

The Mānoa Graduate

September 2015 - Newsletter



Inside

GSO elections

- Habemus VP (p. 1)

Events

- Coffee Hour (p. 2)
- Trivia Night (p. 2)

G&A Awardees

- Featuring awardees (p. 3)
- Congratulations! to the awardees (p. 4)

GSO opening (p. 4)



Photo: Bret Polopolus-Meredith, GSO Vice president

Source: Camila Ortega Ramirez, GSO Newsletter chair.

What issues do you want to see GSO focus on this year?

As Chair of the GSO's Employment and Compensation Committee since 2013, my primary focus was on unionizing graduate assistants (GA), increasing GA pay, and improving working conditions. Last year, in conjunction with other GSO members, we successfully lobbied the Hawaii State Legislature to pass a bill granting the right to collectively bargain to graduate assistants, and we have also begun talks with UH President Lassner this year to improve pay and working conditions for GAs. I also advocate for graduate students on the System-level as Vice Chair of the UH Student Caucus. Other past and present projects I am involved with include pushing for the reestablishment of the Ombudsmen's Office, requesting more student involvement in evaluations of senior administrators, and developing a graduate student bill of rights. I will also assist in the implementation of GSO's efforts to establish longer library hours during the summer months.



Events: Coffee Hour

OUR GSO WELCOMES YOU TO
OUR MONTHLY COFFEE HOUR!

When:

Friday, October 16, 11 AM

Where:

Sinclair library lanai



Events: Trivia Night

Come join us for Trivia Night!

When:

Monday, October 26,

7:00 – 9:00 PM

Where:

Bar 35 (Downtown)

There will be prizes! Reserve your spot at <http://go.hawaii.edu/Sq>



The Mānoa Graduate - September 2015



Yi-Chieh Jay Lai

As a PhD student in Ethnomusicology, I conducted my research in Taiwan and China in Summer 2015 in order to collect my firsthand dissertation data. I am very grateful for the financial support from the GSO and the East-West Center Association.

My research, which uses Chinese guzheng (a Chinese plucked string instrument) as a case study, examines the impact of political ideology on cultural development, the efficiency of cultural policy, and the complicated cultural transmission in regional, national, and international contexts. This summer research took place in several cities including Taipei, Taichung, Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou. I spent time interviewing the leading guzheng masters, teachers and students, observing the musical transmission and local musical events, and collecting guzheng-related publications. These interviews of masters, teachers and students have deepened my understanding of the (de)contextualization of musical transmission and helped me untangle the powerful conflation of politics and culture. This fieldwork would not be possible without the support from the GSO and the EWCA.

Thank you GSO again for funding my research trip!

Featuring G&A awardees

Kimberly Corbin

I am finishing my coursework in the PhD program in the Department of Curriculum & Instruction. I am so thankful to have been awarded funding to help with my expenses as I traveled to New Orleans to present a project at the National Association of Multicultural Education conference, which was held October 1-5, 2015. This was the first time I have had the opportunity to present my work at a conference outside of Hawaii. I was fortunate enough to be able to share this experience with two of my close friends who are also in the PhD program, Malu Kiddo and Raju Desai. We began this project in Sarah Twomey's (my advisor) class two semesters ago, and have continued to work on it as often as we can find time to. It was wonderful to have been accepted to present as it allowed us to feel secure in the importance of the work we were and still are developing. Without the support from GSO, it would have been very difficult for me to attend this conference, and I can't thank the committee enough for that. Presenting at a conference with guests Sonia Nieto and Geneva Gay was an absolute dream come true, and having the opportunity to network with other students, instructors and researchers from all over the Nation was extremely beneficial. Again, thank you very much for the support.

The Mānoa Graduate - September 2015



G&A awardees: Congratulations to the awardees!

Name	Department
Michael YS Pak	English
Jayson Eduria Parba	Second Language Studies
Yi Chieh Lai	Music
Stacy Toshiko Nojima	American Studies
Priya Alexandra Korathu-Larson	Psychology
Kimberly Adele Corbin	Curriculum Studies
Ashley JoAnn Morehouse	Educational Administration
Lalasia Bialic-Murphy	Botany
Rachel Shoshana Dacks	Zoology
Kelly Huynh Forest	Cellular and Molecular Biology
Natalie Annette Hanson	Urban and Regional Planning
Vera Zambonelli	Urban and Regional Planning
Elahe Tajfar	Civil and Environmental Engineering
Jose Pablo Corrales	Civil and Environmental Engineering

Are you looking for funding to your next trip? Is your PI running low on research funds? Apply to [GSO funding](#) and share your story with us!

GSO openings

University of Hawaii at Manoa



Graduate Student Organization

Your GSO is looking for:

- Chair of the Newsletter Committee
- Chair of the Employment and Compensation Committee
- Legislative Fellow

If you are interested in applying please contact GSO Secretary Penn Pantumsinchai at ppantum@hawaii.edu. If you would like to apply, please include an updated CV with your communication.