

# The Mānoa Monthly

Provided by UHM Graduate Student Organization

Aloha UHM grad students,

It's October 2020, and the hits just keep on coming. COVID-19 has already upended so many aspects of our lives, and now we have received news of proposals for drastic restructuring and cuts to academic programs, including graduate degree programs. These proposals are intended to be a response to the economic crisis facing the State of Hawai'i and the University of Hawai'i System - a crisis that experts say will take at least five years for us to recover from (<https://manoa.hawaii.edu/provost/planning-for-post-pandemic-hawaii/>). (See here for a summary of the proposals, created by GSO Academic Affairs Chair Manya Singh.)

Through the rest of the calendar year, community members can provide input about the mid- to long-term trajectory of learning and research at UHM (by contacting [COVID19@hawaii.edu](mailto:COVID19@hawaii.edu) or Provost Michael Bruno directly). Changes being proposed will be implemented starting next academic year, so we need to act fast. UH Administration has promised to formally consult with GSO, as well as other shared governance groups such as ASUH, Kualii Council, Mānoa Staff Senate, and Mānoa Faculty Senate. We will hold them to that promise.

Your leaders in GSO will advocate for the best possible outcome for all of our graduate students. Communication is of utmost importance at this time - we have already seen how frustrating and distressing it can be when leaders don't communicate openly and equitably. Reach out to GSO with your concerns. We will update you and keep you informed of everything we know about the situation as it progresses. As always, you can reach out to GSO ([gso@hawaii.edu](mailto:gso@hawaii.edu)), and our General Assembly meetings are open to all. You can contact me directly at [gsopres@hawaii.edu](mailto:gsopres@hawaii.edu).

To be frank, the Administration has demonstrably failed to uphold shared governance and transparent communication for our community. They claim that their approach for the university's response to the economic crisis is not 'top-down', but the President, Provost, Vice Chancellors, and Deans have been working on this since the spring. Only now, with scarcely 3 months remaining until they bring a formal plan before the Board of Regents, do they invite the rest of us into the 'conversation.' Is this what a truly "student-centered" and "community-serving university" does? Unfortunately, given the Administration's track record of ignoring the voices of the people (see the approval of BOR Resolution 20-03, despite the outpouring of testimony against it this summer), it is highly likely that difficult changes are coming. If the university is serious about its mission to be a student- and community-serving Hawaiian place of learning, these proposals are not a step in the right direction. We will fight with all our hearts for the students, faculty, and staff of all impacted graduate programs.

Sincerest regards,  
Maura Stephens-Chu, GSO President

[Click here for full statement on UHM budget cuts](#)

# Upcoming Events



## GSO SPONSORED

### Self-Compassion Hour

(Flyer attached)

(October 1st, 7PM)

Click [here](#) to register



### Executive Council Meeting

(October 8th, 6PM)



### Managing

### Microaggressions

(Flyer attached)

(October 12th, 3-5PM)

Click [here](#) to register



### General Assembly Meeting

(October 22nd, 6PM)

[Click for Zoom Link](#)

PW: GSOga20



### Self-Compassion Hour

(Flyer attached)

(October 29th, 7PM)

Click [here](#) to register

### GAME NIGHT

(October 30th, 6PM - BINGO)

[Click for "LetsRoam" Link](#)

PW: GSOGAME

### Follow Us:

@gsomanoa @uhmgso @gsomanoa



## GENERAL EVENTS

October 3rd (1pm)

How to Make Word Work For You:

Dissertating and Beyond Webinar

(Flyer Attached - RSVP to [kih@hawaii.edu](mailto:kih@hawaii.edu))

October 7th (12-1pm)

AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowship  
Information Session (UHM Graduate Division)

Register [here](#)

October 8th (3-4:30pm)

Ford Foundation Fellowships Information  
Session (UHM Graduate Division)

Register [here](#)

October 9th

20th International Graduate Student  
Conference Abstract Submissions Due  
(Flyer Attached - Click [here](#) to register)

October 15th (12-1:15pm)

Soroptimist International Fellowship  
Information Session (UHM Graduate Division)

(Register [here](#))

October 20th (1-12:30pm)

Navigating the IRB/eProtocol Process  
(UHM Graduate Division)

(Register [here](#))

**Don't see your event listed?  
Email [gsoinfo@hawaii.edu](mailto:gsoinfo@hawaii.edu) to  
suggest events and promote  
your research!**

# October Funding Opportunities

## Grants and Awards:

- Applications due October 8th
- Letters of recommendation due October 15th
- Check our [website](#) for more information & to submit your application



## Merit Based Awards:

2019-2020 Excellence in Mentorship Award

- Two awards worth \$5,000
- Applications accepted from Oct 9 - Nov 9
- Check our [website](#) for more information

## AAUW Honolulu Career & Leadership Development Grant:

Up to \$4,000 for women residing in Hawai'i to attend conferences, meetings, and seminars, and/or to pursue certifications that would further their careers or leadership development. (Information & application [link](#))

- Grants can be used for (1) Costs associated with pursuing career-related designations (e.g. prep courses, exams) (2) trade certifications/licensing (3) Attending conferences/meetings (travel, registration, etc.)
- Deadline for applications is October 15.

## What is a Merit Based Award?

In order to promote outstanding graduate student work at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, the Graduate Student Organization (GSO) announced the first annual Merit Based Awards in 2019 to recognize graduate student excellence in Diversity, Mentorship, Research, Service and Outreach, and Teaching. These awards funded two (2) students in each category for a total of ten (10) awards, each in the amount of \$5,000.

[Click here for more information](#)

# UHM BUDGET REORGANIZATION

## *What can we do?*

Many students across campus have expressed concern regarding the proposed UHM budget reorganization. What can we do to advocate for our programs? Here are some recommendations from your GSO President, Maura Stephens-Chu.

### Email Faculty/Admin

Reach out to your Graduate Chair, Department Chair, Dean, or send feedback to [COVID19@hawaii.edu](mailto:COVID19@hawaii.edu)

### Support Student Coalitions

Resist Reorg  
Resources:  
[Facebook](#)  
[Instagram](#)  
[Join Email List](#)

### Submit Testimony

The next Board of Regents meeting is October 15th; submit oral or written testimony  
[More info here](#)

### Self-Care

Take time for you & check in with friends. Join Self-Compassion Hour or take advantage of [UHM health services](#).

If you are interested in joining a special committee regarding the UHM budget cut proposal, please contact the GSO Advocacy Chair, Emilee Turner, at [GSOadvoc@hawaii.edu](mailto:GSOadvoc@hawaii.edu).



## What is an Academic Grievance?

- Academic grievances resolve disputes (often grade disputes) arising from the academic relationship between faculty and student(s)
- There are three levels of escalation (one progresses only if the previous step failed in addressing the issue)
  - Step 1: Student attempts to resolve problem with faculty member or graduate chair
  - Step 2: Student prepares formal grievance with the Office of Judicial Affairs
    - Must be filed within 10 work days of Step 1 outcome
  - Step 3: Student may file an appeal to Academic Grievance Committee
    - Must be filed within 10 work days of Step 2 outcome

This is a broad overview; for specifics, click [here](#).

If you have questions please contact the GSO Academic Affairs Chair, Manya Singh, at [GSOaa@hawaii.edu](mailto:GSOaa@hawaii.edu)



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# General Assembly



## HOW TO ZOOM

Keep your microphone muted if you are not speaking

Check-in via Google Form (found in Zoom chat & Agenda)

EC/Program Reps vote by clicking "Participants" then selecting aye (green), nay (red), or abstain (coffee cup)

To ask a question, "raise your hand" by clicking "Participants" then selecting the hand button. When the meeting facilitator calls on you, please state your name and department before speaking.



### Meet our new Executive Council members:

#### **Genesis Leong**

##### *Grants & Awards Chair*

"Now more than ever, graduate students need to be supported and recognized for the value we bring to the university. As the new G&A chair, I am honored to be serving to maintain and preserve this right. More importantly, I look forward to helping to mālama the 65+ department representatives as they collectively advocate for student growth through grants and awards decision-making. As a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning student and public information specialist with the Center on Disability Studies, College of Education, I look forward to adding my interests and experience to the already rich and diverse community of the GSO department representatives!"

#### **Logan Dean**

##### *Special Projects Chair*

"My name is Logan Dean and I'm a masters student in the Tropical Medicine, Medical Microbiology, and Pharmacology program at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. Research is such an integral part of our experience as graduate students and I'm excited to work with the GSO Grants and Awards Chair to showcase all the amazing ideas that my fellow students are working on!"



# SELF-COMPASSION HOUR

*A practice of self-care amidst the chaos of grad school*

*Thursdays 7-8pm*

**Oct 1 with Siwoo Chae:** Self-Compassion: An introduction to a positive attitude toward oneself in the midst of difficulties and self-critical moments

**Oct 29 with Jo Qina'au:** Compassion in Action: Applying theory to practice using activities, meditations, and movement

**Nov 12 with Sam Spencer:** The Fundamental Connectedness of Humankind: Fostering self-compassion and well-being in an uncertain world

Hosted by GSO



To register, scan:







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# MANAGING MICROAGGRESSIONS

OCTOBER 12TH  
ZOOM, 3-5PM

What can we do to respond and  
communicate more effectively to help  
create a working and learning environment  
where everyone is valued, included, and  
supported?



Amrita Mallik

Mallik currently serves as the first Campus Climate Program Officer for UHM where she focuses on initiatives to foster and support a diverse, inclusive and engaged campus environment. She worked as a Senior Trial Attorney for the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and is also a trained mediator and arbitrator with a successful workplace mediation practice.

**Are you an  
INTERNATIONAL  
student?**

**Has your life  
been impacted  
by COVID-19?**

**We'd like to hear from you!**

**Manca Sustarsic & Jianhui Zhang**  
**Department of Educational Foundations**

**conducting a study**

**International students' experiences during COVID-19**

**WHO can participate?**

**All continuing international  
graduate students.**

**HOW to participate?**

**Via video call  
at your convenience.**



**Your voice matters!**

**To express your interest, scan:**



**Contact info:**

**Manca: [msustars@hawaii.edu](mailto:msustars@hawaii.edu)**

**Jianhui: [jianhuiz@hawaii.edu](mailto:jianhuiz@hawaii.edu)**





# HOW TO MAKE WORD WORK FOR YOU: DISSERTATING AND BEYOND

**Host: Katherine I. Harrington, PhD**

Saturday, October 3, 2020 at 1:00pm HST

Via Zoom: RSVP to [kih@hawaii.edu](mailto:kih@hawaii.edu) for Zoom login info

About: This webinar will provide the basics and not-so-basics of MS Word to help you succeed in completing your dissertation in style. I will teach you how to create formatted templates for chapters and how to combine them into a completed dissertation document. These can be adapted to other projects, including journal articles, books, and more!



**Honolulu (HI) Branch**

## **State & County Boards & Commissions**

**Talk Story Tuesday**

**October 13, 2020, 6 PM to 7:30 PM**

RSVP at <https://aauwhonolulu.org/events/>

This online event is for AAUW members and anyone who wishes to apply for a State or County Board or Commission position. Guest speakers will be Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Beverly Munson, Heather Kimball and Jennifer Dotson. We hope that this webinar will inspire participants to apply for board or commission position.





EAST-WEST  
CENTER



## 20th International Graduate Student Conference

February 11-13, 2021  
East-West Center  
Imin International Conference Center  
Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA

### Call for Abstracts

**Deadline: 9 October 2020**

Collaborative research and mutually beneficial partnership are hallmarks of the East-West Center's work in the Asia Pacific Region. Thus, the theme of the IGSC conference this year is LEI OF KNOWLEDGE: Communicating Knowledge Across Communities and Disciplines. When a lei, a Hawaiian garland or wreath, is created, it must be shared with others. The IGSC team strongly believes that the relationship between researchers and the community should be reciprocal and symbiotic. This year, the IGSC invites you to share your ideas and research, and to narrate how your studies play a role in your communities. Our conference focuses on inclusivity, and we embrace various forms of presentation, including academic talk, PowerPoint, storytelling, performance, demonstration, using a native language, or any other format best suited to share your research.

**For more information and to submit your abstracts online,  
please visit [EastWestCenter.org/studentconference](http://EastWestCenter.org/studentconference).**

#### Land Acknowledgment

The IGSC conference organizers humbly acknowledge the land on which this conference will convene is an indigenous space of the Kānaka 'Ōiwi, Native Hawaiians, who are the descendants of the original people of Hawai'i. The 'āina, or land, on which this conference will be held is located in the ahupua'a of Waikīkī in the 'ili, or land section, of Pūhā.

Original Artwork by Mary Taehee Kim