



THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I STUDENT CAUCUS

UHSC RESOLUTION 02-20

IN SUPPORT TO IMPLEMENT A STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND PROGRAM FOR ALL UH SYSTEM-WIDE CAMPUSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I STUDENT CAUCUS:

- WHEREAS,* The University of Hawai'i Student Caucus (UHSC) is the representative organization of the students of the University of Hawai'i System as chartered by the Board of Regents, representing approximately 51,000 students; and,
- WHEREAS,* Hawaii has the highest cost of living in the US, 48% of Hawaii households are ¹“Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed” and below, 11% of families live in poverty²; and,
- WHEREAS,* “Peer Universities in other states, as well as a number of University of Hawai'i, currently have a Student Action Fund for Emergency Relief, or similar entity, in place to assist students financially for temporary hardship due to unexpected situations”; and,
- WHEREAS,* University of Hawai'i recognizes University of California - Davis, Oregon State University, and University of Illinois - Chicago as peer and benchmark institutions, of which all currently have a Student Action Fund for Emergency Relief, or similar entity, and,
- WHEREAS,* The University of Hawaii system-wide campuses who have a proposed emergency fund program implemented at Leeward Community College: Wai'anae Moku Education Center, Kauai Community College, and Hawaii Community College; and,
- WHEREAS,* Currently the University of Hawaii system-wide campuses do not have a comprehensive student emergency fund in place; and,
- BE IT RESOLVED,* UHSC recognizes financial security as a top priority for the academic year of 2019-2020; and,
- BE IT RESOLVED,* UHSC recognizes that financial hardship is one of the pressing issues University of Hawai'i students are facing as students have to pay the cost of living, tuition, and personal expenses; and,
- BE IT RESOLVED,* UHSC encourages that with the creation of this emergency fund, students are able to further their college education without great financial worries; and,

¹ <https://www.kitv.com/story/37229770/auw-report-nearly-half-of-hawaiis-households-unable-to-make-ends-meet>

² <https://smartasset.com/mortgage/the-cost-of-living-in-hawaii>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UHSC urges the UH administration to implement a Student Emergency Fund program across all of the UH system-wide campuses; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UHSC urges each UH campus to lead their own Student Emergency Fund program committee to handle the student requirements to be eligible for such funds from the program; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UHSC urges each campus to select student delegates to be represented in the Student Emergency Fund program committee; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UHSC urges each campus in the UH System to create a Student Emergency Fund program by the start of Fall 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: the Hawai'i State Legislature, the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents Chair Benjamin Kudo and Members, University of Hawai'i President David Lassner, all UH Campus Chancellors, Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy Donald Straney, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Hae Okimoto.

ROLL CALL VOTE TO ACCEPT UHSC RESOLUTION 02-20

Aye(s): Hawai'i Community College, Honolulu Community College, ASUH Manoa, Windward Community College, Graduate Student Organization, University of Hawai'i Hilo.

Naye(s):

Abstention(s): University of Hawai'i West O'ahu, Leeward Community College and Kaua'i Community College

Introduced By:

Raiyan Rafid, Treasurer- UH Student Caucus,

Ramon Araujo Jr., Vice Chair- UH Student Caucus

Rene Hutchins, Windward CC Campus Delegate - UH Student Caucus



THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII STUDENT CAUCUS

2020 Legislative Priorities

Representing over 50,000 students across the UH System Student Governments, the UHSC has determined that these areas are of the highest importance for this session:

Education

- Grant full funding for new UH system programs, Hawai'i Promise, and the much needed facility improvements
- Increase pay for higher and lower education teachers
- Honor student rights and collective bargaining for graduate students

Affordability

- Manage cost of living through targeted tax rebates and local incentives
- Adjust minimum wage to the \$17/hr needed to survive in Hawai'i
- Diversify economy through cannabis and hemp legalization

Mental Health

- Provide essential counselors in every educational institution
- Create more preventative healthcare resources
- End homelessness through wrap-around services

Sustainability

- Align policy to the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Divest state institutions from fossil fuels and to achieve net-zero carbon and waste by 2030
- Empower indigenous cultures, solutions, and technologies

Democracy

- Create full government transparency in budgeting
- Support more communication and community decision making
- Publish the new legislative grades scores from the University of Hawai'i Student Caucus at the end of the session.

"Mahalo for your service to the students and community of Hawai'i!"

<https://www.hawaii.edu/offices/student-affairs/student-caucus/>

2444 Dole Street, Bachman Annex 9-6
Honolulu, HI 96822



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII STUDENT CAUCUS

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UHSC Resolution 01-20

IN SUPPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT TO DIVEST FROM FOSSIL FUELS

BE IT ENACTED THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII STUDENT CAUCUS:

- WHEREAS,** Fossil fuel-based air pollution was estimated to cause 4.2 million premature deaths worldwide in 2016¹, inflame a global mass extinction of over 200 species a year², and put millions of homes in danger from the climate emergency³ directly due to human activity.⁴
- WHEREAS,** \$19 billion in Hawai'i assets are at risk from a 3.2 ft increase in sea level⁵, and all are vulnerable to extreme weather⁶, record temperatures⁷, and ecosystem biodiversity loss.⁸
- WHEREAS,** All member states of the United Nations have signed the Paris Climate Agreement⁹, and the state of Hawai'i is dedicated to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.¹⁰
- WHEREAS,** Sustainable investing has a higher return¹¹ and lower volatility¹² than funds that do not have "Environment, Social, and Governance" portfolio screening¹³, and over 1,000 organizations have divested from fossil fuels representing over \$11 trillion in institutional investments.¹⁴
- WHEREAS,** University of Hawai'i Board of Regents voted to divest the University's \$66 million endowment from fossil fuels in 2015.¹⁵ However, the University of Hawai'i Foundation endowment of \$322 million¹⁶ still owns equity in fossil fuel companies.¹⁷
- BE IT RESOLVED,** University of Hawai'i Student Caucus calls upon the University of Hawai'i Foundation to divest from all fossil fuel companies by the end of the Spring 2020 Semester.

¹ [https://www.who.int/en/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/ambient-\(outdoor\)-air-quality-and-health](https://www.who.int/en/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/ambient-(outdoor)-air-quality-and-health)

² <https://news.brown.edu/articles/2014/09/extinctions>

³ <https://www.ipcc.ch/reports/>

⁴ <https://climate.nasa.gov/evidence/>

⁵ <https://climate.hawaii.gov/hi-facts/>

⁶ <https://www.climate.gov/taxonomy/term/3453>

⁷ <https://www.noaa.gov/education/resource-collections/climate-education-resources/climate-change-impacts>

⁸ https://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=124016

⁹ <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/climate-change/index.html>

¹⁰ <https://governor.hawaii.gov/sustainable-hawaii-initiative/>

¹¹ <https://hbr.org/2019/01/the-state-of-socially-responsible-investing>

¹² <https://www.forbes.com/sites/moneyshow/2017/08/16/socially-responsible-investing-earn-better-returns-from-good-companies/>

¹³ <https://www.ft.com/content/292ecaa7-294c-3a4b-bde6-a7a744cb85a9>

¹⁴ <https://350.org/11-trillion-divested/>

¹⁵ <https://www.hawaii.edu/sustainability/fossil-fuel-divestment/>

¹⁶ https://www.uhfoundation.org/sites/default/files/uhf_endowmentreport_2018.pdf

¹⁷ https://www.uhfoundation.org/sites/default/files/fy18_endowment_report_investment_mgr.pdf



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII STUDENT CAUCUS

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: the University of Hawai'i Foundation Board of Trustees Chair Richard F. Wacker and Members, the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents Chair Benjamin Kudo and Members, President David Lassner, Provost Michael Bruno, Vice President of Academic Planning and Policy Donald Straney, Interim Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and UHSC Advisor Hae Okimoto, and all Hawai'i Media Outlets.

Ari Eisenstat
Introducing Member
UH Student Caucus

Kevianna Adams
Chairperson
UH Student Caucus



THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII STUDENT CAUCUS

Post Covid-19 Future

Representing over 50,000 students across the UH System Student Governments, the UHSC has determined that these areas are of the highest importance of creating a resilient, independent, and transformational future for Hawai'i:

Healthcare

- Provide universal physical and mental health care for all residents, migrants, and people of all abilities
- Maximize preventative health measures and first responder resources
- Develop healthcare robotics and automation systems to ensure human dignity

Education

- Make University of Hawai'i universal and free for all residents
- Provide online classes and virtual content with full funding going to local IP
- Conduct R1 Research for Sustainable Development

Economy

- Support local artists as a top cultural export through digital infrastructure to diversify and decentralize sustainable industry
- Create work and education opportunities focused on social justice
- Grant a Universal Basic Income for all residents in exchange for compulsory voting and direct democracy

Infrastructure

- Become at least 80% energy independent through solar and tidal technology
- Create modular grid and battery systems
- Build affordable housing to end homelessness

Food

- Expand agriculture to over 80% locally grown
- Farm the land and ocean sustainability through organic high yield methods
- Celebrate culinary artists and cuisine and ingegenous land



"Mahalo for your service to the students and community of Hawai'i!"

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