

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII  
2465 Campus Road, Campus Center Room 211A  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

General Senate Meeting #21 of the 106<sup>th</sup> Senate  
Thursday, February 21, 2019

**OPENING**

**Call to Order**

Vice President Simeona called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM in CC 308.

**Roll Call**

Present:	Vice President Simeona, Secretary Sakamoto, Senators-at-Large Chun, Kim, Li, Negrillo, Senators Abara, Balico, Gapet, Rafid, Su, Transfiguracion, Urasaki, Vargas [14]
Excused Absent:	President Dela Cruz, Senators Johnson, Oshiro, Ross, Salameh [5]
Unexcused Absent:	Senator Yim [1]
Excused Late:	Treasurer Honda, Senator Dahmen [2]
Unexcused Late:	Senators Aspacio, Yoshida [2]
Excused Early Departure:	Senator Juliano [1]
Unexcused Early Departure:	[0]
On Leave:	[0]
Advisors:	Advisor Manini [1]
Guests:	[0]

**Reading and Approval of Minutes**

**Official Correspondence**

**Testimony**

**REPORTS**

**Executive  
President**

- a. ASUH Legislation Mondays (Senator Work Sessions) 4:30 - 8 PM  
*VP Simeona* There are a couple of reminders from President Dela Cruz. We still have our Legislation Mondays. This past Monday was cancelled because of the holiday. Remember that it is on Mondays from 4:30 to 8:00 in the ASUH office.
- b. Reminders
  - i. Agenda Reminders - Fridays and Mondays (Final Docs)  
*VP Simeona* On Fridays, titles are due for anything you want to put on the agenda. On Mondays, documents are due.

- ii. Next Executive Committee Meeting: *Thursday, March 7, CC310*  
*VP Simeona* The next Exec meeting is on Thursday, March 7th in CC 310.

**Vice President**

- a. Senate Leadership Development  
*VP Simeona* I do want to apologize to the Senate. These past couple of weeks I have been working hard on the town hall, which will be happening next week Friday. Fliers will be posted for that by tomorrow. I will be putting one-on-ones on hold because of the town hall event. Make sure if you have any important dates for your committees, please put that on the Google Calendar. The retreat had to be pushed back. This weekend is the RIO funding and Advisor Sonoda-Pale will be out the following weekend. The weekend of the 9th, President Dela Cruz and I will be off-island. It will probably be on the weekend of March 16th.

**Treasurer**

- Treasurer Honda* Between now and the next meeting, the 25th is going to pass, so make sure to do your rate sheets. I'll send a reminder on the 25th.

**Secretary**

- Secretary Sakamoto* No report.

**Administrative**

- a. Advisor  
*Advisor Manini* No report.

- b. Operations Manager

**Judicial Branch**

- a. Student Court

**Standing Committees**

**Campus Life**

- Chairperson Chun* Just a reminder that next week Wednesday is the food pantry tabling. If you haven't already, please sign-up to volunteer. The sheet is on the committee report from last week and is on Facebook. I also shared the social media graphic, so please upload that to your social media. Campus Life, I sent out another When2Meet. This week it was kind of impossible for us to meet. Within the next two weeks, I would like to meet for the Blood Drive and future events.

**Elections**

- Chairperson Negrillo* The Election packets are out! Come and get them. They are in the office, online, and I have a stack right here if you want to grab one at the end of the meeting. I'm thinking of doing an informative talk session for the ASUH Elections. I would really like you folks to join and participate. I was thinking of having it on February 27th or on March 6th, which would be the day right before the packets are due. I would like you all to join so that you can give your opinion on the Senate and motivate some people, especially if someone wants to run for a specific position. For example, if someone wants to run for Treasurer and the Treasurer is there, he could give information on what the position entails. Other than that, tell your friends about the Elections.

**External Affairs**

- VC Urasaki* I'm planning on meeting with Chair Ramirez just to see where he left off. Look out for an updates email with a temperature check to see where we are.

**Finance**

*Chairperson Li*

We are currently beginning the RIO interview process. We'll be meeting tomorrow from 3:00 to 7:00 in HEM 211 and we'll be doing RIO interviews this weekend and next week Friday. Please join us. We'll have pizza and soda. Please help us award RIOs funding for their events.

**Internal Affairs**

*Chairperson Rafid*

There's not much from my committee, but I did want to mention some things regarding the campus-wide committees I'm in. One of them is the Safety Advisory Council. We met yesterday. During our meeting we had a discussion about getting an AED for all of the buildings. Other than that, they asked me to ask students if we had anything related to safety that we want the committee to discuss. If you have any safety concerns, let me know and I can bring it to the committee.

**Investments and Long Range Planning**

*Treasurer Honda*

No report.

**Student Affairs**

*Chairperson Kim*

We're working with the LGBTQ Student Services and GSO to work on Title IX violations on campus. For residence halls, surveys are in the works. It should be finished soon. The U-PASS is finally done and over with. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 27th from 6:00 to 7:30 PM in HEM 215.

**Undergraduate Academic Affairs**

*Chairperson Juliano*

I met with Mandy last week and she told me some stuff, so that's going to be discussed at our next meeting on Monday, February 25th and 3:30 PM at Campus Center. We have our first committee work day coming up on March 2nd, Saturday from 10:00 to 12:00. We haven't gotten that many applications, but there are still a few more days. Tell your friends to apply. As for the Academic Grievance Committee, I'm going to reach out to Leslie, so that we can try to have a workshop about what AGC is and what they do. I'm going with VP Simeona to meet with Dr. Ideta to talk about putting that in the syllabus. As for the Fall 2018 scholarship money, I'm not sure if that got sent out yet.

**Other Committees**

**Hawaiian Cultural Affairs Ad-Hoc Committee**

*VP Simeona*

I've been working on a couple of advocacy memos that I'll be sharing tomorrow. It breaks down what I'm going to be focusing on in the committee. There has been proposed changes to the proposed rules that admin has set forth for Mauna Kea. I'll be sharing that with you folks shortly.

**SPECIAL ORDERS**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS**

A. 2018-2019 ASUH Audit Update

1. Information Request List and Fulfillment

*VP Simeona*

If you click on the link, it shows what missing items we have.

*SAL Negrillo*

Just to clarify, we're only looking at things that are highlighted.

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. Senate Resolution 08-19 In Support of a Living Wage

*SAL Li*

Move to discharge Senate Resolution 08-19 from the Committee on External Affairs.

*SAL Kim*

Second.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO DISCHARGE SENATE RESOLUTION 08-19 FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**Aye(s):** Vice President Simeona, Treasurer Honda, Secretary Sakamoto, Senators-at-Large Chun, Kim, Li, Negrillo, Senators Abara, Balico, Dahmen, Gapet, Juliano, Rafid, Su, Transfiguracion, Urasaki, Vargas, Yoshida [18]

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

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

Motion carries.

*Secretary Sakamoto*  
*SAL Chun*  
*SAL Li*

Move to accept Senate Resolution 08-19.  
Second.

It is no secret that Hawaii is among one of the least affordable places to live in the world. Hawaii constantly ranks top among the nation as least affordable place to live. Most families are most likely have to live from paycheck to paycheck. This is very true for college students as well. College students face a hidden poverty that a lot of people don't account for. For example, food insecurity, 36% of college students report going food insecure because they don't have money or they don't have time. A lot of students are also having trouble finding housing or having trouble affording housing. On top of that, if you add the increasing interest on loans and rising tuition costs, costs are piling up on college students. This reso is in support of increasing the minimum wage. The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism has found that an individual in 2019 would have to make \$33,000.00 a year to afford the most basic needs. That comes out to roughly about \$17.00 an hour. Numerous studies have shown that an increase in the minimum wage corresponds with an increase in jobs and has little to no negative effect on the employment of minimum wage workers. An increase in the minimum wage would generate large amounts of consumer spending. More people would have more money to spend, so they will spend it. Hawaii has raised its minimum wage in the past. Concerned opponents of this would say that raising the minimum wage would raise costs or cut hours. In 2014, the Hawaii State Legislature passed a law that increased the minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$10.10 by 2018. It is now 2019. In 2018, Hawaii experienced a record low unemployment of 2%. This is not to say that raising the minimum wage would reduce unemployment, but this is to say that raising the minimum wage did not cause the sky to fall. If we want people to continue to afford to live here, we have to pay them more.

*Senator Su*  
*SAL Li*

What's the timeline of this? \$15.00 by what year?

This resolution is calling for the Hawaii State Legislature to get us to the living wage mark of \$17.00 and tie it to the Consumer Price Index increase. We're not advocating for an instant increase of the wage. When phased in properly over time, we'll see growth in business and growth in the economy. No one is calling for an overnight increase. We want it phased in over time and tied to the Consumer Price Index so that we don't have to come back every time. As in for what timeline, that is not up to us. It's up to the technical experts to decide. What's currently in the legislature is \$15.00 by 2025.

*Senator Su*  
*SAL Li*

Should we adjust the wording so that it's in support of what's going on in the legislature? Things in the legislature are always subject to change, so it's important to not tie this down to a specific bill. We want this resolution to be in support of a general increase overall.

*Advisor Manini*

I noticed a couple of things. First, in terms of the be it resolved, you've left it very broad, which is good because of the things you've mentioned. If you pass this, ASUH four years from now could be using this resolution to say give us a living wage and for lobbying. The be it resolved statements are not tied to certain amounts or things that are current. I'm expecting this issue to be around for a long time. The other thing I wanted to point out is that there are errors in the titles in the "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED" statement. I'll work with the Secretary to get these titles corrected so that your templates will be corrected going forward.

*SAL Negrillo*

Move to correct all grammatical, typographical, formatting, and Hawaiian diacritical mark errors.

*SAL Chun*

Second.

Motion carries.

*Senator Rafid* I don't think anyone would oppose this kind of issue. How do you plan to move forward with this resolution? We have more control over the University because we are students here. If this gets passed, I would ask you to talk to the student employment center to see what they are willing to do because they have a minimum wage.

*SAL Li* I forgot to mention this, the last "BE IT RESOLVED" statement reads, "that the Associated Students of the University of Hawaii at Manoa supports and urges the University of Hawaii Administration to pay all employees of the University at least a self-sufficiency pay, where full-time employment generates a living wage, and supporting pay increases that mitigate the effects of inflation on wages." There is language to push it onto the University side and not just the state side. In terms of how we will move forward, if this does pass, I will work with the External Affairs Committee to bring this to testimony at the state legislature.

*Treasurer Honda* When writing resolutions like this, it's important to keep in mind what kind of backlash it would cause. A lot of the resentment comes from small businesses. Were there any studies that looked at specifically small businesses?

*SAL Li* That's a very valid point of concern. We're elected to represent college students, so that's the perspective that I'm looking at. A lot of small businesses in Hawaii don't even employ employees in the first place. It's usually one man shops.

*VP Simeona* I'm afraid for my family's employees. My family owns a crack seed shop. I would hate to see someone get cut from our store because we can't keep up with costs.

*SAL Li* We do have to worry about small businesses, which is why we're not advocating for a one time increase. If phased in gradually, these small increments would bring in a smaller negative impact.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE TO ACCEPT SENATE RESOLUTION 08-19**

**Aye(s):** Treasurer Honda, Secretary Sakamoto, Senators-at-Large Chun, Kim, Li, Negrillo, Senators Abara, Balico, Dahmen, Gapet, Juliano, Rafid, Transfiguracion, Urasaki, Vargas, Yoshida [16]

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

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

**Abstention(s):** Vice President Simeona [1]

Motion carries.

#### **B. Senate Resolution 09-19 In Support of Automatic Voter Registration**

*Senator Rafid* Move to discharge Senate Resolution 09-19 from the Committee on External Affairs.

*SAL Chun* Second.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE TO DISCHARGE SENATE RESOLUTION 09-19 FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**Aye(s):** Vice President Simeona, Treasurer Honda, Secretary Sakamoto, Senators-at-Large Chun, Kim, Li, Negrillo, Senators Abara, Balico, Dahmen, Gapet, Juliano, Rafid, Su, Transfiguracion, Urasaki, Vargas, Yoshida [18]

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

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

Motion carries.

*Senator Rafid*

Move to accept Senate Resolution 09-19.

*SAL Li*

Second.

*SAL Li*

Hawaii has the lowest voter turnout. Individuals between the ages of 18 and 29 are the largest voting block, but are actually the smallest number of people to vote. We have a lot of power if we vote in numbers, but nobody in our age group votes. In the past, ASUH has pushed for higher voter participation among college students with Senate Resolution 27-14 and Senate Resolution 15-16. Automatic voter registration increases accuracy and efficiency and improves access to voting by removing barriers to registration for eligible voters. An example of this would be like in Oregon, when you apply for a driver's

license, you're automatically registered to vote. You can opt out. By doing this, you're removing a barrier to registration. In Hawaii, we have a voter registration deadline that is about two months before the actual election. We want to make it easier for people to vote. Automatic voter registration would also make everything digitized. A large number of voter registration is done on paper. It is not secure and not efficient. Automatic voter registration would save the state money. It's faster and safer. Fifteen states have already authorized the use of automatic voter registration and have seen increased voter participation after implementation. If we truly want college aged students to go out and vote, we should remove this barrier by implementing automatic voter registration.

*SAL Negrillo* Do you know of any other channels that automatic registration would happen? I don't need to renew my license until 10 years from now.

*SAL Li* I think if you're already in the system, they would mail you something. We could adopt that and send a card in the mail to everybody. I'm not sure how the legislature would deal with people who already have licenses.

*SAL Negrillo* I support this, but I think the state would have to work on how to implement this. If they want to catch our demographic, they would have to think of some other way to get us to register.

*Treasurer Honda* I'm not entirely convinced that voter registration is the reason for low voter turnout. I think if people want to vote, they'll find a way to vote. There's a larger issue of people feeling like their vote does not make a difference, especially in Hawaii because we are such a one-sided state. I'm totally for this, but I feel like more needs to be done so that people feel empowered.

*SAL Li* I completely agree. This is not one way to solve voter turnout. This is to just remove the barriers for the voter registration process, which is important.

*Senator Rafid* Move to correct all grammatical, typographical, formatting, and Hawaiian diacritical mark errors.

*SAL Chun* Second.

*SAL Negrillo* Motion carries.

*SAL Li* Is this issue being introduced at the legislature right now?

*SAL Li* There is a bill going through right now.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO ACCEPT SENATE RESOLUTION 09-19**

**Aye(s):** Vice President Simeona, Treasurer Honda, Secretary Sakamoto, Senators-at-Large Chun, Kim, Li, Negrillo, Senators Abara, Balico, Dahmen, Gapet, Juliano, Rafid, Su, Transfiguracion, Urasaki, Vargas, Yoshida [18]

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

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

Motion carries.

**C. Senate Resolution 10-19 Divestment from Sub-Minimum Wage Practices**

*SAL Chun* Move to discharge Senate Resolution 10-19 from the Committee on External Affairs.

*SAL Negrillo* Second.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO DISCHARGE SENATE RESOLUTION 10-19 FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**Aye(s):** Vice President Simeona, Treasurer Honda, Secretary Sakamoto, Senators-at-Large Chun, Kim, Li, Negrillo, Senators Abara, Balico, Dahmen, Gapet, Juliano, Rafid, Su, Transfiguracion, Urasaki, Vargas, Yoshida [18]

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

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

Motion carries.

*Senator Rafid* Move to accept Senate Resolution 10-19.

*Senator Transfiguracion* Second.

*SAL Li* Currently in the United States, there is one demographic of people that are not covered by minimum wage laws. According to the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, it is currently legal to issue certificates to businesses to pay employers of disabled individuals wages that are below the minimum wage. These disabled workers do labor that everyone in this room does, but they are paid far below the minimum wage, sometimes even going as low as \$0.25 an hour, which some activists call slave wages. What this resolution does is it calls the state legislature to join three other states in removing sub-minimum wage practices in Hawaii so that employers cannot pay disabled workers less than minimum wage. This also calls the University to divest in these companies in Hawaii that practice this. For example, Lanakila Pacific and Goodwill Hawaii both employ disabled individuals, but pay them below minimum wage. These wages are set arbitrarily. They do regular work. If it was a person without a disability doing the work, they would be paid a regular wage. This is discriminatory. This calls for the University to divest and not purchase goods from businesses like Lanakila Pacific who practice sub-minimum wage practices. There is an argument that these businesses provide employment and offer training for disabled individuals, however, disabled individuals are usually stuck in those positions indefinitely until they are physically not capable of working.

*Treasurer Honda* I really like the intent of this. I do have a concern with how this would impact the way we want to do our investment portfolio. We could be investing in companies with sub-minimum wage practices, which could be very hard to identify. I'm not sure how this would impact how we invest our money.

*Advisor Manini* Historically, when it came to divestment, ASUH has consulted financial advisors before making any decisions. Without being informed about how your portfolio could be impacted and how this would affect your annual budget, you guys could be making a decision without all of the information you would need. There's a philosophical issue here and an implementation issue. While the heart might believe in the philosophy, there's an issue of if we could implement this and what would be the impacts. Is there a possibility we couldn't implement this? You would be passing this resolution, but violating your own desires. I would recommend consulting with the financial advisors before you pass it or put in language that you would follow up with them.

*Senator Rafid* Is this a time sensitive resolution?

*SAL Li* Because this is internal, no. If we were to differ this, how soon would we be able to meet with the financial advisors?

*Advisor Manini* They're usually very cooperative. If they can't meet in person, you can always send this to them and they could provide comments through email. I think two weeks would be fair.

*Treasurer Honda* Move to differ this resolution until further consultation, but no later than March 14th.

*Senator Rafid* Second.

Motion carries.

D. Senate Act 10-19 To Appropriate Funding for AS(You)H Week

*Senator Urasaki* Move to recall Senate Act 10-19.

*Secretary Sakamoto* Second.

*Senator Urasaki* We need to recall Senate Act 10-19 because of the service fee line item. If you look at the service fee, we were actually charged \$103.25 by MES. That difference needs to be reflected in this.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO RECALL SENATE ACT 10-19**

**Aye(s):** Vice President Simeona, Treasurer Honda, Secretary Sakamoto, Senators-at-Large Chun, Kim, Li, Negrillo, Senators Abara, Balico, Dahmen, Gapet, Juliano, Rafid, Su, Transfiguracion, Urasaki, Vargas, Yoshida [18]

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

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

Motion carries.

*Senator Rafid* Move to accept Senate Act 10-19.  
*Senator Dahmen* Second.  
*Senator Urasaki* Move to change the line item "Service Fee" to \$103.50 and have the total reflect the changes.  
*SAL Kim* Second.  
Motion carries.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO ACCEPT SENATE ACT 10-19 WITH AMENDMENTS**

**Aye(s):** Vice President Simeona, Treasurer Honda, Secretary Sakamoto, Senators-at-Large Chun, Kim, Li, Negrillo, Senators Abara, Balico, Dahmen, Gapet, Juliano, Rafid, Su, Transfiguracion, Urasaki, Vargas, Yoshida [18]

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

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

Motion carries.

**E. ASUH Student Sustainability Fund Survey (Now - March 8, 2019)**

*SAL Li* We currently have 838 respondents. We still have two more weeks to go. I cut off the tabling dates. We'll only be tabling on Wednesdays because that seems to be when we have the most availability. Please join us next week and the week following. We currently have a large amount of support.

*SAL Chun* If you're going to be tabling next week for the sustainability fund survey, you're also going to be tabling for the food pantry drive. There was no table available for SAL Li so we decided to table together.

**OPEN FORUM**

*SAL Li* We talked about the ugly mugs. For those who don't know, the Kauai Marriott was throwing up boxes and boxes of these mugs. The office of sustainability got these boxes and repurposed them with these stickers. They're handing out these mugs to UH students. If you get one, you can get \$0.10 off your drinks and \$1.00 coffee at Simply to Go. Come and get one after the meeting.

*SAL Negrillo* Tell your friends about the Elections!

**CLOSING**  
**Announcements**

**Adjournment**

*SAL Chun* Move to Adjourn.  
*SAL Kim* Second.  
Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jaclyn Sakamoto  
Secretary, 106<sup>th</sup> Senate