



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII' I  
MĀNOA

July 11, 2018

(REVISED)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Sarita Rai, Director, Study Abroad Center  
John Casken, Chair, Council on Study Abroad

FROM: Michael Bruno, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and  
Vice Chancellor for Research

SUBJECT: Response to Study Abroad Program Review

Thank you for your April 25th memo response to the 2017-18 review of Study Abroad. I appreciate the work involved in engaging your various constituents to create a comprehensive response to the recommendations of the review team.

The program review report clearly indicated that the Study Abroad Center is effectively delivering high-quality study abroad opportunities to our students, and as you noted in your response, the strengths include strong faculty oversight, professional development, training and orientation for faculty and students, and programs of varying lengths, locations and disciplines to accommodate growth in participation rates. However, the team also noted that the Study Abroad Center should consider a more diverse disciplinary (especially STEM) and geographic array of offerings which would benefit students by providing greater choice in program and location selection, as well as faculty from units that may not otherwise have been able to engage in Study Abroad programming. This is consistent with my own belief that we need to consider avenues to expand faculty participation to encompass a broader array of disciplines.

This leads to an overarching theme in the report that Manoa faculty and students would benefit from increased collaboration between existing "study away" offices and activities (SAC, MIX, NSE and faculty-driven study away experiences), and/or a more comprehensive, centralized study away office. This would simplify program navigation for students, and help to ensure that all study away activities are in compliance and aligned with best practices. A more centralized approach would also enhance our ability to provide greater access to these critical high impact practices for underserved and Native Hawaiian students. By leveraging collective resources and expertise, study away programs could provide a well-coordinated spectrum of programs equitably distributed across programs and demographics. It is my expectation that the UHM study away activities will be reorganized as part of the ongoing campus reorganization. I look forward to the participation of the Study Abroad Center and the Council on Study Abroad as we engage in that process.

I look forward to receiving your one-year progress report detailing the areas outlined above by July 11, 2019.

C: Deb Halbert, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
April Goodwin, Program Officer

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