



MARSHALL PLAN SCHOLARSHIP FIELD REPORT AFTER STAY

Please complete the report form on the computer and send it in word-format and PDF-format to incoming.exchange@uni-graz.at.

PERSONAL DETAILS

First name	Matthias	Middle name	
Last name	Kaufmann		
Research period at host university, min = 3 full months excl. arrival and departure day			
From (DD.MM.YY)	01/09/21	To (DD.MM.YY)	31/12/21

FINAL FIELD REPORT (2 pages)

Please comment on the following topics concerning your stay at the host university:

General impression of your research stay

Overall, I had academically valuable research stay in Hawaii. I was not only able to complete my thesis on time while I was abroad, but I also got the chance to explore the island, experience the daily-life and make new friends. By completing this academic exchange, I learned how to independently perform research, how to integrate in an international research group and I enhanced my knowledge in the field of plant science and chemistry.

Furthermore, I also had a good time besides life at university. The Hawaiian culture is known to be more laid back, which gives the island its own flair. I encountered many people from all around the world, whether they are there temporarily or permanently. This left me with a lot of impressions that I could take back with me to Austria.

Quality of the host institution in regard to research opportunity

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, founded in 1907, offers a great academic diversity with over 200 Degree Programs and is also considered to be an academic institution with a high research output. Due to its location in Hawaii, it offers diverse and interesting fields of study like oceanography, agriculture and plant science being an important part of the academic research ambitions of the university. It can be seen as a good place for a project in the field of food chemistry and plant science not only because of the natural conditions and the environment but also due to the university's infrastructure with a breeding center for various cultivars of flowers, fruits and vegetables for the purpose of teaching and conducting research in the field of plant science. Furthermore, the department for Tropical Plants and Soil Science has a well-equipped laboratory comprising various analytical tools that may be necessary for analyses in this academic field.

Contact within the host institution, academic opportunity for academic collaboration during stay

The communication and further the support with the paper work from my supervisor at the host university was excellent. I got immediately responses to all questions I had. However, the exchange with the relevant office at the university was somewhat different. It took a lot of time and many emails until I received all the required forms in order to apply for a visa in Austria. This goes along with the Hawaiian mentality requiring more time than one would expect at first to process and prepare everything.

Recommendations for future Marshall Plan applicants


The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa is a great academic place for future Marshall Plan scholars. It offers a wide variety of different research opportunities and facilities. Since Hawaii is very far away and has a culture that significantly differs from the Austrian mentality, generally things run differently. However, going to the University of Hawaii with an open mind and pursuing research will leave the scholar with plenty of new impressions and experiences both academically as well as personally.

Contact Email after completion of research stay

matthias.kaufmann.1@gmx.at

DECLARATION

- ➔ I hereby declare that all information provided in the application is to my best knowledge, correct, and complete.
- ➔ Data protection declaration of the Marshall Plan Foundation: <https://www.marshallplan.at/datenschutzerklaerung>

Date (DD.MM.YYYY)	11.3.2022	Signature	
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