General of the United Nations Kofi Anan that succinctly encapsulates what the result of HR 217 will be and why.

"Clearly, we need to use education to advance tolerance and understanding. Perhaps more than ever, international understanding is essential to world peace -- understanding between faiths, between nations, between cultures. Today, we know that just as no nation is immune to conflict or suffering, no nation can defend itself alone. We need each other -- as friends, as allies, as partners -- in a struggle for common values and common needs."

To Study Abroad is to Dare to Discover, Dare to Learn, and Dare to Understand from others' perspectives while living away from one's own comfort zone.

The University of Hawai`i at Mānoa Study Abroad Programs enable students to earn credits toward their degrees without delaying graduation. Courses are offered in a wide range of fields in many countries, and fulfill foundations, focus, second language, certificate, minor, major, elective, or graduation requirements.

Even though, Hawai`i is a special place and my home, I became an adult here, have family, friends and supporters, I would have never known how to appreciate, contribute to, nor celebrate cultural differences of a society had I not studied abroad – not as a tourist for a few days - but truly lived among, and studied with citizens of other nations. Having lived and studied abroad made me understand, open my eyes and mind to both Hawai`i and the rest of the world. This type of understanding cannot be achieved only by taking “global” or “multicultural” courses offered on campus. Students will, however, have the desired learning outcomes of what it means to be “global” and “multicultural” through study abroad.

Therefore, I believe that young Hawai`i residents attending college must also Study Abroad before they graduate, as do most of their peers on the Mainland. Today we are not living in a society where our parents grew up, received their education, and then entered the workplace. It is our responsibility then, to ensure that our young residents are provided with the best opportunities that will enable them to succeed in the 21st Century. Studying Abroad gives them this edge.

It is clear to me that Hawai`i residents after studying abroad tend to work and live in Hawai`i. I know of this because many of the Study Abroad Alums are living and working in the State of Hawai`i as educated professionals who are productive, informed, and contributing members of this society. They are in the fields of Business, Education, Engineering, Science, Medicine, Nursing, and Law - to name a few.

However, the cost of studying abroad is of course higher than what one would pay if attending Mānoa only. HCR 217 would enable all Hawai`i resident students to Study Abroad easing the financial burden while helping to increase their comparative advantage among their peers.

Passing HCR 217 would be a powerful statement from the Hawai`i State Legislature in support of higher education as well as an understanding of what it means, and takes to educate young people in preparation for their life in the 21st Century.

Hence, I humbly request that you pass HCR 217. Thank you for you time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarita Rai

I strongly support the resolution requesting the University of Hawaii Board of Regents develop a plan for a scholarship program for Hawaii residents to study abroad.

I've been a Professor in the Business School for over 38 years, and during this time I have observed many students who have gone on, and benefited from, a study abroad program experience.

When I talk to students about going on Study Abroad, I tell them that it will be a life changing event, they will never be the same, and most likely it will be for the better.

We are very fortunate to have a strong Study Abroad program an office. It provides good quality experiences for students in well run and overseen programs. It's existence is one of Manoa's gems

One of the better support programs for students studying abroad is the Oscar and Rosetta Fish Scholars program in the Shidler College of Business. The Fishes established a fund for Shidler students and part of the funds are used for a travel abroad experience, and some of the Fish Scholars use it for study abroad.

I've seen the good the Fish Scholars program does, and it is a limited but good step in the right direction. If I was at the UH Foundation I would love to have a UH Study Abroad Scholars program to raise funds with. It would be such an attractive way to attract scholarship funds that I find it surprising it hasn't been done already.

When I talk to students about going on a study abroad program cost is usually one of the first topics to come up. I explain that that cost they need to consider most is the marginal cost, what it will cost to be on study abroad. They will need to eat, have housing, and probably school expenses if they stay at UH. If that costs them lets say \$9,000, and study abroad costs \$14,000, then the marginal cost is the extra \$5,000. This makes it seem lower, but it doesn't overcome the fact that it does cost more to go.

The gain to a student from a study abroad experience is large. It's disappointing when the expense stops a student wanting to go from having this opportunity.

This resolution asks the University to plan for a scholarship program that specifically targets going on study abroad and I think this would be a very good idea. It shouldn't take a resolution to advance this idea, but having a resolution should certainly get things moving.

From: [Vanessa M Chong](#)
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Subject: HCR 217
Date: Friday, April 24, 2009 3:47:04 PM

To: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair, Higher Education

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair, Higher Education

I support HCR 217, Requesting the University of Hawaii Board of Regents to Develop Plans for a Scholarship Program for Hawaii Residents to Study Abroad.

As a study abroad advisor, I see firsthand the impact of study abroad programs on students from Hawaii. Not only do they return from their programs with improved foreign language skills, but they return better able to adapt to new environments and situations. I have seen our students from Hawaii return from their summer, semester or year study abroad programs with increased confidence and a sense of accomplishment.

Developing a scholarship fund for Hawaii residents would help our students really believe that they can study abroad.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Chong
Study Abroad Advisor
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Study Abroad Center
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From: [Vincent K Pollard](#)
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Cc: [Public Access Room](#)
Subject: enate Hearing - HCR 217 April 27 @ 1:15 PM
Date: Saturday, April 25, 2009 10:08:13 PM
Importance: High

Hon. Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Hon. Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
Committee on Higher Education
Hawai'i State Senate
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813-2425

To the members of the Committee

Since the 1990s, I have been teaching a variety of courses in political science, Asian and research design on three campuses of the University of Hawai'i System. Meanwhile, the focus of my publications and conference presentations has been in comparative politics, Asian studies and international studies.

As a tax payer and registered voter, I am writing to express my strong support for House Concurrent Resolution 271. The University of Hawai'i Board of Regents should be urged to develop a scholarship program for Hawai'i residents to study abroad.

For about twenty years, the UH Study Abroad Center has been a model -- a leader -- among colleges and universities that understand the value of providing their students the option to deepen their international education by studying one or two semesters in another country and in a different culture.

UH Study Abroad Center courses are reviewed and vetted by a special faculty board. Students and faculty receive tailored orientations. And the Director of the Study Abroad Center routinely makes site visits to campuses where UH Study Abroad students are engaged. UH students studying abroad under the aegis of the Study Abroad Center typically are part of a cohort of UH students under the supervision of a selected UH faculty resident director. And conveniently, the student directly earns UH credits.

In my personal experience as a teacher, students returning from having studied one or two semesters in another country under the Study Abroad Center program routinely demonstrate heightened interest and insight in Asian studies, political science and research design courses. Not only are these students usually more interested in learning more, these students tend to be noticeably adept interacting with their classmates and at understanding the nuances of perspectives different from their own. These are important social and cognitive skills for future UH alums.

Among other current threats to the quality of a UH education, the cost of this education is slipping beyond the reach of many local students. Increasingly, a study abroad experience is an essential part of that education. Therefore, HCR 217 deserves your careful attention and your active support.

If Higher Education Committee staff need more detailed information or testimony about the value of a study abroad learning experience under the direction of the UH

Study Abroad Center, they may feel to e-mail me this week.

Mahalo for considering my views on this topic of importance for the quality of education received by undergraduate students at the University of Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

Vincent K. Pollard, PhD

Lecturer / Cooperating Graduate Faculty
Asian Studies Program
Moore Hall 416 / Fax: + 808 956-2682
UNIVERSITY of HAWAI'I at MANOA

<http://www2.hawaii.edu/~pollard/Asia.html>

From: [Mary McDonald](#)
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Cc: sarita@hawaii.edu
Subject: HCR 217 Hearing April 27, 1:15pm, State Capitol Rm 329
Date: Sunday, April 26, 2009 7:42:11 PM

Senator Jill Tokuda
Chair, Committee on Higher Education

I support HCR 217 providing scholarships for Hawaii residents to study abroad. I urge your committee's support, and I urge the Senate to pass this bill. Such support directly benefits Hawaii residents in higher education and makes a learning experience abroad possible for Hawaii students who may not otherwise be able to participate in UH Study Abroad. I am a UH faculty member who has seen the enormous individual and social benefits of students' opportunities to study in another country. I have also been part of the faculty governance of our programs abroad, and assure you of the serious academic value of every program and course offered by the UHM Study Abroad Center. In all, a very small investment in student scholarships will have very direct public benefits in preparing students with international understanding. Thank you for supporting HCR 217.

Yours sincerely,
Mary G. McDonald
Associate Professor
Geography Department
University of Hawaii, Manoa
Saunders Hall 445

From: [Grant Kim](#)
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Cc: ["Sarita R Rai"](#)
Subject: HCR 217; Hearing April 27; 1:15 PM, State Capitol Room 329
Date: Saturday, April 25, 2009 10:13:40 AM
Attachments: [AFS Program Completion Report SQ.pdf](#)

Dear Senator Jill Tokuda,

For the past 26 years, our Asian Field Studies Program have taken undergraduate and graduate UH students on 2-3 week tour of businesses throughout Asia. Last year, we took 25 students on a three-week tour of businesses in Tokyo, Shanghai, Delhi, Bangalore, and Hanoi, visiting such firms as Dentsu Advertising, President Brenda Foster at the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, Cisco's Globalization Center in Bangalore, and Vietnam Post and Telecom. Most student evaluations comment that this is single most impactful program they have taken at the UH. More information on the program is available at shidler.hawaii.edu/asianfieldstudy and shidler.hawaii.edu/pami.

As commented by one of our past students, "If you want to learn international business you can read a book. To experience it takes you to new levels of understanding that cannot be compared to anything you would find in a book." This student is currently the appointed head of a major state agency and has put his international experience to direct use.

Through Federal DOE Title VI funding, our department provides scholarships to other study abroad programs. We receive similar comments sprinkled with heartwarming stories that have changed students' lives and broadened their way of thinking. It is one of our most impactful and rewarding programs with immediate measurable educational benefit.

This year, our enrollment in the Asian Field Studies program dropped from an average of 20 students to a handful, much due to the tough economic times and students' inability to afford the incremental costs of education. Most of our counterparts at the big name business schools send ALL their students on a mandatory international experience, due to their funding from large corporations and foundations, something we lack in Hawaii due to scale. I find it disheartening that our students, particular our kama'aina, remain insular despite prime location being in the middle of the Asia Pacific region.

I strongly urge the Senate to provide funding for scholarships to our Hawaii residents in order for them to be given the same opportunity as students at better funded universities. While it will be difficult to measure short term economic gain, this is an essential educational experience to develop Hawaii's human capital for long term economic gain, particularly in the development of the export services industries. International exposure will provide our students and our future leaders of tomorrow greater potential to think outside the bounds of Hawaii and realize their full potential growing up in an Asia Pacific culture.

Best regards,
Grant Kim
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Shidler College of Business
Pacific Asian Management Institute
Center for International Business Education and Research (U.S. DOE Title VI

April 24, 2009

Attn: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice-Chair

I am writing in support of HCR 217, HR 187, Requesting the University of Hawaii Board of Regents to Develop Plans for a Scholarship Program for Hawaii Residents to Study Abroad.

My study abroad experience in London during the spring semester of 2008 was unforgettable, and has without a doubt changed me for the better. I don't exaggerate at all when I say that I could not imagine a better semester, as I enthusiastically enjoyed almost every day I was there. Now, I still enjoy the benefits of the academic and professional skills I gained, and well as the relationships I developed, and my broader world view as a result of going there.

I had wanted to participate in the study abroad program since I heard about it early on in college. However, when I looked more deeply into it, the high costs left me sitting back, sighing with defeat every semester for three years. Having only seen a small part of Canada and the neighbor islands for a few quick visits, I wanted it desperately, so worked very hard at my job, applied for all the scholarships I could find, took out as many loans as I could, and my parents borrowed about \$10,000 as well (which I will pay them back for.) If not for that, I would never have been able to afford the trip.

I feel so lucky to have had the opportunities that I did, and am very glad I decided to go. My hope is that students that want to go abroad in the future will not be held back by financial obstacles, because there are probably a lot of people that dream of going, but give up as a result of that hardship. Studying abroad is truly life changing, and costs should not stand in the way of that. Making more scholarships available for students to study abroad would be worthwhile and I thank you for considering it.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Valcourt

April 25, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to serve as my testimony for HRC 271: Requesting the University of Hawaii Board of Regents to develop plans for a scholarship program for Hawaii Residents to Study Abroad, April 27, 2009.

I am a University of Hawaii at Manoa alumna. During my collegiate career, I had the pleasure of studying abroad to Mexico and Spain through the University's study abroad program. The experience I gained living abroad has enriched my life tremendously. It opened doors to new friendships, broader perspectives and job opportunities.

As an educator, I believe that students can benefit from learning outside of the classroom through interaction with people and cultures they may not be familiar with. Students will become more aware about the world around them and, in turn, become better global citizens.

Times are changing, and workplaces and neighborhoods are quickly becoming more diverse. We all need to be able to live, work and play harmoniously and with greater understanding of one another's heritage.

The geographic location of Hawaii makes our islands very isolated from many countries as well as costly if one desires to travel abroad. The University would do a great service to its residents if a scholarship program were to be created. It will send a message that the University wants to graduate compassionate and well-informed individuals that will become the global leaders of the future that will set the stage for positive change.

Sincerely,
Annabel S. Lacara

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Cc: bonitarai2002@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR217 on 4/27/2009 1:15:00 PM
Date: Saturday, April 25, 2009 4:55:23 PM

Testimony for HRE 4/27/2009 1:15:00 PM HCR217

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: bonita cavanaugh
Organization: Individual
Address: 47501B Ahilama Road Kaneohe, HI 96744
Phone: 8082398889
E-mail: bonitarai2002@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/25/2009

Comments:

I support HCR 217. As a public high school teacher and I Windward resident, I believe that our students need to gain a different perspective by studying abroad while they are in college. Many of our students need the funding to make this a reality. Please pass the resolution.

Thank you very much for your consideration

Sincerely,
Bonita Cavanaugh

The State must provide and show leadership in educating our young residents. Thus far the BOR has not initiated any kind of scholarships for our residents to study abroad. Studying Abroad is one of the key factors in making a student competitive – and yet because of lack of funds – it continues to be for those students whose parents can afford it. As a result those students who lack the financial means are left behind. Therefore, by requesting the BOR to create a scholarship fund will allow every resident student who enters UHM an equal chance to gain access to the best academic opportunities that a State University offers. This equal access will also enable the financially needy students equal access to be successful in the 21st century. Please pass HCR 217.

Thank you, Sincerely Douglas Rollick

April 26, 2009

Dear Senator Tokuda,

I would like to offer my wholehearted support of HCR217. After graduating McKinley High School, I never really had the desire to leave Hawai'i to attend college on the Mainland. When I was attending UH-Mānoa and heard about study abroad programs, I was fortunate enough to be able to apply for and participate in four different programs over the course of five years. While my time spent abroad proved valuable personally and professionally, without the financial support of my parents, I would not have been afforded the opportunities. Other students may not be so lucky.

My study abroad experience had a direct impact on my career. Upon completion of my masters degree, I became an advisor with the Study Abroad Center at UH-Mānoa, a position I have had for over 11 years. When advising prospective students, I come across many who would benefit greatly from a study abroad program as I did, but are reluctant to follow through because of lack of money. With a scholarship specifically for Hawai'i students for study abroad programs, such students can realize their potential and perhaps give back to Hawai'i one day as I am doing.

Sincerely,

Max Lee

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Cc: miriam@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for HCR217 on 4/27/2009 1:15:00 PM
Date: Saturday, April 25, 2009 1:46:20 PM

Testimony for HRE 4/27/2009 1:15:00 PM HCR217

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: miriam Fuchs
Organization: university of hawaii
Address: Donaghho Road Honolulu, HI
Phone: 956-3774
E-mail: miriam@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 4/25/2009

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Cc: bertz@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for HCR217 on 4/27/2009 1:15:00 PM
Date: Friday, April 24, 2009 9:46:16 PM

Testimony for HRE 4/27/2009 1:15:00 PM HCR217

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ned Bertz
Organization: University of Hawai'i
Address: 2530 Dole Street Honolulu, HI
Phone: 956-6766
E-mail: bertz@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 4/24/2009

Comments:

This bill suggests a wonderful way to better serve the University of Hawaii's central constituency of Hawaii residents. Studying abroad is a well recognized educational tool that can completely change a student's life. This bill proposes increasing these opportunities, and especially extending them to those who might not otherwise have the resources to study abroad. I full support the bill and urge you to pass it. Mahalo nui loa.

From: [Rich Marshall](#)
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Subject: HCR 217
Date: Saturday, April 25, 2009 2:45:03 PM

Attention Senator Jill Tokuda and those voting on HCR 217,

I SUPPORT REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII BOARD OF REGENTS TO DEVELOP PLANS FOR A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR HAWAII RESIDENTS TO STUDY ABROAD. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH OF OUR STUDENTS BEYOND THAT WHICH CAN BE OBTAINED IN THE CLASSROOM.

Mahalo,
Rich Marshall
98-1860-S Kaahumanu St.
Pearl City HI 96782

To: **COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION**
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair

I strongly support HCR 217, REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII BOARD OF REGENTS TO DEVELOP PLANS FOR A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR HAWAII RESIDENTS TO STUDY ABROAD.

I am an undergraduate student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and have participated in a study abroad program during the summer. I can say with the utmost confidence that my participation in the study abroad program has been the best decision I have ever made. Not only did it increase my awareness and broaden my understandings of another country and its culture, it also gave me keen insights into our own society and culture, and most importantly, myself. I must admit that previously, I had absolutely no interest in any type of governmental affairs and social issues. However, through my experiences abroad, I developed a new understanding of what it means to be a citizen of a democratic nation and it awakened my interests in helping to address social problems.

I was only able to participate in a study abroad program because I was “lucky” enough to qualify for federal assistance. However, as I look at all of my friends, I am deeply saddened because they will never have the opportunity and the experiences I had. They make too much to qualify for need-based assistance and yet, they don’t make enough to even consider the possibility of studying abroad.

When I studied abroad, the vast majority of participants in my program were not from Hawaii but were simply students attending the University of Hawaii. It is great that these students have the experiences of studying abroad, however, I found it deeply troubling that there are so many students who never grew up here and know little to nothing of Hawaii representing Hawaii while most kama`aina aren’t able to do so. Do not interpret this as a negative comment against the other students or as me advocating for less mainland student participation for that is not what I want. What I want is for more kama`aina, more Hawaii residents, to be able to participate in study abroad programs as it will greatly benefit themselves and the State.

I strongly support the creation of a scholarship program specifically for Hawaii residents to study abroad.

Sincerely,

Ryan Berney

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Cc: yayoikm@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR217 on 4/27/2009 1:15:00 PM
Date: Friday, April 24, 2009 10:25:40 PM

Testimony for HRE 4/27/2009 1:15:00 PM HCR217

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Yayoi Marshall
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: yayoikm@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/24/2009

Comments: