



GSO NEWSLETTER

GRANTS & AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Kasia Biaspalava, Grants & Awards Chair

Congratulations to our Awardees!

September:

Liliane Burkhard, Earth & Planetary Sciences
Zahra Khashei Varnamkhasti, Mechanical Engineering
Biyu Wu, Nutrition
Maria Constantini, Zoology
Lauren Arnold, Marine Biology
Rachel Engel, Sociology
Emilee Turner, Psychology
Crystal Kwok, Theatre
Yanxiazhi Gao, Music
Hoyoon Jung, Political Science
Hoa Le, Second Language Studies
John Runburg, Physics
Kaying Lin, Linguistics

August:

Ishwora Dhungana, Tropical Plant and Soil Science
Lin Chen, Second Language Studies
Dianne Juhn, East Asian Languages & Literature
Leah Wasil, Anthropology
William Watson, Music
Won Gheun Choi, Political Science
Nicole Schlaack, Educational Psychology
Kara Riggsbee, Cellular and Molecular Biology
Devon DeBevoise, Botany
Elizabeth Monaghan, Marine Biology
Stephen Scherrer, Marine Biology
Olliander Beucler, Earth & Planetary Sciences
Prakit Saingam, Civil & Environmental Engineering
Bo Li, Civil & Environmental Engineering
Malia Zinn, Earth & Planetary Sciences
Rebecca Goldschmidt, Art & Art History
Banyar Aung, Public Health

With gratitude to all department representatives who took part in our review sessions this semester, Kasia Biaspalava, G&A Chair

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EMBODIED STORYTELLING

Maria Teresa Houar, Diversity Chair

The night of Tuesday, July 8 was a night of ancestral knowledge in Filipino cultural tattoo as ritual healing work, where attendees embodied their stories through creative movement.

SAMMAY, one of the two presenters, is an interdisciplinary artist of Kapampangan, Ilokano, and Bikal descent, who envisions a future where our indigenous traditions co-exist with(in) our urban landscapes. As a kinetic storyteller, she invokes ancestral healing and ritual within/around the intersection of performance are, dance theater and multimedia.

The other presenter, Juiz Bolinayen S. Ignacio, is a ritualist of Ilokano ancestry. As a holistic healing arts practitioner, Juiz facilitates tattoo as ritual healing work. Through this ancestral modality, Juiz supports people in their healing journey through transforming their pain and marking significant stories in their lives.



MERIT-BASED AWARDS

Emilee H. Turner, Merit-Based Awards Chair

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. The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Office of Research allocated the money to fund the first annual Merit Based Awards for graduate students.

The 2019 winners can be found below:

Trista McKenzie - Research
Steven A. Heisey - Research
Shayle Matsuda - Diversity
Michelle Kawelau Wright - Diversity
Ariana Huffmyer - Mentorship
Joy Agner - Mentorship
Alanna Tseng - Teaching
Bryn Hauk - Teaching
Kanoë'ulalani Morishige - Service and Outreach
Clarisse Sullivan - Service and Outreach

A full report can be found on the GSO website: gso.hawaii.edu

These awards were granted through an extensive peer review process. The GSO would like to thank all of the reviewers for their hard work, dedication, and for giving generously of their time. The 2019 MBA reviewers were: Hannah Liebreich, Kasia Biaspalava, Jennifer Belon, Richard Coleman, Maya Ward, Lena Phomsouvanh, Hannah Kline, Sydney Ludlow, Krystal Hope, Michelle Brown, Maura Stephens, Randi Rollins, Chloe Panizza, Maria Constantini, Valentina Alvarez, Joachim Schneider, Kelsea Hosoda, Celina Herrera, Vera Blalock Glushenko, and Daniel Flores.



GSO FOSSIL FUELS DIVESTMENT RESOLUTION

Enacted by the GSO Executive Council and General Assembly:

THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION

October 24, 2019 General Assembly Resolution

IN SUPPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT TO DIVEST FROM FOSSIL FUELS

BE IT ENACTED THE GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION:

WHEREAS, Fossil Fuel based air pollution was estimated to cause 4.2 million premature deaths worldwide in 2016, inflame a global mass extinction of over 200 species a year, and put millions of homes in danger from the climate emergency directly due to human activity.

WHEREAS, \$19-billion in Hawai'i assets are at risk from a 3.2 ft increase in sea level, and all are vulnerable to extreme weather, record temperatures, and ecosystem biodiversity loss.

WHEREAS, all member states of the United Nations have signed the Paris Climate Agreement, and the state of Hawai'i is dedicated to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

WHEREAS, sustainable investing has a higher return and lower volatility than funds that do not have "Environment, Social, and Governance" portfolio screening, and over 1,000 organizations have have divested from fossil fuels representing over \$11-trillion in institutional investments.

WHEREAS, University of Hawaii Board of Regents voted to divest the university's \$66-million endowment from Fossil Fuels in 2015. However, the University of Hawai'i Foundation endowment of \$322-million still owns equity in Fossil Fuel companies.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Graduate Student Organization calls upon the University of Hawai'i Foundation to divest from all Fossil Fuel companies by the end of the Spring 2020 Semester.

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