

GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA
2540 Maile Way, Spalding Hall 3rd Floor
Honolulu, HI 96822

Resolution

IN SUPPORT OF THE CREATION OF A STUDENT ALOHA 'ĀINA FUND ON THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA CAMPUS

BE IT ENACTED THE GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION:

WHEREAS, the Graduate Student Organization (GSO) of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) is the elected body representing approximately 4,742¹ full-time classified graduate students; and,

WHEREAS, the Associate Student of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, with support from the University of Hawai'i Office of Sustainability (UHOS) and Native Hawaiian Student Services (NHSS), surveyed 1654 students and found 73% were in favor of establishing a student fee for a sustainability fund; and,

WHEREAS, the sustainability fund can aid the university in achieving targets laid out in the Executive Sustainability Policy (2015) pertaining to operations, curriculum, research and scholarship, community engagement, and cultural connections and its legislative mandate to become net-zero, in respect to energy, by 2035; and,

WHEREAS, 15 of 18 of UH's peer and benchmark schools already have student fees for sustainability, but UH would be the first indigenous serving institution to steward such a fee; and,

WHEREAS, UHM has a goal of being a Hawaiian Place of Learning; and,

WHEREAS, the fund monies will provide grants to UHM constituents to carry out works of sustainability related to the aforementioned goals; and,

WHEREAS, the below outlines tentative plans based on the progression of the fund's implementation as well as other varying factors (e.g. input from the fee committee, BOR, NHSS, etc.); and,

WHEREAS, a student committee will select works that include projects, programs, research, and scholarships to receive fund monies; and,

¹ <https://manoa.hawaii.edu/about/>

WHEREAS, the student committee will be within NHSS to ensure that works are, indeed, aligned with aloha ‘āina, which goes beyond “green” initiatives to encompass a race, class, and gender maoli origin of sustainability; and,

WHEREAS, the student committee would comprise of five (5) students: one (1) appointed by ASUH, one (1) appointed by GSO, one (1) appointed by the Office of Sustainability, one (1) appointed by NHSS, and one (1) appointed by the dean of Hawai‘inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge; and,

WHEREAS, all members of the student committee will serve for one (1) academic year, with the opportunity to be reappointed at the end of the term; and,

WHEREAS, the fund monies will only be allocated to faculty-led initiatives that directly benefit students in the form of student focused campus improvement, student activities, or student employment; and,

WHEREAS, the administration of the fund provides sufficient resources and coordination to ensure that students are thoroughly aware of their opportunity to apply for fund monies; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Graduate Student Organization (GSO) of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa is the elected body representing approximately 4,742 full-time classified graduate students; supports the establishment of a sustainability student fee and fund at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa.