

The Mānoa Monthly

Provided by UHM Graduate Student Organization

Aloha and Happy New Year fellow graduate students,

I hope everyone had a relaxing, as much as possible, and joyous holiday break. It felt incredibly short and I cannot believe we are back in the swing of things with the new semester already. I wanted to reintroduce myself, my name is Mark Willingham and I am the current GSO President and a PhD candidate in Sociology. I am extremely excited about the upcoming semester and all of the projects, initiatives, and goals the Executive Council members have set individually and collectively as an organization. Please know we are all working to ensure graduate student voices and perspectives are heard throughout various UH leadership committees and organizations in which GSO has representation. We are very fortunate to work among many individuals and UH offices who value GSO and the input of graduate students, and GSO commits to sharing this information to our constituents through the General Assembly meetings, newsletters, and various forms of communication throughout the academic year. We had hoped to begin hybrid meetings in-person and virtually; however, with the current variant and climate, we will follow UH leadership and CDC recommendations for the time being. Please be on the lookout for GSO-sponsored social events, academic and career development resources, UH updates, and other relevant updates from GSO through emails and our social media outlets. Please feel free to reach out to me, gsopres@hawaii.edu, for any issues, resources, or concerns and I will work with you on where to direct those concerns or work to answer any questions with you all to the best of my ability. I know these times are uncertain and everything seems to change week-to-week, but please know GSO strives to ensure we work with UH leadership to help facilitate relevant information to graduate students and aim to ensure your voices are heard and advocate for graduate students.

Always with aloha,
Mark Willingham

News and features

2 - Important Dates & Events

3 - Open Position

4 - Merit Based Award Spotlight

Spring Semester

Important Dates

January 17	Non-instructional day: MLK, Jr. Day
January 18	Last day to register for classes
January 28	Deadline to apply for Spring 2022 Commencement
Feb 15-May 1	Registration opens for Spring 2022 Commencement
February 21	Non-instructional day: President's Day
March 14-18	Spring Recess
March 25	Non-instructional day: Prince Kuhio Day
April 8	Theses & Dissertations due to Graduate Division
April 15	Non-instructional Day: Good Friday
May 4	Last Day of Instruction
May 5-7	Study Period
May 9-13	Final Exam Period
May 14	Commencement

Spring Semester GSO General Assembly Meetings

January 13th | February 10th | March 10th | April 7th | May 5th

{ General Assembly }
January 13th - 6pm
ID: 922 4097 8555 | PW: GSO2022GA }

BUILDING PILINA

Our first meeting will be this Spring 2022!

January 13th, 2022; 3pm-4pm

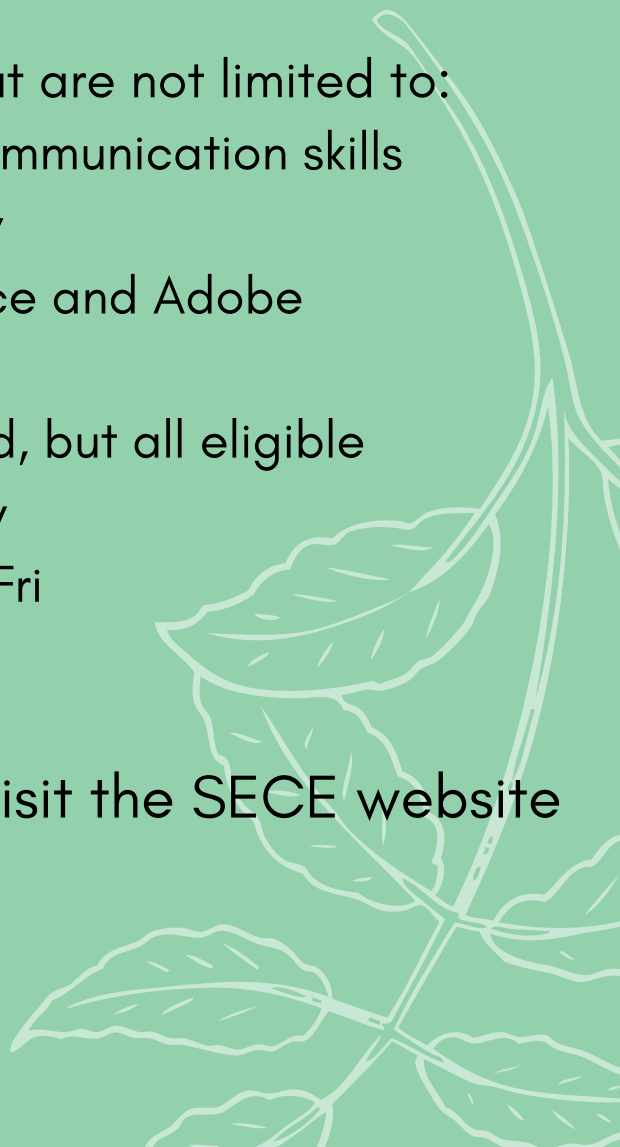
Location: TBD, hoping for an outdoor campus space

RSVP by emailing gsodiv@hawaii.edu



OPEN POSITION: GSO OFFICE MANAGER

For immediate hire:

- Duties include but are not limited to:
 - Work with the GSO Executive Council, General Assembly & Grants and Awards manager
 - Assist with setting up meetings, drafting and distributing agendas
 - Monitor inventory and assist with purchasing supplies
 - Qualifications & skills include but are not limited to:
 - Excellent written and oral communication skills
 - Ability to work independently
 - Proficiency in Microsoft Office and Adobe Acrobat
 - Graduate students prioritized, but all eligible candidates are able to apply
 - Flexible hours: 8am – 5pm, Mon-Fri
 - 10 – 20 hours/week
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For more information & to apply, visit the SECE website
Job #3056

Merit Based Awards SPOTLIGHT: RESEARCH



Zoe Hastings

I am honored to receive the GSO Merit Based Award for Research. My research is driven by my passion for just and sustainable food and agricultural systems and for using interdisciplinary, community-based research to support food and agricultural system transformation. I draw on agroecology and political ecology approaches to understand the drivers of, and barriers to, transforming agricultural systems as well as the community-level relationships between biodiversity, stewardship practices, and social-ecological outcomes.

My dissertation research investigates the potential for restoring social and ecological benefits to conventionally managed and fallow agricultural lands through agroforestry in Hawai'i. Agroforestry is a continuum of land use practices that integrate trees or shrubs and other tended and harvested plants or animals. Hawai'i's long history of Indigenous agroforestry, legacy of plantation agriculture, and simultaneous commitments to increasing restoration and local food production provide an important context for understanding equitable pathways to agroforestry today. In collaboration with a community-based organization on O'ahu, I published a method for fostering inclusive and scalable research results and then applied this approach to a restoration experiment that provides a first step in documenting what transitions from fallow agricultural land covered in non-native forest to agroforests can look like. Finally, through state-wide interviews of agroforestry practitioners, I found that agroforestry practitioners' values often conflict with the values of funders and landowners, which produces unique obstacles, many of which require access to inequitably distributed, off-site resources to overcome. Together, these findings highlight the significant opportunity to restore agricultural lands through agroforestry and the need for structural change to ensure equitable access to agroforestry transitions.