

GSO NEWSLETTER

Message from the GSO President

Aloha everyone,

Thank you all for your participation in the 2020 GSO Elections! I and the other officers - Maya Ward, Ken Reyes, and Mark Willingham - are grateful for the opportunity to keep advocating on behalf of UHM grad students. This will certainly be a challenging year for grad students, and we will need your help!

How can you help?

1) Get involved - we have a number of open Executive Council positions (see p. 5). We will be holding interviews for these positions very soon, so if you haven't already, please reach out to gso.hawaii.edu if you're interested in getting involved!

2) Let us know your thoughts - GSO has representatives on many campus-wide committees, including the teams developing plans for campus reopening in the Fall. If you have questions or concerns about the impact on grad students and GAs, please share them with us at gso.hawaii.edu. You can also reach me specifically at gsopres@hawaii.edu.

3) Keep being awesome (to yourself and to each other) - One of my favorite things about being involved in GSO is getting to know so many grad students and their amazing research, community service, and hobbies. Take advantage of our virtual events to make/maintain connections and take your mind off of the chaos for an hour or two.

With gratitude,

Maura Stephens-Chu

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Congratulations to the April and May Grants & Awards Recipients!

Peter Bushell, History

Mehmet Caliskan, Languages and
Literatures of Europe and the
Americas

Sasithorn Chornkrathok, Earth and
Planetary Sciences

Maria Costantini, Zoology

Kathryn Feloy, Oceanography

Xiaole Han, Civil and Environmental
Engineering

Celina Herrera, Psychology

Maria Houar, Theatre

Sakawrat Kitkuakul, Business
Administration

Lucie Knor, Oceanography

Tatsuki Kohatsu, Geography

Marguerite Liechtenstein,
Communicology

Kaiying Lin, Linguistics

Claire Lewis, Zoology

Cassandra Matsushige,
Developmental and Reproductive
Biology

Maria Gallego Mingo, Oceanography

Antonio Miranda, Oceanography

Brytne Okuhata, Earth and Planetary
Sciences

Joey Ooka, Molecular Biosciences and
Bioengineering

Nadezna Ortega, Political Science

Foley Pfalzgraf, Geography

Thi Giang Chau Truong, Second
Language Studies

Sarah Tucker, Marine Biology

John Villareal, Linguistics

**Our next Grants & Awards meeting will be after the
General Assembly meeting on August 27th**

**You can still submit applications over the summer,
but they won't be reviewed until the August meeting**

Student Caucus BOR Presentation

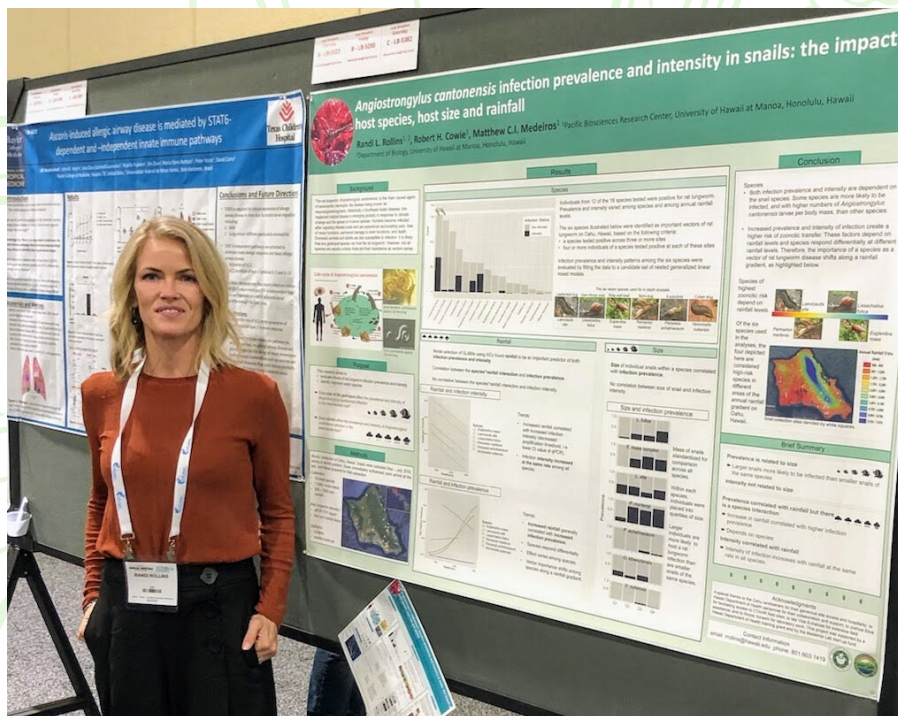
[Watch here!](#)

Representing over 50,000 students across 10 campuses, the University of Hawaii Student Caucus recently presented virtually to the Board of Regents about their Standing Committees, Legislative Advocacy, and Creating a Post-Covid Future. Ari Eisenstat, GSO Sustainability Chair and Student Caucus Delegate, was one of the presenters!

Grants & Awards Spotlight

Randi Rollins, Zoology

My name is Randi Rollins, a 3rd year Zoology PhD student. The GSO award allowed me to travel to Maryland to present my recent findings of how the environment and host characteristics interact and impact the intensity and prevalence of rat-lungworm (*Angiostrongylus cantonensis*) larvae in snails. Thanks GSO!



Randi presenting her work at the American Society for Tropical Medicine and Hygiene 68th Annual Meeting

Upcoming Meetings and Events

6/18: General Assembly Meeting, 6-8 PM

6/25: Executive Council Meeting, 6-8 PM

**Stay tuned for details on virtual coffee hours
and pau hana throughout the summer!**

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).
- 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>).

Get Involved!

Open Executive Council Positions:

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

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 to apply!

Instructions for GSO Zoom Meetings

This summer, the GSO General Assembly meetings will be held via Zoom. **We will NOT be meeting in person / on-campus!**

In advance of your 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 (gsinfo@hawaii.edu) can help you with any GSO Zoom meeting questions.

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 virtual meetings are run. They are 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!**

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. 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.

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.

Recruitment for UHM Campus Physical Accessibility Online Survey

Aloha,

I'm Hye Jin Park, an associate professor at the Center on Disability Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM).

With the UHM SEED IDEAS grant, I'm conducting a UHM campus physical accessibility study. As part of the study, I developed a user-based campus physical accessibility survey in collaboration with individuals using a wheelchair. I am looking for up to 40 individuals (students, faculty, staff, and visitors) using a wheelchair or walker who will fill out the online survey based on their own experiences.

The purpose of the survey is to understand the UHM campus physical accessibility from the perspective of individuals using a wheelchair or walker. The survey will take about an hour to complete it.

I expect no or very minimal risk for participating in this study. However, you may feel tired in filling out the survey. You will be allowed to take a break and continue the survey.

There is no direct benefit to you, but your input will help understand the current status of UHM campus physical accessibility and make suggestions for improvement. \$10 gift card will be provided as compensation for completing the survey.

The study participation is voluntary, so you can withdraw at any time without any penalty.

If you have a question or prefer to meet to fill out the survey, email me at parkhye@hawaii.edu.

If you meet the inclusion criterion and are interested in taking the survey, click the link below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PhysicalAccessibility>

Thank you!