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Living in **Hawaii** for five months was, without a doubt, the most amazing experience of my life. From the night I arrived I fell in love Hawaii’s climate, culture, and beauty. Despite living in the rural area of Hilo my semester was filled with adventures and friends. Every weekend the university took us on trips around the island. Some of these trips included visiting a volcano, hiking to a beach with green sand, kayaking, and so much more. Perhaps the best part about living in Hawaii was that I was able to travel to three additional islands and see a lot of what Hawaii had to offer.

Due to the University of Hawaii Hilo’s close knit atmosphere I was able to quickly make friends and experience the personal classroom settings. The classes I was enrolled in such as, the “Hawaiian Ohana”, were neat because they varied from what is offered here at the University of Rhode Island.

Upon returning home, I was extremely interested in taking on the position of the National Student Exchange peer coordinator because I wanted to share with other college students the opportunities I had through the National Student Exchange. To students that are interested, I urge you to take a leap of faith and create your own studying abroad memories because it will change your life!

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