

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

**ASUH General Senate Meeting Minutes of the 112th Senate**  
**#18**  
**04/03/2025**

**I. OPENING**

A. Call To Order

1. Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

B. Roll Call - Quorum established

*Senate Members*

(P) President Reed	(UE) SAL Leong	(P) Sen. Giardina	(P) Sen. Marco
(EA) VP Crabbe	(EA) SAL Sasaki	(P) Sen. Avila Gomez	(UE) Sen. Rosinski
(P) Treasurer Montero	(UE) Sen. Akiu	(UE) Sen. Kessler	(P) Sen. Song
(EA) Secretary Watanabe	(P) Sen. Akwue	(UE) Sen. Lao	(P) Sen. Tauala
(UE) SAL Bielawski	(UE) Sen. Bachiller	(P) Sen. Li	(UE) Sen. Watson
(P) Sen. Pale	(P) Sen. Ziadeh	(P) Sen. Shibata	

*Advisors*

(P) Healani Sonoda-Pale

(P) Bonnyjean Manini

**II. REPORTS**

A. Executives

1. President

A. UHM Campus Town concept - Ewa property

- a. “To create a vibrant hub...used for education, housing, shops/restaurants/cafes; the idea is for it to serve as a social destination for students, faculty/staff, and the overall community.”
- b. Met with a PR consultant who also met w/ stakeholders (Provost council, Manoa Outdoor Circle, and Faculty Senate).

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- c. Timeline to conclude feasibility study is 1.5 yrs
    - d. Town hall planned to gather student input: What would you want to see on this property? (opportunities to suggest individual ideas)
    - e. Reach out if anyone wants to organize a formal meeting.
  - B. Search-Listening Session for Director of Athletics
    - a. Can bring 4 student leaders on April 7th - message President if interested
  - 2. Vice-President
  - 3. Treasurer
  - 4. Secretary
- B. Administrative
  - 1. Advisor
  - 2. Operations Manager
    - a. [SB 20-25](#) updated with notes (to be reviewed in this meeting)
- C. Judicial Branch
- D. Standing Committees
  - 1. Campus Life
  - 2. Elections
    - a. Floor nominations scheduled for this meeting
  - 3. External Affairs
  - 4. Finance
    - a. Finished drafting Bill for RIO funding
    - b. Finished drafting Bill for spending
    - c. Talk from campus administration about funding of certain RIOs and their events, specifically graduations (i.e. Filgrad)
      - i. Reading of [Testimony from Filgrad](#)
      - ii. Message from the DOE given to campus administration regarding “segregated graduations”
  - 5. Internal Affairs
  - 6. Investments and Long-Range Planning
    - a. Meeting with Committee Chairs to work on calendar
    - b. Trip scheduled to shadow Representative
      - i. Regarding interest in Legislative Fellow for next school year
      - ii. To build a bridge between ASUH and the Representative
  - 7. Student Affairs
  - 8. Undergraduate Academic Affairs
- E. Other Committees

### III. SPECIAL ORDERS

- A. Message from the Office of Civil Rights re: No “identity-based” graduations
  - 1. Identity as in “race” or “culture”

- b. Filgrad is not based on race but *is* based on culture, and as a “graduation”, it would violate the requirements set by Office of Civil Rights
  - c. Could either approve funding to all line items, or approve it and strike the line item for Filgrad’s graduation
- B. ASUH needs to gather information and address certain details when formally discussing SB20-25 on the floor

*Senator Montero motions to discuss [SB 20-25](#). Senator Marco seconds.*

*Motion passes.*

- C. Advisor has many comments and questions related to the other RIOs, but for this particular item, is referencing the documents provided by Filgrad.
- a. Filgrad has not made it clear in their advertising that the RIO is “open to everyone to participate”
  - b. Philippine Studies Program doesn’t automatically suggest on their website that Filgrad and its events are “open for everyone”
  - c. Advisors would need those specific details in writing to cover ASUH before signing off and implementing the Bill if passed
    - i. Advisor suggests Senate review the Bill and address issues with it

*Senator Giardina motions to accept SB 20-25 for discussion and review. Senator Watson seconds.*

*Motion passes.*

D. Scrutinizing line items

- a. RE: Alohaathon Dance Marathon – “Event items”
- b. RE: Beta Alpha Psi – “Super Clubs Day”
- c. RE: Filgrad – Graduation event, which isn’t in line with the guidance from the Office of Civil Rights
  - i. If not followed, UHM could be threatened with withholding of federal funding (including Pell grants and subsidized student loans) and more scrutiny by the administration
  - ii. Advisor suggests removing Filgrad from SB 20-25 and creating a new bill just for the Filgrad funding, giving more time to seek legal counsel while approving funding for the rest of the RIOs
  - iii. ASUH has supported cultural events by other groups in the past, so postponing Filgrad and seeking legal counsel for them alone gives more power to the argument [against cultural celebration]
    - 1. Counterpoint: we have to acknowledge that under the new administration in the White House, we can’t just keep operating as usual; Advisors would be held responsible for ASUH’s implementation
      - a. Counter-counterpoint: Other universities have had their funding affected regardless of whether they’ve capitulated to federal demands, so UH is not guaranteed to be safe even if ASUH complies

- iv. Have it in writing that “[Filgrad] is open to any students who want to participate in it regardless of language, race, or creed,” as declared by an officer of Filgrad/Katipunan in [their testimony](#) (sent to ASUH via email and read earlier in this meeting)
- v. Is this “virtue signaling” justified for the risk it poses?
  - 1. Counterpoint: This isn’t just signaling, it has a purpose. Plus, ASUH has enough evidence to argue that it is (and should be) legal to fund Filgrad
  - 2. Counterpoint: ASUH should be cautious of losing the trust of our constituents, especially considering the large Filipino population at UHM
- d. Note from Sen. Sasaki regarding funding in response to Advisor note on bill: “The extra \$10000 is essentially a hard limit of additional funds we are permitting ourselves to access should it be necessary” - conveyed by Sen. Watson
  - i. Provision should be removed since the numbers wouldn’t add up
- e. Beta Alpha Psi’s awarding total is still not accurate; Treasurer needs to recalculate totals for accuracy
- E. Certain verbiage in the Bill needs to be revised/edited; the current version reflects a template from a previous document

*Senator Watson motions to approve minor amendments. Treasurer Montero seconds.*

Majority voice vote - **[Aye]**: Sen. Avila Gomez, Sen. Watson, Sen. Pale, Sen. Tauala, Tres. Montero, Sen. Li, Sen. Song, Sen. Bachiller, Sen. Giardina, Sen. Shibata, Sen. Ziadeh, Sen. Akwue, Sen. Marco

Ayes have it.

*Motion passes.*

*Senator Bachiller motions to strike Filgrad from SB 20-25 and move to create a new bill for further discussion.*

*No second. Motion does not pass.*

*Senator Watson motions to approve [SB 20-25](#) with the amendments, without striking Filgrad.*

*Treasurer Montero seconds*

$\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote - **[Aye]**: Tres. Montero, Sen. Akwue, Sen. Giardina, Sen. Avila Gomez, Sen. Li, Sen. Marco, Sen. Pale, Sen. Tauala, Sen. Watson, Sen. Bachiller, Sen. Shibata, Sen. Ziadeh  
**[Nay]**: Sen. Song

Ayes have it.

*Motion passes.*

#### **IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS**

##### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

###### **A. Floor nominations**

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- a. Refer to [the list](#) of nominees and who's nominating them
  - Senator Watson nominates himself, Hema Watson, for President and Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences
  - Senator Li nominates Samantha Avila Gomez for President and Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences
  - Senator Li nominates Ulupuhi Pale for Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences
  - Senator Li nominates Regan Humphrey for President and Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences
  - Senator Watson nominates Sayleen Aglanao for Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences
  - Senator Akwue nominates herself, Leilani Akwue, for Vice President and Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences
  - Senator Akwue nominates Chloe Jaquish for Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences
  - Senator Akwue nominates Lord Vinz Sugui for Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences and Senator-At-Large
  - Senator Akwue nominates Kapena Garcia for Senator of the Shidler College of Business
  - Senator Giardina nominates Momi Bachiller for Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences and Senator-At-Large
  - Senator Watson nominates Lilliana Marco for Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences
  - Senator Bachiller nominates Shaina Laguatan for Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences
  - Senator Bachiller nominates Tuleen Ziadeh for Vice President and Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences
  - Senator Avila Gomez nominates Scyanne Shibata for Secretary and Senator of College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
  - Senator Avila Gomez nominates Bars Terra Williams for Senator of the College of Arts and Science and Senator-At-Large
  - Senator Avila Gomez nominates Hazel Mae Patrocinio for Treasurer and Senator of the Shidler College of Business

B. Make sure everyone submits their Candidate Packets because the candidate list is being posted Monday 4/7

*Senator Montero motions to include every eligible Floor Nominee on the ballot for 113th General Senate. Senator Akwue seconds.*

*Motion passes.*

## **VI. OPEN FORUM**

**VII. CLOSING**

A. Adjournment

*Senator Bachiller motioned to adjourn the meeting. Senator Montero seconded.*

*Vote was unanimous; Motion carries.*

*General Senate Meeting #18 was adjourned at 7:17pm.*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Secretary Hoakalei Watanabe