

# GSO NEWSLETTER

## Congratulations to the March Grants & Awards Recipients!

**Saloua Adjir**, Languages and Literatures of  
Europe and the Americas

**Ava Fedorov**, Art

**Fatima Gatón Gabriel**, Languages and  
Literatures of Europe and the Americas

**Anna Kato**, Natural Resources and Environmental  
Management

**Skayu Louis**, Anthropology

**Elaine Luo**, Marine Biology

**Jenna Macy**, Art

**Ashley McGuigan**, Botany

**Angela Sebastian**, Dance

**Katherine Strong**, Linguistics

**Amy Vegas**, English

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## Upcoming GSO Events:

**5/7:** General Assembly Meeting, 6PM-8PM

[https://hawaii.zoom.us/j/606176251?](https://hawaii.zoom.us/j/606176251?pwd=cXJvczZsOVNUd2ZQXXZCRUdPM1BIZz09)

[pwd=cXJvczZsOVNUd2ZQXXZCRUdPM1BIZz09](https://hawaii.zoom.us/j/606176251?pwd=cXJvczZsOVNUd2ZQXXZCRUdPM1BIZz09)

Meeting ID: 606 176 251

Password: the meeting date in MMDDYYYY format

**5/8:** Zoom happy hour - details coming soon!

[gso.hawaii.edu](https://gso.hawaii.edu)



uhmgso



gsomanoa



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# Get Involved!

## Vote in the 2020-2021 Elections!

Elections will take place from 4/30 to 5/6

<http://hawaii.surveymshare.com/t/GSO-Spring-2020-General-Election>

## Open Executive Council Position:

### Events Chair

The Events Chair is tasked with organizing social events for the graduate student body. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Organizing a monthly coffee hour
- Organizing at least 2 events per semester (such as a pau hana, volunteer events, trivia, etc.)
- Working with other chairs and organizations to plan and advertise events
- Attending monthly GSO and committee meetings

## Open Executive Council Positions (Pending Elections Results):

### Advocacy Chair

The Advocacy Chair is tasked with working on political issues that affect graduate students. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Serving as the GSO representative on various committees (UH Student Caucus, Student Conduct Appellate Board, Academic Grievance Committee)
- Exploring opportunities to open up and deepen the political engagement of graduate students
- Creating and maintaining relationships with local political and community leader and organizations
- Channeling and amplifying the voice of graduate students on pertinent issues such as cost of living, social justice, working conditions, and more.
- Attending monthly GSO and committee meetings

### Information & Communications Chair

The Information and Communications Chair (I&C) is tasked with maintaining GSO social media and putting forth a monthly newsletter. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Managing GSO social media accounts; i.e. advertising GSO events/publications, taking pictures at GSO and other campus events, etc.
- Coordinating media relationships with outlets such as Ka Leo and the Star Advertiser
- Maintaining and updating the GSO website
- Attending monthly GSO and committee meetings

**Contact [gso@hawaii.edu](mailto:gso@hawaii.edu) to apply!**

# Message from GSO President, Dan Flores

Hello all!

I wish I was ending my presidency on a higher note than a global pandemic, but considering how 2020 started, global pandemic is better than, say, a nuclear war. Remember when we asked if war with Iran was inevitable? Ah, much simpler times. Is there no lower bound to the quality of life? Pity that my thesis subject has already been chosen.

Anyway, graduate students have a lot of work ahead of them. We have no official policy for sick days other than those that departments implement on their own. This is something that GSO and ALU think is worth fighting for. We also have elections coming up online, I hope you all participate. I personally support the people running unopposed. They are dedicated and hard-working individuals that I've worked with in GSO and will selflessly serve the graduate students' best interests. However, please feel free to write in your own candidate, or seek other positions on the Executive Council. I support more people getting involved and participating. If this is something you want on your resume and if you believe you could help graduate students, get involved!

We need to stay as focused as possible; this global pandemic will not be forever, graduate students will come after us, this university will recover. The world will still need people dedicated to history, music, theater, philosophy, anthropology, psychology, sociology, political science, STEM, and others. I don't have space to run through 80 departments. Our goal has been, and should continue to be, to provide a graduate student voice to the state government and university administration. This is true now more than ever. One often quoted phrase from Jagmeet Singh, leader of Canada's New Democratic Party:

"People are asking when we'll be back to normal [sic]

Normal was:

- Workers without paid sick leave
- Families struggling to get by
- People essential to our health & safety unable to make ends meet
- A health care system starved of funding

We need to do better than normal."

If this sounds like something worth fighting for, then we need to stay strong and start working for that idea now.

At the same time, none of us are invincible. If we take nothing else away from this global pandemic, let it be this; humans are soft squishy bags of water that are easily broken both mentally and physically. We are not meant to work ourselves to death. Doing so will deprive the world from the great things you're going to do in the future. We need to enjoy this precious life just as much as we work hard to make it better. This is one of the reasons GSO has fought and will continue to fight for increased mental health access across campus. We are not invincible; self-care and mental health are important.

Provost Bruno promised GSO that no faculty or director can make a graduate student come to campus if they do not feel safe. Furthermore, administration worked with the department chairs to ensure that if a graduate student had an RA-ship or TA-ship that they could continue to work as not to disrupt their pay. To the best of my knowledge this has happened and I would like to thank administration for this.

I would like to thank the Executive Council during this Academic Year. I've said it before, and I'll say it again, you all have made me look better than I am. We've attended meetings, we've voiced concern, we've represented, we've tried to maintain our community, and all while trying to get our advanced degrees. No biggie, right? I couldn't have walked into the places I did without the coordination and effort that you all put in beforehand. You've been amazing and I hope we can work together in the future.

Finally, I would like to end with something I try to say to all students about to defend. You can do this. Much like this global pandemic, grad school can't last forever. People will still need things and we will have the skills and knowledge to provide those needs. Something has to give and if we work together, we can build that better tomorrow. I hope to see you all there at that better tomorrow. With any luck it will involve a beach and plenty of cold beverages.

Peace, love and aloha, grads! Let's finish strong!

Daniel Flores,  
GSO President

# Grants & Awards

## - Info to Keep in Mind -

- **As a reminder, the G&A Program does not just fund conference travel. You can apply for professional development activities (i.e., workshops or special courses/training, including online formats) and for research materials.**
- We will continue accepting and reviewing applications, as well as reimbursing for the funded ones that took place before the pandemic. Our application cycle remains the same: monthly deadlines from August through May (applications are accepted over the summer but will not be reviewed until the start of the Fall semester).
- Our review process will be conducted online, after the regular General Assembly meetings. Regular Grants & Awards policies will still be followed ([www.tinyurl.com/GSOGA-policies](http://www.tinyurl.com/GSOGA-policies)).
- If your research or travel grant has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic related restrictions please consider the following guidelines:
  - Applicants who had to cancel their trips due to pandemic related restrictions are requested to pursue all reasonable pathways to obtain refunds for their airfare, accommodations, and conference fees. If these pathways have been exhausted and the supplier of either of the funded budget lines refused to issue a refund, GSO will consider reimbursement requests on a case-by-case basis.
  - Activities that were approved for funding and have been postponed due to the pandemic related restrictions will be considered for reallocation. In each case the student has to apply for reallocation individually, with evidence of event delay. In order to receive the reimbursement for an event delayed due to COVID-19, the applicant must be a current student of UH Mānoa at the time of reimbursement.
  - Until further notice, the meeting with GSO office staff required for reimbursement will be conducted online. To schedule an online reimbursement meeting, use this link: <https://doodle.com/mm/uhmanoagraduatestudentorganization/award-meeting>. Please consult the reimbursement guidelines for the materials and documents needed for the meeting (<https://uhmgso.wixsite.com/website/reimbursement>).



# Grants & Awards Spotlights

## Soowhan Yoon, Mathematics

Soowhan Yoon is a Ph.D student in the Mathematics program. Soowhan presented a paper titled "Reverse Mathematical Strength of Graetzer-Schmidt Theorem." This presentation was given under the computability session in Canadian Mathematical Society winter 2019 meeting. This project seeks to identify the strength of the representation theoretic result in lattice theory given by Graetzer and Schmidt. The theorem states that every algebraic lattice is isomorphic to the congruence lattice of an algebra.



Soowhan Yoon on a research workshop trip in Oaxaca, Mexico

## Joanne Qina'au, Psychology



Joanne Qina'au is pictured here with three master trainers at the Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Bootcamp in Portland, Oregon. Joanne will be utilizing her therapy training for clinical psychology research projects in the coming years under the supervision of Dr. Akihiko Masuda.

# Instructions for GSO Zoom Meetings

Like in April, for the May GSO General Assembly and Grants & Awards decision meetings, we will be meeting via Zoom. **We will NOT be meeting in person / on-campus!**

In advance of the first GSO Zoom meeting, make sure that you have set up a Zoom account and installed Zoom on your preferred device. If you have never used Zoom before, we encourage you to familiarize yourself with the basic features before the meeting. We recommend you start with our “GSO Zoom Tips” (on the following page) and the Zoom Help Center: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>. There are plenty of other online resources and tips as well. While by no means a Zoom expert, our Information & Communications Chair ([gsoinfo@hawaii.edu](mailto:gsoinfo@hawaii.edu)) can help you with any GSO Zoom meeting questions.

**Here are the link and Meeting ID for the May General Assembly meeting:**

**<https://hawaii.zoom.us/j/606176251?pwd=cXJvczZsOVNUd2ZQZXZCRUdPM1BIZz09>**

**(Meeting ID: 606 176 251) (Password: the meeting date in MMDDYYYY format)**

**The April GA meeting will begin at 6 PM on Thursday, May 7th.** Click on the link above to join the meeting, or copy and paste the Meeting ID after clicking “Join Meeting” in the Zoom application.

You will automatically be muted upon joining the meeting. **Please stay muted, when not speaking, to reduce background noise and interference.** Use of webcam video is optional.

Below is an outline of how the meeting will be run. It will be quite similar to an in-person GA meeting, albeit a slightly different format!

1. Like at a typical GA meeting, once you join the meeting, please use the QR code on the first page of the agenda slides to complete program rep check-in.
2. One of the Executive Council (EC) members will be sharing their screen to display the agenda slides as each EC member gives their report.
3. To vote: use the green ‘yes’ button to vote “aye”, the red ‘no’ button to vote “nay”, and the blue teacup ‘take a break’ button to “abstain.” **Remember: only EC members and program reps can vote, and only one vote per program!**
4. The EC members will take turns giving their respective reports. There will be time allotted at the end of each report for questions and discussion.
5. To speak or ask a question: A) Type your question/statement into the Chat. Your question will be answered during the questions/discussion time at the end of the relevant EC report. OR B) Use the blue hand icon to “raise your hand.” Wait until you are called on by the relevant EC member, then speak. Deactivate the “raise your hand” button once you are done. **Whether you are typing or speaking, don’t forget to include your program name, just like at a typical GA meeting!**
6. We will use Zoom’s breakout rooms feature to conduct the Grants & Awards Color Group meetings. Please refer to Zoom’s guide to participating in breakout rooms: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115005769646-Participating-in-Breakout-Rooms>

GSO appreciates your flexibility and patience as we all adapt to this new format!

# Zoom and You:

## A GSO-Specific Quick and Dirty Guide

Below are some of the basic features and tools you will use during the GSO General Assembly / Grants & Awards meeting. Visit the Zoom Help Center for further details (<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>).

### Join a meeting

Once you've downloaded and installed Zoom, you will have the option to plug in a room code. This code will be provided to you.

### Mute/unmute yourself

Please mute yourself if you do not currently have the floor. The "mute" button looks like a microphone and is in the lower left-hand corner of your screen. If you have the floor, you can either hold the spacebar to temporarily unmute yourself or you can click the microphone button to unmute yourself. Please remember to mute yourself after you've finished speaking.

### Raise/lower your hand

In the "participants" window, there is a row of icons at the bottom of the list. One is a small blue hand. Click it to "raise your hand." Click the icon again and you will lower your hand. Please remember to lower your hand once your question has been answered.

### Vote "aye"

In order to vote "aye," click the green "check" button on the bottom of the "participants" window. Click on it again to remove the icon.

### Vote "nay"

In order to vote "nay" click the red "x" button on the bottom of the "participants" window. Click on it again to remove the icon.

### Vote "abstain"

Should you choose to abstain from a vote, click on the blue teacup icon (it's marked "take a break" but for our purposes we are using it to abstain from a vote). Click on it again to remove the icon.

### Join or leave a breakout room

For the Grants & Awards Color Group meetings, you will see a pop-up window that says, "The host is inviting you to join Breakout Room: [your Color Group]." Click "Join" to immediately enter your breakout room, or click "Later" to enter the room later. You can find the option to enter your room toward the lower right-hand corner of your window. You can leave your breakout room and return to the main meeting room at any point, using the button in the lower right-hand corner of your window.

### 'Ask for help' in a breakout room

While in your Color Group room, you can call on the host to join you in your room by clicking on the "Ask for Help" button in the toolbar at the bottom of your window.

### Leave a meeting

In the bottom right hand of the main window there is a red text icon that says "leave meeting." In order to leave a meeting, click that icon and then confirm you are sure.



# Creating a More Inclusive Campus: Experiences of Gender Variant/Transgender Students at The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

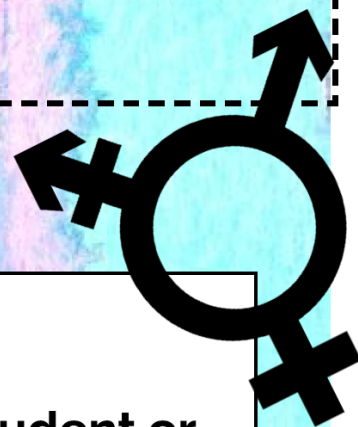
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## Campus Climate Study

Master of Social Work (MSW) Candidates under the supervision of Dr. Rebecca Stotzer are conducting an exploratory study that seeks to uncover the lived experiences among self-identified transgender/gender-variant students and alumni from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. As a voluntary participant, you will get the opportunity to share your experiences and perspectives during a 45-60 minute interview conducted in English. If interested, please determine if you meet the following eligibility criterion's listed below.

## Eligibility Criteria

- Do you self-identify as **gender-variant / transgender**?
- Are you a University of Hawai'i at Mānoa **student or alumni** (graduated within the last 5-years)?
- Are you over the age of **18 years old**?



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**If yes, then we would love to hear your story!**

**Contact: [jarresa@hawaii.edu](mailto:jarresa@hawaii.edu)**