

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I AT MĀNOA
2465 Campus Road, Campus Center 211A
Honolulu HI 96822

SENATE RESOLUTION 02-20
IN SUPPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I TUITION SCHEDULE FOR AY 2020-2021
THROUGH AY 2022-2023

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:

WHEREAS, the Associated Students of the University of Hawai‘i (ASUH) at Mānoa Senate is the elected body representing approximately 10,000 full-time classified undergraduate students; and,

WHEREAS, for years there’s been a growing concern about rising undergraduate tuition rates at the University of Hawai‘i; and,

WHEREAS, as of Spring 2019, full-time undergraduate Hawai‘i residents at UH Mānoa (UHM) currently pay \$5,544 per semester and part-time undergraduate Hawai‘i residents are paying \$462 per credit hour; and,¹

WHEREAS, full-time non-resident undergraduates at UHM pay \$16,560 per semester and part-time nonresident undergraduates are paying \$1,380 per credit hour, and nonresident undergraduate tuition is nearly three times more than resident undergraduate tuition; and,²

WHEREAS, relative to the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) U.S. Resident Undergraduate tuition averages, which is at \$11,394, UHM tuition is at \$11,970 which is *higher* than the stated average³; and,

WHEREAS, relative to the WICHE Non-Resident Undergraduate tuition figures, the average tuition is \$31,202, UHM tuition is at \$34,002, which is also higher than the stated average⁴; and,

WHEREAS, in 2017, 45% of UHM students graduated with debt, averaging \$24,233⁵; and,

WHEREAS, in a 2012 survey, 49% of students who dropped out of the UHM stated that the tuition and fees were not affordable⁶; and,

¹ <http://www.catalog.hawaii.edu/tuitionfees/regtuition.htm>

² Ibid

³ http://www.hawaii.edu/offices/bor/regular/materials/201901310845/BOR_Meeting_of_01_31_19_Materials_FOR_UPLOAD.pdf

⁴ Ibid

⁵ https://ticas.org/posd/map-state-data#overlay=posd/state_data/2018/hi

⁶ <http://manoa.hawaii.edu/hepc/wp-content/uploads/Student-Costs-of-Living-Tuition-and-Debt-at-the-University-of-Hawai%E2%80%98i-.pdf>

WHEREAS, the 103rd ASUH Senate approved Resolution 20-16 which opposed state legislation that intended on disqualifying resident undergraduate students from paying resident tuition based on their number of credit hours and forcing resident undergraduate students to pay three times more than the resident tuition rate for every credit hour after one hundred fifty credit hours; and,

WHEREAS, the 103rd ASUH Senate also approved Resolution 27-16 which strongly opposed the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents tuition proposal for academic years 2017-2020 in order to address the deferred maintenance backlog, which amounted to approximately \$2.36 million. The 103rd ASUH Senate believed that the proposal was a short-term solution and was not sustainable in the long-run because it necessitates further increases in revenue whether that should come from the state or from the students through tuition monies in the future; and,

WHEREAS, despite the 103rd ASUH Senate opposition, the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents approved the tuition proposal for the academic years 2017-2020.

WHEREAS, the University has recently projected changes in enrollment and retention, allowing for the consideration to decrease and freeze tuition rates, leading to the tuition schedule proposal presented to the Board of Regents (BOR) in January 2019: to reduce all tuition rates for 2019-2020 and maintain the proposed rate throughout 2021-2023⁷; and,

WHEREAS, the 106th ASUH Senate approved Resolution 11-19 which supported the tuition proposal to decrease and freeze UH tuition rates and emphasized maintaining funding for student programs, support and services despite the request to decrease UH tuition rates⁸; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Hawai‘i (UH) administration proposed a new tuition schedule for academic years (AY) 2020-2021 to 2022-2023, that has been approved by the Board of Regents on May 18, 2019⁹; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Hawai‘i (UH) administration tuition schedule for academic years (AY) 2020-2021 to 2022-2023 declares a steady tuition rate - a tuition freeze - that maintains the same undergraduate tuition rates from AY 2019-2020 throughout AYs 2021-2023; and now therefore,

⁷http://www.hawaii.edu/offices/bor/regular/materials/201901310845/BOR_Meeting_of_01_31_19_Materials_FOR_UPLOAD.pdf

⁸http://www.hawaii.edu/offices/bor/regular/materials/201901310845/BOR_Meeting_of_01_31_19_Materials_FOR_UPLOAD.pdf

⁹http://www.hawaii.edu/offices/bor/regular/materials/201905160945/BOR_Meeting_of_05_16_19_Meeting_Materials_FOR_UPLOAD.pdf

BE IT RESOLVED, that the ASUH continues to express its stance regarding UHM's undergraduate tuition and fees and its support for more affordable means to cover or reduce the high cost of attendance at UHM; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH believes that it is important to keep considering both the cost and quality associated with providing an education to the students here at the University of Hawai'i, and that the current cost structure is approaching the point where it might not be as valuable pursuing an education here; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH believes that a tuition freeze and or lower tuition will help promote college affordability, increase accessibility to higher education for all students, and alleviate the financial burden on students; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH recognizes that previous tuition proposals were intended to address the millions of dollars in deferred maintenance, thus the ASUH urges the University of Hawai'i to seek other additional and or external sources of funding to address the deferred maintenance; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH urges that UHM remain committed to addressing long standing challenges around renewal, improvement and modernization of facilities as fluctuations in enrollments will occur¹⁰ despite changes in tuition rates; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH also recognizes that a freeze or decrease in tuition leads to a limited funds towards University programs and support. Therefore the ASUH urges the University to ensure that funding for programs, services and support related to students are not negatively affected from tuition rate changes; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH urges that UHM continue to meet or exceed the minimum percentage levels of institutional aid, as defined in EP 6.204¹¹; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ASUH is in support of the University Administration and State Legislature's efforts to help lower the cost of tuition and fees and help address the unmet needs of students; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ASUH urges the University to continue to pursue effective ways to alleviate the cost of tuition and fees, without compromising what our University already has to offer and the value of our education; and,

¹⁰http://www.hawaii.edu/offices/bor/regular/materials/201905160945/BOR_Meeting_of_05_16_19_Meeting_Materials_FOR_UP_LOAD.pdf

¹¹ <https://www.hawaii.edu/policy/?action=viewPolicy&policySection=ep&policyChapter=6&policyNumber=204>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ASUH is in support of the University of Hawai'i Tuition Schedule for AY 2020-2021 through AY 2022-2023; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ASUH is in opposition to any and all future increases of UHM tuition without proper student consultation; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents Chair Lee Putnam and Members, President and UHM Interim Chancellor David Lassner, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Chancellor for Research Michael Bruno, Interim Vice Chancellor for Students Lori Ideta, the Graduate Student Organization, and Ka Leo O Hawai'i.

INTRODUCERS: Jannah Lyn Dela Cruz, Senator of the School of Architecture

ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE SENATE RESOLUTION 02-20 WITH AMENDMENTS

Aye(s): Vice President Chun, Interim Secretary Dela Cruz, Treasurer Pacanuayan, SALs Manabe, Senators Armstrong-Patterson, Aspacio, Baguio, Balico, Friedman, Juliano, Salameh, Su, Transfiguracion
[13]

Naye(s): [0]

Abstention(s): [0]

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE 107th SENATE ON THE 20th DAY OF JUNE 2019



Jannah Lyn Dela Cruz
Interim Secretary, 107th Senate



Landon Li
President, 107th Senate