REPORT TO THE 2010 LEGISLATURE

Report on a University of Hawai‘i Plan to Develop a Scholarship Program for Hawai‘i Residents to Study Abroad

HCR 217, HD 1 (2009)

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The University understands and values the importance of our students, in particular those who are Hawai‘i residents, to study 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. At this time, however, University of Hawai‘i has not developed any new plans for a different scholarship program for Hawai‘i residents to study abroad. In 2006, the Board developed and passed a financial assistance program that largely authorizes the UH Campus Chancellors 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.

Furthermore, although HCR217, HD1 reflects only information about one of our UH study abroad mechanisms, the UH Mānoa Study Abroad Center, our University students can actually study abroad through various other mechanisms, such as through international exchanges, which allow students to pay UH tuition and then attend tuition-free at the international partner university, or through Kapi‘olani Community College or Leeward Community College, both of which have very active study abroad communities.

Finally, 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 Mānoa students currently have access to some study abroad scholarships at UHM as well.