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MĀNOA

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TO: April Goodwin, Program Officer
OVCAA

FROM: John Casken, Ph.D., Chair, Council on Study Abroad

Sarita Rai, Ph.D., Director, Study Abroad Center *Sarita Rai*

SUBJECT: 3-Year Progress Report on May 2012 Program Review of Study Abroad

Introduction

In the May 2012 Program Review of Study Abroad the external reviewers made no substantive recommendations for any improvement. The reviewers noted that the operational and administrative/staffing of the Study Abroad Center (SAC) fell well below typical university levels. A similar statement has been made in every official program review of the Center but has "stimulated little or no changes despite a near doubling levels of enrollment in the program." (2012 Review, page 9) This 3-Year Progress Report will therefore summarize the progress of the Study Abroad Center since the 1st Year Progress Report.

Administrative and Fiscal Update

In fiscal year 2014-15, a tenure track Specialist 3 position was allocated for the SAC by then Chancellor Tom Apple to stimulate Native Hawaiian student and faculty participation in Study Abroad Programs. During this year the Council on Study Abroad appointed a Native Hawaiian faculty to the Council and also selected a Native Hawaiian faculty member to lead a program. General Funding of this Specialist 3 position freed up funds so that the Center was able to hire 1.75 APT positions for web design and marketing as well as internal fiscal support. However, in that same fiscal year \$100K was taken from the Program by the Vice Chancellor of Academic affairs to support other campus activities. The impact of the funding loss of approximately 33 percent of the Center's reserves meant that the Center was not able to implement innovations discussed by the staff and the Faculty Council. Nevertheless, due to the enthusiasm of the Council and the staff the Program has created new opportunities for students and faculty. These are programs in the STEM Fields (India and Ireland). Additionally, a program was established with Tonji University (Shanghai) to create opportunities for students and faculty to study and conduct research in China.

Programmatic Update

During the 2014-2015 academic year, 321 students studied abroad and enrolled in 399 courses. (Final data is not available for the 2015-2016 academic.) Twenty of these courses were taught by nine UH Mānoa faculty members in semester/year-long programs

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and two faculty in summer programs. A total of 21 instructional faculty taught and/or conducted research abroad through the UHM Study Abroad Center.

The Council on Study Abroad – the policy-making body and the curriculum committee of SAC – appointed a total of 21 instructional and research faculty to teach and/or conduct research abroad through the UHM SAC for Fall 2014, Spring 2015, and Summer 2015. These faculty members represented the following fields: Art & Art History, Asian Studies, Communications, Electrical Engineering, English, Ethnic Studies, Family and Consumer Sciences, Financial Economics and Institutions, First Year Programs, Geography, Hamilton Library, Kamakakūokalani School of Hawaiian Studies, LLEA-French, Nursing, Plant and Environmental Protection Sciences, Theatre and Dance, and William S Richardson School of Law. The Council has continued its regular in depth assessment of all the programs and encouraged faculty from STEM programs to participate.

Conclusion

The Council on Study Abroad and the SAC continue to experiment with innovative approaches that give more students the opportunity to study abroad, especially those students who have been traditionally underserved. The Study Abroad Council sought out applications from Native Hawaiian faculty. The staff of the SAC through innovative decorative approaches have given the impression of a major presence in the ground floor of Moore Hall. Outstanding work by the SAC staff meant that the UHM students studying in Paris during the terrorist attack in Fall 2015 felt fully supported and did not return to campus earlier than planned. The thorough risk assessment strategies that the SAC has always followed continue to reassure parents, students and faculty that study abroad is no more dangerous than studying at UHM. The Study Abroad Center and the Council on Study Abroad look forward to another very successful year

Cc: R. Anderson Sutton