

### Aloha mai kākou!

I hope the start of February finds all of you and your loved ones safe, healthy, and well. It's my honor to serve as your Academic Affairs Chair for this academic year and as the co-chair of the Academic Affairs and Advocacy (AAA) Committee with Alena Shalaby, your Advocacy Chair.

Last week Senate Bill 3269 was introduced. This proposed legislation begins what we expect to be a long process of chipping away at the protections of tenure and academic freedom for both faculty and staff that enable our success as graduate students. SB3269 specifically prohibits librarians from receiving tenure, requires performance reviews of all tenured and tenure-track faculty to be approved by the President, necessitates that no other department's faculty could fill another department's role before tenure-track positions are opened, and more.

We come to the university to take and to teach interesting, tough classes that challenge us and our students with course material some may find challenging, controversial, or that they might wish was never taught. The research we do as graduate students—from our published journal articles to our dissertations—relies upon the ability of our committee chair or advisor to supervise us and not be worried about losing their job because they supported our work. We can only learn and research effectively if our faculty and staff have the full protections of tenure and academic freedom.

Alena and I urge you to submit testimony opposing SB3269 by articulating why the protections of tenure are crucial for your work and success as a graduate student. You can also speak to why watering down tenure with stipulations of performance reviews to be approved by administration and with tenure being denied to certain classifications of faculty or staff, dilutes the protections of tenure for everyone. Submit testimony here by registering for or signing into your account with the State Legislature and clicking the "Submit Testimony" button.

If you have any questions about SB3269 as proposed, about GSO's current advocacy and academic affairs work, or are interested in receiving more regular advocacy and academic affairs updates, please send me an email at GSOAA@hawaii.edu. I hope you have a great rest of the semester!

Mahalo nui, Sara Maaria Saastamoinen GSO Academic Affairs Chair

### News and features

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### Spring Semester

**Important Dates** 

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

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



ID: 922 4097 8555 PW: GSO2022GA

# CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

As we are a part of one of the most diverse campuses in the nation, it's important to take the time to recognize the contributions, accomplishments, and history of African Americans.

Resources to get involved and learn more about Black History in Hawai'i:

### **Get involved**

<u>Hawai'i Chapter of the NAACP</u> <u>The Popolo Project: Hawai'i-based nonprofit</u> <u>organization</u>

### **Education**

Obama Hawaiian Africana Museum African Americans on Maui Association

#### Resources

<u>Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Campus</u>
<u>Center</u>

## OPEN POSITION: GSO OFFICE MANAGER

Flexible hours (10 - 20/week)

Open to Graduate and Undergraduate Students

### 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

For more information & to apply, visit the SECE website

Job #3056

### JOINTHE 5 6380

We are assembling our elections committee!

- Ensure that GSO elections run smoothly
- Compensated position

Contact gso@hawaii.edu for more info & to apply!

### The Academic Affairs and Advocacy Committee would like ALL grad students to sign up for email updates about bills relevant to them.

Please add your email to the email list to receive biweekly updates on relevant matters. We will include supporting materials such as testimony templates and instructions regarding how and where to submit testimony. Please complete the google forms (linked here) in order to be added to our email list.

Title: Graduate Research Assistant (Research & Outreach)

Position Number: 0000GA11

Hiring Unit: UHM Department of English

Location: Mānoa

Date Posted: 1/26/202

Closing Date: 02/17/2022

Salary Information: GA 11-Month, Step 8

Monthly Type: 11-Month

Full Time/Part Time: Full Time/Part Time: Part Time, 50% Full-time Equivalency (FTE)

Temporary/Permanent: Temporary (Not to Exceed: August 30, 2022)

Funding: Outreach

Other Conditions: To begin approximately February 15, 2022. Pending availability of funding. Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the direction of a Department of English faculty member and member of the Provost's <u>Commission on Racism and Bias</u> assist the Education Subcommittee with the development and implementation of research, evaluation, and assessment functions. The Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) will be responsible for assisting with the planning and development of a community outreach literacy-based project and assisting with the curation of educational materials addressing disenfranchised communities.

The Commission on Racism and Bias is charged with examining how we have responded to racism and bias at UH Mānoa and with proposing productive ways of moving forward together.

#### Minimum Qualifications:

- Enrolled full-time at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa, in a graduate degree program at the time of hire and throughout the appointment period, be in good academic standing and maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.5 or above;
- Pursuing a graduate degree in a relevant field;
- Experience conducting research of primary resources;
- Strong interest in education and outreach;
- Strong organizational, writing, and communication skills;
- Keen attention to detail and ability to synthesize information;
- Demonstrated ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with faculty, staff and students;

- Demonstrated experience in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, (or comparable) software.
- Demonstrated ability to both independently and collaboratively

#### Desirable Qualifications:

- Prior work experience on a University of Hawai'i campus.
- Knowledge of University of Hawaii System including its academic policies.

To Apply:

Submit the following: (a) cover letter indicating how you satisfy the minimum and desirable qualifications; (b) resume or CV that includes two professional references (include names, relation to applicant, and contact information, phone, email); (c) academic transcript (unofficial transcript acceptable for application, but official transcript required prior to hiring); (d) any other relevant materials that clearly demonstrate your qualifications for this position via email to <a href="mailto:desser@hawaii.edu">desser@hawaii.edu</a>. You may include an optional letter of recommendation from a professional reference (which may include volunteer or community service references).

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Address:

Department of English Attn: Daphne Desser Kuykendall Hall 402 1733 Donaghho Road Honolulu, HI 96822

Inquiries:

desser@hawaii.edu

The University of Hawai'i is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, sex, gender identity and expression, age, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, disability, genetic information, marital status, breastfeeding, income assignment for child support, arrest and court record (except as permissible under State law), sexual orientation, domestic or sexual violence victim status, national guard absence, or status as a covered veteran.

Individuals with disabilities who need a reasonable accommodation for the application or hiring process are encouraged to contact the EEO/AA coordinator(s) for the respective campus.

Employment is contingent on satisfying employment eligibility verification requirements of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986; reference checks of previous employers; and for certain positions, criminal history record checks.

In accordance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, annual campus crime statistics for the University of Hawaii may be viewed at: http://ope.ed.gov/security/, or a paper copy may be obtained upon request from the respective UH Campus Security or Administrative Services Office.

### How to Give Legislative Testimony: A Workshop

### Feb. 25th 10 AM HST

### We will cover:



Writing testimony before a bill hearing



Speaking remotely at hearings



Keeping up to date with legislative timelines



Tracking the progress and outcomes



Engaging with local movements

As graduate students, submitting testimony to support or oppose legislation in Hawai'i is a valuable way of using our specialized knowledge to affect policies.

For the current legislation session in Hawai'i's House, Senate, and Honolulu City Council, many bills are relevant to our own lives as well as our research topics.

Figuring out how to speak can be intimidating, but a legal degree is not needed!

Hosted by the UHM Graduate Student Sociological Association (GSSA)

Meeting ID: 850 7571 7029 Passcode: 686179

contact jasonma@hawaii.edu for details



### LIKE TALKING SCIENCE?

Want to practice critically reading scholarly journal articles? Want to practice your thesis defense on your peers? Want a chance to meet your fellow graduate students in science?

#### JOIN OUR GRAD STUDENT JOURNAL CLUB!

We plan to critically read, present, and discuss journal articles regarding biochemistry, biology, physiology, nutritional science, and more!

CONTACT LOFQUIST@HAWAII.EDU IF YOU'RE INTERESTED!