Sabbatical Report

To:      Dr. Matthew Platz, VCAA, University of Hawaii-Hilo
From:    Tam Vu, Chair of Economics, CoBE, University of Hawaii-Hilo
Subject: Sabbatical Report—Spring 2013
Cc:      Dr. Krishna Dhir, Dean of CoBE, University of Hawaii-Hilo

In Spring 2013, when I had Sabbatical Leave, I carried out research on Asia-Pacific regions, resulting in two papers; both have been accepted for publication by referred journals. I also performed data analysis for The Volcano Art Center, showing the significant contributions of Hawaiian artists to the economy. Additionally, I chaired two Mater Thesis committees for the China-US Relations MA Program, resulting in one student successfully defending his thesis in April 2013 and the other successfully defending her thesis proposal in May 2013. Additionally, I continued to attend Graduate Council meeting, contributing to the ratification of several important revisions in UH Catalog for 2013-2014.

Impact of My Research

My research during my sabbatical leave resulted in two papers. The first is “Resilience in the Face of the Nature’s Furor: Natural Disasters and Vietnamese Households,” which has been accepted for publication by *Journal of Economic Development*, jointly with Professor Eric Im, and has published in the first quarter of 2014. The second is “Regional Effects of Natural Disasters in China: Investing in Post-Disaster Recovery,” jointly with Professor Ilan Noy on Victoria University forthcoming in *Natural Hazards*. Both journals are equivalent to the journals in the top 30% in economics by h-index and g-index.

This is the list of students I gave instruction in Spring 2013 without pay during my Sabbatical Leave:

    Eric Santos, CHUS 700, Master Thesis
Elisabeth Christensen, CHUS 699, Independent Study in Advanced Statistics
Elisabeth Christensen, CHUS 700, Master Thesis

Impact of my instruction during sabbatical leave:

Eric Santos: successfully defended his Master Thesis in April 2013, which was during my sabbatical leave, and was offered a job as an instructor at a Thai University.

Elisabeth Christensen, CHUS 699: successfully complete the course and was removed from probation list

Elisabeth Christensen, CHUS 700: successfully defended her Master Thesis Proposal in May 2013.

In brief, although a sickness prevented me from going to Vietnam, I was able to keep a close contact with scholars in Vietnam and Asia Pacific regions and successfully complete two high-quality papers. My stay at UH Hilo turned out to be a blessing to my graduate students who were able to complete their projects successfully. I am grateful for the opportunity to do research and to help my students. I also look forward to the future opportunity to continue with my research endeavor.

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