Artists Violet Murakami and Mike Mosher planned to see their classes collaborate on an internet-based art project in Spring, 1998, when Violet taught at Kapi‘olani Community College in Hawai‘i and Mike taught at San Francisco State University in California.

The concept behind "Friscawwai‘i" was to create a site for the "Culture" and "Nature" of a fictitious nation created by seismic cataclysm that moved San Francisco to rest beside the Hawai‘ian islands.

Each student was paired with a partner to send and receive three statements via email about "the other side", and then to construct an image and text from that information.

The instructors intended students to take a critical stance in this artwork, and even to question the trustworthiness of online communications. Yet "Friscawwai‘i" was hobbled by students' differing senses of time, priority and classroom curricula.