

UHM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION SENATE MEETING

Friday, March 14, 2025, 12:00 – 2:00 PM, Nāhiku Portable ([link to map](#))

COE Website: <https://coe.hawaii.edu/about/senate-congress>

[Zoom Link](#) (Password: COESenate)

MINUTES

Time	Item	Action
12:00	Call to Order (Dan Hoffman) Please sign-in and pick up your name tag	
12:01	Approval of Minutes from 02/14/25 meeting: - Link to Draft Minutes:  Draft_MINUTES_COE_Senate_2025_02_14 - Chair asked if there were any questions or comments for the February minutes.	Senator Rayna Fujii motioned to approve. Senator Kiyomi Umezawa seconded. February minutes were approved.
12:05	Chair's Report (Dan Hoffman) - Spring Congress Meeting: Thursday, May 8th from 2:30 - 4:30 PM in the Lab School's MPB - Chair Hoffman will work with fellowship to plan the Congress mtg event. - Today's Agenda: Non-standard schedule to accommodate guests and prioritize discussion regarding the federal EOs and our rights as faculty, staff and students in higher education.	
12:07	Secretary-Treasurer Report (Rayna Fujii) Senate Budget AY 2024-2025 - No updates at this time, Chair Hoffman reminded senators to reach out to Rayna if they have questions about receipts, reimbursements or what is allowed.	
12:09	Old Business (guest Eōmailani Kukahiko) - COE Mataio Kekūānāo'a Department of Hawaiian Education Executive Summary of the Reorganization Proposal submitted by Eōmailani Kukahiko for Senate Review	

	■ She did present roughly a year ago to the senate and feels that this is the time to put forth this reorganization. ■ Want to propose this department, Mataio Kekūānāo ‘a Department of Hawaiian Education. Current programs and faculty (Kimo, Pohai, Ku‘ulei, Eō etc.) would be part of this department, but also newer faculty (Pili) members might also be part of this department. ■ What questions might the senate have regarding this proposed department. ○ Request for Senate to vote on reorg proposal (could be March or April) ■ Form a new department for undergraduate and graduate students. Faculty members that would move to this proposed department are mainly tenured faculty, but of course not “leave anybody hanging” ○ Larger proposal being written by Kimo Cashman, Pōhai Kūkea Shultz, Ku‘ulei Serna, and Kahunawai Wright ● Note: The Senate will be asked to vote on moving forward with the proposed reorganization at the April 11th Senate meeting. Eō will join this meeting as well to go over specifics in the reorganization document, logistics, where it would sit in the COE organizational unit flowchart. ● Kekailoa Perry asked: beyond the executive summary is there a draft that can be viewed? Yes there is a draft. Eō will send to Kekai. As the group learns more about the process, they are adding more information to the larger proposal draft. Eō will share with the COE after we all return from Spring Break. ● Chair Hoffman: what other concerns were brought to the table? Some have asked how is this different from the work of Hawaiinuiakea? How does it differ from Hawaiian Studies or Hawaiian Language on campus? Some departments that are embedded in larger departments. For example, the department for the Native Hawaiian Health under School of Medicine.	
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	● Patricia Halagao: it is important to have a space carved out for the scholarship and work these individuals are doing. This new department will strengthen and support all of our departments. Eō has also seen how other colleges at the university have worked with similar departments and leveraged their expertise in positive ways. ● Chair Hoffman reminded everyone that in the April senate meeting, the plan is to hold the vote on whether or not to move forward with the reorganization proposal.	
12:22	UHM Faculty Senate Report (Joanna Philippoff & Paulette Yamada) <i>Senate:</i> ● Joanna absent, but Paulette will share when she arrives. ● Paulette Yamada joined and shared out at 12:49 pm ● NOTE: MFS results were sent out today at 11:30 am by John Kinder OFFICIAL 2025 MFS Election Reports ● Reminder: FAQs at https://www.hawaii.edu/federal-updates/ and President Hensel's messages are the authoritative sources for how current Federal Actions are affecting the University. ● A "Campus Town" feasibility study for this area of campus (including COE buildings, ULS buildings, and former PBS building) is in the early stages. Specific documents from Watanabe Ing, LLP have been requested. The MFS agenda noted "it would be good to know how the faculty feels about it."—although where to reach out with these feelings is unclear, feel free to share thoughts with any COE senator. We can get these to the SEC. I anticipate more information to come when more information is shared. ● Very preliminary in what was presented - No design was presented ● State leg suggested we should work with commercial partners ● Based upon comments from senators/faculty from other depts, they are aware that moving COE means moving COE faculty/students into a space that is inadequate (volume-wise) and the purpose of the development / move is unclear	

- Resolutions (1) Recommendations to improve student housing experience (discussed) - did not vote on because it was withdrawn so authors could “wordsmith” amendment based upon discussion to include “affordability to students” (presented by Kenika Lorenzo-Elarco, Co-Chair of Committee on Student Affairs (CSA)).
 - Initial report showed: Generally good student feedback about housing HR/staff
 - Area for improvement: infrastructure, internet connection; student Housing website outdated; On campus housing could be improved to improve student mental health, academic performance, focus, successes
 - Most wouldn’t recommend dorms to new students which could affect decision to attend UHM
- and (2) opposition to (drastic) tuition rate increase at UHMCC (this was voted on and supported).
 - Discussion included: questioned if this service is for profit? There was no consultation with stakeholders.
 - Reminder that UHMCC will be moving to a new location across campus in late summer 2025.
 - Background provided in the presentation by Barbara DeBaryshe, *Co-Vice Chair and Sen. Mary Mostafanezhad*:
 - *Sliding scale of 5 steps for cost of childcare*
 - *G funds cover ½ of personnel cost, campus provides utilities/facilities at no cost*
 - *OVRSS provides \$ from special funds & fed campus grant provides subsidies*

Congress:

- Results of senate election should be available by Friday or early next week.
- The review of the General Education requirements by CAPP, GEC, and the General Education Office is proceeding. Faculty are encouraged to attend the town hall meetings and watch the [video](#).

	• There is a call to serve on GEC à need more committee members • Should've rec'd an email about Food Vault Hawaii Spring 2025 Recipe contest Food Vault Hawaii Spring 2025 Recipe Contest  The poster is green and yellow. It says: 'A recipe from the kitchen of: UHM STUDENT, FACULTY OR STAFF MEMBER'. 'Ingredients: MINIMUM OF 2 REGULARLY STOCKED FVH PANTRY ITEMS'. 'MUST ALSO INCLUDE PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS AND A PHOTO'. 'APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 4TH'. 'FOR MORE INFORMATION: Visit the application at https://forms.gle/EsXJYcs3a3EvF6qg8'. There is a QR code. At the bottom, it says 'An opportunity brought to you in collaboration with Healthy Steps Hawaii.' and has a 'FOOD VAULT' logo. • • Guest presentation by SEC-appointed members of the UH Mānoa Textbook Strategy Committee • Presenters: Ashley Maynard, Alice Tse and Nicole Ziegler • 3 teaching faculty out of 17 people on the committee, met for about a year • Purpose: reduce textbook cost for students, reduce carbon footprint of texts, break-even strategy for books, student ready • TXT0=zero textbook cost, help students to find TXT0 courses. https://oer.hawaii.edu/txt0faq/ • Watch for a survey from this committee • David Brier (UH Library) presented on their amazing resources. See presentation slides. ⇐ lots of great information about tech that is loanable, various platforms they work with to get access to movies, graphic novels written by academic professors, GIS maps and more! • For more info, contact: David (daveb@hawaii.edu, Hamilton Library)	
12:22	UHM Staff Senate Update (Kristen Ferrer) • Staff representation in the UH Presidential Advisory Council, “Campus Town” committee, and Commencement speaker selection • Approved for a UHF account • Mānoa Staff Senate self-nominations will be in April!	

	○ Please tell any staff who might want to get involved in increasing staff visibility and advocacy! ● Sponsoring Blood Drive on 03/28/25 ● Staff Mixer Event on 4/10/25, 11am-12/12:30pm at QLC ○ Come together, meet other staff, learn about MSS, gather feedback on staff interests ● Working on a statement from staff/parent perspective on the proposed UHMCC tuition increases ○ The increases have been substantial and shocking. The details have not been widely released/announced and with many staff having children who attend the UHMCC, they are hoping to get more information about this matter. ● Senate is asking what the tuition increase rate is going to be. The last two steps are going to increase by 70-80%. This is what has been heard, but it has not been in writing or released to parents. Families also have to submit re-enrollment but rates have not been released. BOR minutes is where the first notice of this increase came from.	
12:28	Committee Reports ● Budget & Facilities (Co-Chair Susan Saka & Dan Hoffman) ○ Request: Senators, please check with your units regarding any budget or facilities concerns or questions; please send findings to Susan and Dan ● Curriculum and Program Planning (Co-Chair Kaori Tamura & Rayna Fujii) ○ No updates ○ Note: there were 2 more proposals originally that CCPP were reviewing, but they have since been withdrawn. ● Diversity (Co-Chairs Madiha Jamil & Chih-Pu Dai) ○ Committee met March 3rd at 2:00 pm. ○ Discussed if the committee should exist, is it legal or illegal? Reiterated that their	

existence is NOT illegal and they should stand for their freedom and values. Plan to continue with their events. There is fear among committee members. For example junior faculty has some concerns. This is connected to the discussion later in senate regarding the EOs and recent DEI executive orders.

- **Fellowship** (Co-Chairs Rumi Heine and Jen Parks)

- Met on 2.21
- Sent first call for Congress Award nominations on 2.26 with 3.14 deadline <https://go.hawaii.edu/i38> extended to March 23rd for the deadline.
- Spring Congress Meeting is set for May 8 from 2:30-4:30, Thursday
- Reserved the ULS MPB
- Please join the ad hoc committee to vote on award winners after the 3.23 deadline

- **Governance** (Chair Jerica Manoa)

- No updates

- **Personnel** (Chair Brook Chapman De Sousa)

- Representing COE Personnel regarding the Executive Orders. We propose creating a way to collect stories and questions on how the Executive Orders are affecting personnel.
 - Some of today's instruction can be the start to collecting these stories.
- Compiling recommendations for the Excellence in Teaching (EIT) Awards evaluation process.
 - How can we update the recruitment information for the Personnel Committee? We would like to emphasize having members who have won the EIT award.
 - Hoping to put out the call earlier
- Salary Differentials. What is the latest information on the status of the differentials?

	● Student-Faculty Relations (Co-Chairs Kiyomi Umezawa & Shamila Janakiraman) ○ We had a workshop on 2-28-25 ○ We'll have the next workshop on 4-11-25 ○ Due for the GSRS proposal is approaching on 3-16-25 ● Ad Hoc Native Hawaiian Place of Learning (Chair Coco Reyes) ○ No updates. Committee met, but they are still processing the 82 responses to their survey. Still determining how to share this information and put together an event before the spring semester ends. ● Ad Hoc COE New Building Design (Chair Mark Yap) ○ Reached the 95% design phase as of Fri 3/7 ○ Advocacy efforts ■ For a new location for the Ho'ōla 'Āina Pilipili Gardens ■ For a new space for the Native Hawaiian Education Resources Laiberry, founded by Morris Lai ■ Future fundraising? A call for a college wide fundraising committee will be put forth shortly. They will be creating a narrative about the COE and pair with it a media package to work with UH foundation as they support in finding funding for this new building. Committee will be put together before the end of the spring semester. ○ Looking Ahead ■ Project footprint will start to see some activity starting in April 2025 ■ Major work to start in June 2025 ■ Continue to work with the Office of Project Delivery on anticipated headwinds on the project due to tariffs and threat of tariffs impact on the project	
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	■ Anticipate a phased move by department in 2027 as the project is still moving on time. ■ Campus Town discussion resources: ● HCR 178 HD1 (2023) Preliminary Report on the Feasibility Study on Redeveloping Lands Situated at TMK (1) 2-8-015:001 ● PBR Hawaii & Associates was the developer selected to head up the plan and gather input https://pbrhawaii.com/ ● Lori Lum from https://www.wik.com/about ● Reached out to the campus governance groups	
1:00 PM	New Business ● <u>Discussion</u>: New federal Executive Orders and our rights as faculty, staff, and students in higher education. ● <u>Purpose</u>: To raise awareness and build shared understanding of our rights and responsibilities in the face of the new federal Executive Orders. ● <u>Prompt</u>: What questions or suggestions do you have regarding the new federal Executive Orders and our rights as faculty, staff, and students in higher education? ● <u>Important Resources</u>: ○ Screenshots from President Hensel's Public Forum on March 13, 2025 ○ UH's Federal Policy Updates and Resources website ○ Message from Provost Bruno shared by Dean Murata at the 02/27 Chairs & Directors Meeting ○ A publicly sourced letter from the ACLU to UH President Hensel. ■ The letter is ACLU's response to E.O. 14161 titled "Protecting the United States from Foreign Terrorists and other National Security and Public Safety Threats" and E.O. 14188 titled "Additional	

	Measures to Combat Anti-Semitism." ○ Alternative Words & Phrases to Consider Guide (Replacements aim to maintain meaning while avoiding flagged language) ○ UHPA's 02/10 news flash, "FEDERAL FUNDING FREEZE - UHPA CALL TO ACTION"	
1:00	Dean's Report (Nathan Murata) ● Questions/Comments that have come up earlier. ○ SSAs. Associates, Full and Specialist at provost side and still finishing some specialist case. If it were a retention request, that application would have gotten immediate attention. We have seen some retroactive actions coming in. ○ New Design: Provost assured that the unit will hopefully be getting the majority of the requests we asked for. Courses and classrooms, no unit will own the classrooms. However, due to our non-traditional schedule, we will have priority for our non-traditional schedules because we are the main occupants/unit of the building. ● EO Discussion: ○ Questions from the town hall. #1 Department of Hawaiian Education was not mentioned. Endorsement letter to start reorg was sent to the provost. Dean Murata will meet with the provost to discuss questions the Provost has about the new department/reorg. ○ What we do as a college, our core values will not change. There are some language on our website that may draw unneeded attention to our college. Asked TDP to review our site and identify that on our website. ○ What departments are doing, it is up to the programs/chair/departments to do. Caveat, there are risks based on the decisions we make. ○ Changes we made to our fronting website does not undermine the core values of what the college does. Some departments did	

	make changes, and this may have initiated some notice/input or conflict. ○ How much of a risk are we going to take/willing to take? ○ Dean requests, as departments look at their own programs and make decisions, consider there may be implications for the department, college and university. ○ There are folks currently utilizing federal funds and this can impact some of our faculty and staff. ○ EO is there, threats are real, and we deal with it at the program/department level rather than the unit level at this point in time. ○ Dean will meet with graduate students CESA and others. All faculty are welcome as well. ○ <u>Questions:</u> ■ Senator Brook Chapman De Sousa from STE: 1. During March 13th (President Hensel's mtg). Can we provide additional resources or supports to ensure we are helping graduate students, particularly those who research DEI? What can we do as a college? Dean's office is looking at what the college has to offer to protect grad students and faculty that may be impacted by federal funds (or loss of). Analyzing/checking resources the college has to offer. 2. What does it mean to have academic freedom? How are we protected? What experts might we invite to help us navigate these things? Dean also reached out to UHPA for their perspective. They support university administration because they are trying to save positions. 3. Concerns about limited-term faculty as well. Dean does not see us having to reduce faculty at this point. If there was a call to do so, LTs would unfortunately be the first. Workload	
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	meetings take them into account and we know that LT are very important to the functioning of our college. ■ What does it mean for a student to be federally funded? They are paid by federal grant monies. ■ Erin Centeio shared that there are 2 list. There is a diversity and antisemitism list. ● List of universities now under investigation for allegedly engaging in race-exclusionary practices in their graduate programs. ● List of universities ■ Cecily Ornelles: shared that the President made distinction between academic freedom and personal viewpoints. Can we clearly explain the differences between those things? If you draw on your expertise and why you are making decision that is covered by academic freedom. Outside you are not covered by academic freedom but perhaps the first amendment. Another takeaway is that we may agree on certain issues, but we may not all agree on how to approach a situation. We are trying to remain unified as a university. ARE there ways as a college and larger university can continue conversations with each other and remain as unified as we can. ■ COE senate can be the first step in creating, collaboration and sharing across the college and how we are addressing the EOs in various departments. Could the Senate setup a time and day for this type of discussions? Having these discussions could help teachers in the classroom. COE can serve as leaders to empower teachers and pre-service teachers of what is the	
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	law and what we should still be able to do and hold to. ■ Erin Centeio: Concerns about students in the DOE and there is not a lot of guidance from DOE. There is a lot of grey and it is unclear how to instruct our students out in the schools. Lacking directives or varying directives from admin and mentors in the schools. What guidance is the DOE giving? We need to get in communication with them. VP Calbert shared that there is not a hiring freeze but still remain vigilant. Other peer institutions have had hiring freezes put in place. They are monitoring daily. ■ Coco Reyes: Did anyone attend the town hall with Jill Tokuda? ■ Chair Hoffman: expressed concern for the junior faculty as well and how these things might be impacting their work and progression towards tenure. ■ Dean Murata: If anyone gets a stop notice, reach out to the unit leads first, who will pass on to the Dean or can be simultaneously and the Dean's office will send it up to University administration. If anyone has suggestions on how we can have more dialogue and transparency across our unit. ■ Patricia Halagao: have a purpose for every meeting to bring folks together and also give everyone the same information so we can move forward together. Getting common information is vital.	
2:00	Adjournment	
Future Senate & Congress Meetings Spring 2025 - April 11th, May 8th (Congress), May 16th		

