

The Mānoa Graduate

November 2015 Newsletter

University of Hawaii at Manoa
GSO
Graduate Student Organization

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Photo: Jessica Fast, newly appointed GSO Newsletter Committee Chair

Source: Jessica Fast

Letter from the Editor:

Hello! My name is Jessica Fast, and I am a second year MA student in Second Language Studies from Portland, OR. I am also the new chair of the GSO newsletter committee! I am very excited to be bringing together and presenting relevant information to the graduate student community at UH Manoa. I look forward to becoming familiar with the concerns of graduate students, as well as hearing feedback and suggestions from the readers. If you have ideas for improving the newsletter, or would like to contribute, please contact me at jmfast@hawaii.edu.

Thank you so much for your continued support and readership!



Update: Athletics Fee Increase

By Jonathan Dial

Facing an anticipated budget shortfall of \$4.8M for 2016, the UH Manoa athletics department is seeking to increase the revenue they receive from student athletic fees, the UH Manoa campus, and the Hawaii State Legislature. As such, the GSO is considering whether to endorse these actions and will be voting on resolutions at the upcoming General Assembly meeting on December 10th.

Currently, the student athletic fee is set at \$50 per semester for all students. 92% of those funds go directly to the athletics department to supplement their budget. The Student Athletic Fee Committee (SAFC), which is comprised of representatives from the chartered student organizations (CSOs), including the GSO, manages the remaining 8%. The SAFC uses those funds to support the Manoa Maniacs, whose mission is to encourage student attendance and participation at sporting events, and to fund grant applications pertaining to athletics, health, and wellness. The proposed student athletic fee increase would raise the fee by \$12.50 per year for the next four years, effectively doubling the fee from \$50 to \$100 per semester by 2020. If students feel that they would like to contribute more to the athletics department, this is the most direct avenue for doing so.

In addition, the athletics department is requesting an additional \$2.3M from the UH Manoa campus to supplement its budget. If approved, these funds would likely come from General (from the State) or Tuition funds, which are eligible for use on academically related costs. Consequently, any General or Tuition funds given to the athletics department would not be used to support the school's academic mission. Given the budgetary constraints campus-wide, such an approach remains questionable.

Finally, the athletics department and UH System is requesting an additional \$5.5M in appropriations from the state legislature. Considering that much of the rationale for continuing and expanding UH's athletics programs is related to community support and benefits for the local economy, it seems that the majority of graduate students support this as the most appropriate source of additional funding for the athletics department. Hence, the GSO will not be introducing a resolution on this particular attempt to increase revenue, and we will likely support the bill asking for these appropriations.

In the interest of shared governance, the GSO asks that you consult with your GSO representative about the proposals to increase the student athletic fee and UH campus support for athletics. Such discussions will allow the representatives to truly represent the interests of all UH graduate students.



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Contact Your Rep!

Not sure who your rep is? Wondering how to apply for GSO funding or have your voice heard concerning other issues?

Updated monthly, check out this website for the most current information about the reps for various departments.

Last funding application deadline for the Fall 2015 semester is December 3rd.

GSO Assembly: <http://gso.hawaii.edu/gso2/about.html>

GSO Elections 2015



GSO Assembly

Look here for further info!

- The GSO Assembly is a representative body, with each graduate program receiving a vote. The Assembly meets monthly.
- Agenda are made available one week before the meeting. Assembly meetings are open to the public.
- GSO Assembly graduate program representatives or representative alternates are to participate in the GSO Assembly monthly meetings and keep their constituents informed of GSO activities.
- GSO Assembly graduate program representatives must review each grant proposal from his or her department applicants before graduate students applications can be approved.
- Failure for a graduate program representative (or representative alternate) to participate in the monthly Assembly meeting will result in all grants proposals originating from graduate students in her or his program to be set aside for review at a later date; specifically, until the representative or the representative alternate is available to participate in the review process at a subsequent GSO Assembly meeting.

The list below is not complete. If your department representative is not listed, contact your department Graduate Chair, who is a faculty member, and let us know! Mahalo.



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October G&A Awardees

Name:	Major:
Alma Carolina Castillo Trujillo	Oceanography
Anke Kuegler	Marine Biology
Chamil Viranga Rathnayake	Communication and Information Science
Cody Carlos Rodriguez	Educational Foundations
Egle Ausra Ortega	Developmental and Reproductive Biology
Elyas Sabeti	Electrical Engineering
Emilie Jean Richards	Zoology
Gita Neupane	Sociology
Heather Marie Frey	Political Science
Jacqueline Lee Meggs	Teaching
Jamal Hussein Essayli	Psychology
Jeanette Lee Purvis	Psychology
Justice Dean Quick	Communicology
Kamuela Keala Werner	Public Health
Kathryn Metzker	Geography
Keiko Hata	East Asian Languages and Literature
Leanne Sims	American Studies
Lorenz Rudolf Gonschor	Political Science
M Arifur Rahman	Electrical Engineering
Mirza Uzair Baig	Electrical Engineering
Raphael David Weston Ritson-Williams	Zoology
Sonia Christina Izmirian	Psychology
Todd Masaru Inouye	Business Administration

Event: Coffee Hour

Watch for next semester's first
Coffee Hour!

When:

January TBD

Where:

Sinclair Library Lanai

Why:

- Coffee & Snacks
- Network with other students
- Kick off the semester caffeinated!



Media Focus: Graduate Student Unionization

Interested in the unionization fight and curious about related cases at other universities?

Check out this [recent article](#) about a similar battle at the New School in New York. Share your thoughts with your GSO rep!

Visit us



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UH Manoa Graduate Student Organization



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