



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
SYSTEM

Ōnaehana Kulanui o Hawai'i

Debra J. Halbert, PhD
Vice President for Academic Strategy

January 8, 2024

Mr. Christian Fern
Executive Director
University of Hawai'i Professional Assembly
1017 Palm Dr.
Honolulu, HI 96814

Via email to fern@uhpa.org

SUBJECT: Proposed Changes to EP 5.223 Graduate Assistants

Executive Policy 5.223 relating to graduate assistants (GA) is currently under review by administration. The proposed changes which will provide for sick leave and bereavement leave for graduate assistants have been sent out for consultation to the various governance and administration groups including all Faculty Senates.

Attached for your information are the redline and clean copies of the proposed changes to EP .223.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Debra Halbert'.

Debra Halbert
Vice President for Academic Strategy

Attachments



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
PROFESSIONAL ASSEMBLY

January 31, 2024

Debora Halbert
Vice President for Academic Strategy
University of Hawai'i System
Office of the Vice President for Academic Strategy
2444 Dole Street
Bachman Hall 204
Honolulu, HI 96822

RE: Proposed Changes to EP 5.223 Graduate Assistants, letter dated January 8, 2024

Dear Vice President Halbert:

Pursuant to Article I, Recognition, Article III, Maintenance of Rights and Benefits, Article XVII, Representation Rights, paragraph I, R-20 of the 2021-2025 Unit 7 Agreement, and HRS §89-9, the University of Hawaii Professional Assembly (UHPA) appreciates the opportunity to engage in consultation with the University of Hawai'i (UH) over the the above-referenced subject matter.

UHPA recognizes that the UH Faculty Senates are also being consulted under R-20, and that the respective UH Faculty Senates may provide comments, concerns, and suggested edits which may result in changes to the proposed revisions to the policy. While UHPA has conducted a preliminary review of the proposed revisions and offers an initial comment below, UHPA requests that any comments, concerns, and suggestions made by the UH Faculty Senates be provided to UHPA for review and analysis before UHPA offers any additional comments and concerns.

1. For clarity, UHPA recommends reinserting the statement specifying that graduate assistants do not earn vacation leave on page 6, Section IV:


I. "Schedule accommodation and duties coverage. ~~Graduate assistants do not earn vacation and sick leave.~~ Graduate assistants do not earn vacation leave. Under EP 9.240, Graduate Assistants are eligible for sick and bereavement leave."

Debora Halbert
January 31, 2024
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UHPA looks forward to UH's response to the recommendation made above and to reviewing any comments, concerns, and suggested edits to the proposed revised policy based on the consultation results with the UH Faculty Senates and continuing this consultation process until its completion.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at jmow@uhpa.org or via phone at 808-475-0515.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jamie Mow', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jamie Mow
UHPA Associate Executive Director

cc: Christian Fern, UHPA Executive Director
James Kardash, UHPA Associate Executive Director
Dwight Takeno, UHPA Associate Executive Director