

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

SENATE RESOLUTION 02-18

IN STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS, IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS, AND CHANGES REGARDING SINCLAIR LIBRARY HOURS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:

- WHEREAS*, the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Senate is the elected body representing approximately 10,000 full-time, classified undergraduate students; and,
- WHEREAS*, the Gregg M. Sinclair Library currently operates on a 24-hour basis from 12:00PM on Sunday to 6:00PM on Friday, and from 12:00PM to 6:00PM on Saturday; and,
- WHEREAS*, in 2006, the ASUH 95th Senate passed Senate Resolution 05-07: 'REQUEST THAT FUNDS BE USED FOR '24/5' HOUR HAMILTON LIBRARY' in an effort to make Hamilton library open 24 hours a day for 5 days a week; and,
- WHEREAS*, the ASUH later compromised with the UH Libraries to make Sinclair Library open 24 hours a day for 4 days a week, securing the 24 hour operations Sinclair Library has in place today; and,
- WHEREAS*, at the ASUH General Senate Meeting on September 13, 2017, Interim University Librarian Dr. Monica Ghosh and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education Dr. Ronald Cambra notified the ASUH Senate of a change in Sinclair Library's hours of operation, which will take effect on October 1, 2017; and,
- WHEREAS*, according to Dr. Ghosh, Sinclair Library's new general hours of operation will be from 8:00AM to 10:00PM Monday through Thursday, 8:00AM to 6:00PM on Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM on Saturday, and 12:00PM to 10:00PM on Sunday; and,
- WHEREAS*, if these changes are implemented, the total number of weekly operating hours for Sinclair Library will be drastically reduced from 132 hours to 84 hours—an approximate 36% decrease; and,
- WHEREAS*, while ASUH was informed Sinclair Library usage decreases during the hours between 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM, the students who enter before 10:00 PM and remain in the library may not have been accounted for in the data; and,

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE SENATE ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2017

WHEREAS, the Mānoa Institutional Research Office, under the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, asserts “ because of its commitment to institutional accountability and effectiveness, UH Mānoa has developed a list of nine peer institutions, and nine benchmark institutions to gauge its performance.”¹; and,

WHEREAS, the UHM’s Benchmark Institutions are the University of California- Davis, University of California- Irvine, University of California- San Diego, University of Colorado- Boulder, University of Iowa- Iowa City, University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill, University of Pittsburgh- Pittsburgh, University of Tennessee- Knoxville, and the University of Washington- Seattle; and,

WHEREAS, 8 of the 9 UHM Benchmark Institutions offer 24-hour library hours for its students; and,

WHEREAS, the UHM Peer Institutions are Colorado State University- Fort Collins, Mississippi State University- Starkville, Oregon State University- Corvallis, University of Arizona- Tucson, University of Illinois- Chicago, University of Kentucky- Lexington, University of New Mexico- Albuquerque, University of South Florida- Tampa, and the University of Utah- Salt Lake City; and,

WHEREAS, 4 of the 9 UHM Peer Institutions offer 24-hour library hours for its students. 4 of the 9 UHM Peer Institutions offer extended hours into the early morning hours and close between 1:00AM and 2:00AM. Only 1 of UHM Peer Institutions closes at 10pm on weekdays; and,

WHEREAS, this one UHM Peer Institution that closes its library at 10:00PM has in-state tuition rates approximately \$2,000 less per semester than UHM;² and,

WHEREAS, the majority of UHM Peer and Benchmark Institutions clearly understand that having a 24-hour library, or a library with extended hours supports its academic missions and the academic success of its students; and

WHEREAS, the UHM’s desire to reduce library hours suggests a lack of alignment with best practices across our Peer and Benchmark Institutions, a low level of accountability and effectiveness, and a lack of support for the overall academic success of students; and

¹ Manoa Institutional Research Office Peers/Benchmark. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://manoa.hawaii.edu/miro/peersbenchmark/>

² Oregon State University Tuition & Fee Schedules Academic Year 2017-18 and Summer Term 2018. (2017, April 21). Retrieved from http://fa.oregonstate.edu/sites/fa.oregonstate.edu/files/budget/tuition_fees/ay2017-2018-summer2018_oregon-state-university-tuition-fee-schedules-4.21.2017.pdf

WHEREAS, in a recent study, “90% of student[s]...agreed that the availability of [late night library hours] had a positive impact on their academic success”³; and,

WHEREAS, the student body at large was officially notified of Sinclair Library’s new hours via email on September 15, 2017, 16 calendar days prior to their enactment; and,

WHEREAS, the ASUH was neither consulted about the change prior to its finalization nor was it included in any decision-making; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH strongly believes a 36% reduction in available library hours while planning to implement tuition increases is shameful and suggests management ineffectiveness; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH strongly questions the comprehensiveness, accuracy, and applicability of the data presented to the body regarding library usage and how those statistics influenced the final decision; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH strongly believes, if implemented, the new library hours will limit student access to a safe place to study on-campus throughout the semester resulting in an adverse effect on overall student academic success; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the lack of transparency and open dialogue with students about this issue before and during decision making exemplifies a blatant disregard for both student input on a matter that directly affects them as well as the principle of shared governance upon which the ASUH was established; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH strongly believes that a 16 calendar day notice, from the time the student body was formally notified of this change to the day of its implementation, exemplifies a lack of courtesy, disconnect with student needs, and is generally unacceptable; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUH strongly believes that hasty implementation of the decision to reduce library hours will result in student stress and hindered academic performance; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ASUH strongly recommends that a student survey be completed by the Office of the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education and the UHM Libraries to assess student needs with regards to library hours before the October 1st change in hours are implemented; and,

³ Sowell, S. L., & Nutefall, J. E. (2014). Mysteries in the night: An exploratory study of student use and perceptions of 24/5 hours. *Public Services Quarterly*, 10(2), 96- 114. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15228959.2014.904676>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The ASUH strongly requests that University officials put a halt to the implementation of the new Sinclair Library hours; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ASUH strongly recommends that during the survey process, if the implementation of the change in Sinclair Library hours cannot be halted, the UH Mānoa Library implement alternative, less impactful accommodations such as operating a portion of Sinclair Library instead of shutting down the entire library or staggering Sinclair Library and Hamilton Library hours to allow for student library access 24/5; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ASUH strongly requests that University officials make an effort to discuss future matters impacting UH Mānoa students more effectively, well before decision making and implementation; 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 Jan Naoe Sullivan and Members, UH President and UHM Interim Chancellor David Lassner, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Vice Chancellor for Research Michael Bruno, Interim Vice Chancellor for Students Lori Ideta, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education Ronald Cambra, Interim University Librarian Monica Ghosh, the Graduate Student Organization, Star Advertiser, Ka Leo O Hawai‘i, Honolulu Civil Beat, Hawaii News Now, KHON2 News, and KITV4 News.

ROLL CALL VOTE TO SPECIAL ORDER

Aye(s): Vice President Urasaki, Treasurer Hinshaw, Senators-at-Large Chen, Honda, Lao, Leval, Senators Chun, Finau, Hortizuela, Lieu, Ng, Nishihara, Willis, Utashiro **[14]**

Naye(s): **[0]**

Abstention(s): **[0]**

ROLL CALL VOTE TO ACCEPT WITH AMENDMENTS

Aye(s): Vice President Urasaki, Treasurer Hinshaw, Senators-at-Large Chen, Honda, Lao, Leval, Senators Chun, Finau, Hortizuela, Lieu, Ng, Nishihara, Willis, Utashiro **[14]**

Naye(s): **[0]**

Abstention(s): **[0]**

Introducers: Micah Leval, Senator-at-Large, External Affairs, Chair; Jessica Chen, Senator-at-Large, Undergraduate Academic Affairs, Chair; Maggie Hinshaw, Treasurer; Clinton Ng, Senator for the College of Engineering, Long Range Planning and Investments, Chair; Eugene Lao, Senator-at-Large, Internal Affairs, Chair