

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I AT MĀNOA
2465 Campus Road, Campus Center 211A
Honolulu HI 96822

Senate Resolution 08-17

ENCOURAGING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PEACE CORPS PREP PROGRAM AT UHM

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:

- WHEREAS*, the Associated Students of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Senate is the elected body representing approximately 11,000 full-time classified undergraduate students; and,
- WHEREAS*, UHM students are encouraged to take on postgraduate opportunities such as the Peace Corps as a step towards their future career or accomplishing life goals; and,
- WHEREAS*, the Peace Corps is a volunteer program run by the United States government with the stated mission of providing technical assistance to interested countries and advancing cross-cultural understanding between Americans and the people of nations in which they serve; and,
- WHEREAS*, in 1961, the University of Hawai‘i ASUH President George Naguichi, along with Student Senate Peace Corps Committee Chair Henry Stostenberg and Senator Kay Mihata voiced out to the National Student Association that Hawai‘i was “the ideal place to train Americans who would be going to Asian countries as teachers, technicians and builders,”¹ at the National Student Association Meeting on March 29-31 at Washington D.C., where the National Student Association was asked to recommend Peace Corps sites to President Kennedy; and,
- WHEREAS*, since its establishment in 1961, Peace Corps has sent over two hundred thousand volunteers to over one hundred thirty-nine countries, including one thousand four hundred volunteers from Hawai‘i, and with over twenty-five persons from Hawai‘i currently serving; and,
- WHEREAS*, there are many UHM undergraduate students that are majoring in critical needs areas for Peace Corps service, such as public health, biology, education, social work, agriculture, family resources, economics and business; and,
- WHEREAS*, the University of Hawai‘i has a rich legacy of instilling its students with international and culturally based perspectives and a strong commitment to service; and,
- WHEREAS*, in 2007, Peace Corps established the Peace Corps Prep program with the goals of fostering stronger partnerships with undergraduate institutions and developing a pipeline of diverse, highly qualified Peace Corps applicants; and,

¹ <http://www.sendinalohaabroad.org/faq/>

<https://www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/university-programs/peace-corps-prep/>

WHEREAS, students who successfully complete the Peace Corps Prep program receive an official certificate of completion from the Peace Corps, which provides a competitive edge should they choose to apply to be a Peace Corps volunteer after graduation; and,

WHEREAS, the Peace Corps Prep program allows each partner university to create a path by which their students may meet these objectives through the existing curriculum and at little cost to the participating university; and,

WHEREAS, the Peace Corps Prep program uses existing curriculum to prepare students for international development fieldwork and potential Peace Corps service, while meeting four interdisciplinary learning objectives that serve this end; and

WHEREAS, a Peace Corps Prep program at the University of Hawai‘i, in partnership with the Spark M. Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, would prepare students for service in the Peace Corps by designing individualized course plans that emphasizes sector-specific skills; foreign language training; intercultural and diversity-based coursework; leadership and professional training; and any other curricular requirements for Peace Corps service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH would like to recognize that students deserve academic opportunities that will prepare them for a desired postgraduate opportunity such as the Peace Corps; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ASUH renews its belief that Hawai‘i is an ideal location to learn and thrive in an internationally compelling environment, which contributes to the preparation of students for the Peace Corps; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the ASUH, that the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, in partnership with the Spark M. Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, is encouraged to create a Peace Corps Prep program to prepare students for postgraduate service opportunities with the United States Peace Corps; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: the UHM Chancellor, UHM Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Michael Bruno, the UHM Spark M. Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution Director Carole Petersen, UHM College of Social Sciences Dean Denise Konan, Peace Corps Campus Recruiter at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa K. Grace Magruder, Peace Corps Director Carrie Hessler-Radelet, and Ka Leo O Hawai‘i.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Aye(s): Vice President Dela Cruz, Treasurer Hinshaw, Secretary Nishihara, Senators-at-Large Chen, Willis, Senators Chen, Delos Reyes, Finau, Fong, Ho, Honda, Ishii, Klinestiver, Lao, Lee, Lo, Negrillo, Takagi, Urasaki, Utashiro, Wang, Zabanal [22]

Naye(s): Senator-at-Large Enriquez [1]

Abstention(s): [0]

Introducer: Jannah Lyn Dela Cruz, Vice President

<https://www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/university-programs/peace-corps-prep/>