The University of Alabama
25th Student Senate
2020-2021

Agenda for September 17, 2020
Regular Session

Demarcus Joiner
President

Jason Rothfarb
Executive Vice President

Price Dukes
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Caitlyn McTier
Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Jillian Fields
Vice President for External Affairs

Daniel Perkins
Vice President for Financial Affairs

Sam Rickert
Vice President for Student Affairs

Anna Beth Payne
Executive Secretary

Kathryn Hayes
Chief of Staff

Olivia Davis
Speaker of the Senate

Grace Meagher
Chief Justice

I. Call to Order and Roll Call
II. Announcements
   b. Office Hours Resume 9/21
III. Old Business
IV. New Business
   a. Resolution R-16-20: A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN THEIR SWIFT ACTION TO CREATE SEAT MAPS AND AN IMPROVED LABELING SYSTEM FOR RESERVED LIBRARY SEATING
   b. Resolution R-17-20: A RESOLUTION FOR ALL GREEK AFFILIATED FRATERNITY AND SORORITY HOUSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA TO DISBAND EXPANDED STYROFOAM (EPS) AND SWITCH TO PLA LINED PAPER FOR FOOD AND DRINK CONTAINERS.
   c. Resolution R-18-20: A RESOLUTION CALLING THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION TO PARTNER WITH THE UA COUNSELING CENTER AND TIDE AGAINST SUICIDE CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS AND AWARENESS ON CAMPUS
   d. Act A-13-20: AN ACT TO ALLOCATE SEATS FOR THE 2020-2021 FIRST YEAR COUNCIL
V. Adjourn
Resolution R-16-20
The University of Alabama
25th Senate 2020-2021

Authors: Senator Jack Steinmetz, Senator Amanda Allen

Sponsors: Speaker Olivia Davis, Secretary Ellie Schulman

Endorsements: Dr. Donald Gilstrap, Dean of University Libraries; Associate Dean Emy Decker, Associate Dean for Research and User Services; Price Dukes, Vice President for Academic Affairs

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN THEIR SWIFT ACTION TO CREATE SEAT MAPS AND AN IMPROVED LABELING SYSTEM FOR RESERVED LIBRARY SEATING

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled.

WHEREAS, University Libraries are a prominent study space for students, and their utilization has been limited due to COVID-19 precautions; and,

WHEREAS, the absence of proper seat labeling and a lack of seat maps in the previous system increased difficulty for students to find their reserved study space; and,

WHEREAS, University Libraries plans to add PDF library floor maps to https://www.lib.ua.edu/; and,

WHEREAS, University Libraries plans to implement larger seat level labeling to libraries; and,

WHEREAS, larger labels allow for proper social distancing, while also helping students find their seats easier and faster;

Therefore, be it resolved, The University of Alabama Student Government Association commends University Libraries in their swift action to address the needs of students by improving the current academic experience.
Be it further resolved, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Dr. Stuart Bell, President of The University of Alabama; Dr. James Dalton, Executive Vice President and Provost; Dr. Donald Gilstrap, Dean of University Libraries; Associate Dean Emy Decker, Associate Dean for Research and User Services; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.
Resolution R-17-20
The University of Alabama
25th Senate 2020-2021

Authors: Senator Adam Rogers


Endorsements: Jason Rothfarb, Executive Vice President; Sam Rickert, Vice President for Student Affairs; Will Henson, Interfraternity Council Director of Community Outreach and Wellbeing; United Greek Council Executive Board

A RESOLUTION FOR ALL GREEK AFFILIATED FRATERNITY AND SORORITY HOUSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA TO DISBAND EXPANDED STYROFOAM (EPS) AND SWITCH TO PLA LINED PAPER FOR FOOD AND DRINK CONTAINERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled.

WHEREAS, Greek life at The University of Alabama produces thousands of pounds of non-biodegradable waste in the form of expanded Styrofoam (EPS). This is detrimental to our local ecosystem, student health, and at a more cost expense compared to other alternatives; and

WHEREAS, due to COVID-19, Greek life has switched to a grab and go food delivery style and in response, the use of expanded Styrofoam (EPS) has drastically increased. Expanded Styrofoam contains the chemical styrene, which has been directly linked to cancer, vision/hearing loss, and many nervous system effects. In addition, expanded Styrofoam leaches
chemicals into the environment when disposed; expanded Styrofoam cannot be biodegraded or recycled being that it takes anywhere from 500 years to 10,000 years for it to decompose; and

WHEREAS, our university’s participation in supporting manufacturing companies that create expanded Styrofoam are releasing toxic biproducts into the atmosphere from the creation process; and

WHEREAS, a solution to this detrimental issue is PLA LINED PAPER. This upgrade is economically cost efficient, environmentally suitable, and more advantageous to our participating student body. PLA lined paper, stands for polylactic acid which is a resin made from corn starch; and

WHEREAS, this durable material is made environmentally friendly due to its chemical compounds and manufacturing process. This renewable resource is feasible because it cost $.12 per unit in comparison to expanded Styrofoam which is $.14 per unit; and

WHEREAS, many other top universities’ around the nation have taken initiative and moved towards a greener future. For example, Stanford University uses biodegradable containers for their dining experiences; and

WHEREAS, other top University’s such as Colorado State University, University of Washington, Oregon State University, and University of California-San Diego have all made major eco-friendly strides. The University of Alabama should become the first southern trailblazer towards a more environmentally positive tomorrow;

Therefore, be it resolved, that The University of Alabama Student Government Association encourages The University of Alabama to aid in implementation of the explosion of expanded Styrofoam (EPS) with a more environmentally suitable replacement in the form of PLA Lined Paper for all dinning purposes in on campus Greek organizations.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. Kathleen Cramer, Vice-President for Student Life; Stephanie Shamblin, The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor; Chris D’Esposito, Savannah Bullard, The Crimson White Editor-in-Chief; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.
Resolution R-18-20
The University of Alabama
25th Senate 2020-2021

Authors: Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Rickert, Senator Amanda Allen

Sponsors: Speaker Olivia Davis, Secretary Ellie Schulman

Endorsements: Demarcus Joiner, President; Jason Rothfarb, Executive Vice President; Price Dukes, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Daniel Perkins, Vice President for Financial Affairs; Jillian Fields, Vice President for External Affairs; Anna Beth Payne, Executive Secretary; Caitlyn McTier, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Kathryn Hayes, Chief of Staff; Will Bradley, Director of Communications

A RESOLUTION CALLING THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION TO PARTNER WITH THE UA COUNSELING CENTER AND TIDE AGAINST SUICIDE CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS AND AWARENESS ON CAMPUS

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled.

WHEREAS, The University of Alabama Student Government Association strives to inform students and promote physical and mental wellbeing on campus; and,

WHEREAS, suicide is the second leading cause of death among U.S. college students; and,

WHEREAS, September is National Suicide Awareness Month; and,

WHEREAS, Tide Against Suicide was created by the Counseling Center as a comprehensive method for campus-wide suicide prevention; and,

WHEREAS, the Counseling Center plans to host a university-wide Suicide Prevention Week and The Out of the Darkness Walk in October; and,
WHEREAS, by actively partnering with the Counseling Center and Tide Against Suicide, the Student Government Association will support the center through various initiatives and social media pushes;

Therefore, be it resolved, The University of Alabama Student Government Association partners with the UA Counseling Center and supports the Tide Against Suicide Campaign to further suicide awareness on campus.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. Myron Pope, Vice-President for Student Life; Stephanie Shamblin, The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor; Rebecca Griesbach, The Crimson White Editor-in-Chief; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.
Act A-13-20
The University of Alabama
25th Senate 2020-2021

Authors: Executive Vice President Jason Rothfarb, Speaker Olivia Davis, Secretary Ellie Schulman

Sponsors: Senator Lauren Rouse, Senator Jack Steinmetz, Senator Amanda Allen, Senator Mary Beth Sanders, Senator Preston McGee

Endorsements: Demarcus Joiner, President; Price Dukes, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Daniel Perkins, Vice President for Financial Affairs; Jillian Fields, Vice President for External Affairs; Anna Beth Payne, Executive Secretary; Caitlyn McTier, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Kathryn Hayes, Chief of Staff; Will Bradley, Director of Communications

AN ACT TO ALLOCATE SEATS FOR THE 2020-2021 FIRST YEAR COUNCIL

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled.

Section 1. Findings:
1. In accordance with the Student Government Association Constitution, The First Year Council shall be a body of sixty-five first year students.
2. Membership in First Year Council will be representative of campus residence halls, with additional allocation strictly based on merit.
3. Thirty-three of the sixty-five council seats shall be allocated in proportion to the first year student populations within the residence halls.
4. Each residence hall with a first year population shall be allocated at least one council seat. At least one seat in the FYC shall be designated as a representative for students who do not live in the residence halls.
5. The First Year Council Selections Committee will have discretion over determining the number of seats given to each residence hall based on population numbers provided by the Residence Hall Association.
6. Three seats in the FYC shall be designated as "At-Large Seats." These seats will serve the purpose of representing first year students who do not live in residence halls.
7. The remaining thirty-two seats shall be allocated strictly by merit, based on the scoring system of applications and interviews designed by the Executive Vice President and Director of First Year Council, in consultation with the Student Judicial Board.

Section 2. Legislation:
1. **Therefore, be it resolved,** in accordance with Chapter 905.2 of the Student Government Association Code of Laws, the Senate will confirm the First Year Council seats for the 2020-2021 year by a majority vote.

2. **Be it further resolved,** that upon passage, the allocation of First Year Council seats will be sent to Demarcus Joiner, President of the Student Government Association, for approval.

**Be it further resolved,** that copies of this Act be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. Myron Pope, Vice-President for Student Life; Stephanie Shamblin, The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor; Rebecca Griesbach, *The Crimson White* Editor-in-Chief; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.