Agenda for October 15, 2020
Regular Session

I. Call to Order and Roll Call
II. Announcements
   a. Capstone Creed and SGA Mission Statement- Dylan Brown
   b. FYC Mentorship Pairings Update
III. Old Business
IV. New Business
   a. Resolution R-22-20: A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
   b. Resolution R-23-20: A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A CENTRAL DATABASE FOR VIRTUAL LEARNING SPACES ON THE SGA WEBSITE
   c. Resolution R-24-20: A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST CONSIDERATION BY THE ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY AND STAFF FOR INTRODUCING A PASS/FAIL OPTION FOR COURSES COMPLETED DURING THE FALL 2020 SEMESTER
   d. Resolution R-25-20: A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING STUDENTS TO DRESS DOWN AT FOOTBALL GAME AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR DOWN SYNDROME
V. Adjourn
Resolution R-22-20
The University of Alabama
25th Senate 2020-2021

Authors: Senator Courtney Lekai, Senator Shea Amanda McGriff


Endorsements: Jillian Fields, Vice President for External Affairs; Anna Beth Payne, Executive Secretary; Allison Bailey, SAFE Center Committee Director; Jason Rothfarb, Executive Vice President; Caitlyn McTier, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Will Bradley, Director of Communications; Price Dukes, Vice President of Academic Affairs; Sam Rickert, Vice President for Student Affairs

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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

WHEREAS, an average of 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner in the United States — more than 12 million women and men over the course of a single year; and,

WHEREAS, according to the “Me Too” movement, the Red Zone is a time frame from August to November where over fifty percent of sexual assaults occur on college campuses; and,

WHEREAS, among undergraduate students, 23.1% of females and 5.4% of males experience rape or sexual assault; and,

WHEREAS, on October 5th, President Bell sent a campus-wide e-mail that stated, “I affirm The University of Alabama’s commitment to promoting and maintaining a safe, respectful campus
environment by preventing and addressing gender-based discrimination and sexual misconduct on our campus."; and,

WHEREAS, The Student Government Association partnered with SAFE Center and Crimson Ride to provide a free, safe, anonymous shuttle system available to students 24 hours a day to and from the SAFE Center; and,

WHEREAS, Title IX protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities that receive Federal financial assistance; and,

WHEREAS, The WGRC provides free, confidential, and voluntary counseling and advocacy services to members of The University of Alabama community who are victims/survivors of interpersonal violence – to support communities of all identities; and,

WHEREAS, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which strives to promote awareness and education of the survivors of domestic violence and be a voice for its victims.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Student Government Association promotes the Education and Awareness of Domestic Violence with speakers and graphics during the month of October, specifically October 26-28, from SAFE Center, Women and Gender Resource Center, and Title IX offices to educate students of the resources they provide.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Stephanie Shamblin, The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor, Savannah Bullard, The Crimson White Editor-in-Chief; Elle Shaaban-Magana, Women and Gender Resource Center Executive Director; Brenda Maddox, SAFE Center Executive Director; Beth Howard, Title IX Coordinator; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.
Resolution R-23-20
The University of Alabama
25th Senate 2020-2021

Authors: Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Rickert, Vice President for Academic Affairs Price Dukes, Senator Chip Porter, Senator Amanda Allen


Endorsements: Demarcus Joiner, President; Jason Rothfarb, Executive Vice President; Jillian Fields, Vice President for External Affairs; Caitlyn McTier, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Daniel Perkins, Vice President for Financial Affairs; Emily Davignon, Director of IT and Webmaster; Will Bradley, Director of Communications; Kathryn Hayes, Chief of Staff; Hunter Scott, Attorney General; Ellie Adams, Director of Strategic Initiatives; Leilani Johnson, Director of Environmental Affairs; Caroline Bonhaus, Chief Administrative Officer; Morgan Ross, Chief Advisor to the President; Anna Beth Payne, Executive Secretary; Jackson Fuentes, Press Secretary

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A CENTRAL DATABASE FOR VIRTUAL LEARNING SPACES ON THE SGA WEBSITE

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

WHEREAS, The University of Alabama has taken steps to stop the spread of COVID-19 to allow students to stay on campus; and

WHEREAS, The University of Alabama has implemented “Virtual Learning Spaces” in classrooms and meeting rooms around campus for student use; and

WHEREAS, “Virtual Learning Spaces” serve as a safe option where students have access to Wifi, workspaces and tools to succeed; and
WHEREAS, 35,000+ students enrolled at The University of Alabama now face limited capacities and restricted time slots in conventional study areas; and

WHEREAS, A main goal of The Student Government Association is to serve the student body by improving the on-campus experience; and

WHEREAS, The Student Government Association’s website helps students by providing information about campus resources.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that The University of Alabama Student Government Association will establish a central database, on the sga.ua.edu website, for students to access the location, hours of operation, maximum capacity, and rules of “Virtual Learning Spaces.”

Be it further resolved, that the central database will be promoted on SGA social media platforms once it is established on the SGA website.

Be it further resolved, that the central database will be updated as the academic year progresses.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. James Dalton, Executive Vice President and Provost; Dr. Myron Pope, Vice-President for Student Life; John P. McGowan, Chief Information Officer; Meagan Bennett, Director of Customer Relations; 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.
Resolution R-24-20
The University of Alabama
25th Senate 2020-2021

Authors: Senator Robert Alexander, Senator Ruth Ann Terry, Senator Dylan Brown


Endorsements: Demarcus Joiner, President; Jason Rothfarb, Executive Vice President; Sam Rickert, Vice President of Student Affairs; Daniel Perkins, Vice President for Financial Affairs; William Royal, Director of Programming for the Executive Vice President’s Cabinet; Price Dukes, Vice President of Academic Affairs

A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST CONSIDERATION BY THE ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY AND STAFF FOR INTRODUCING A PASS/FAIL OPTION FOR COURSES COMPLETED DURING THE FALL 2020 SEMESTER

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

WHEREAS, in these unprecedented times, the University of Alabama family has rallied and adapted to ensure that students maintain access to a high-quality education; and

WHEREAS, the shift in course delivery methods has required students to be in online and/or hybrid environments when they otherwise would have chosen face to face courses; and

WHEREAS, a significant number of students have had the added stress of necessary quarantine during the course of this semester; and

WHEREAS, data demonstrates that these situations empirically have negative impacts on student grades in courses; and

WHEREAS, in the current system many students, due to external factors beyond their control, may face the choice of withdrawing from courses or face harm to their GPA; and
WHEREAS, student financial aid, scholarships, etcetera, may be lost due to these conditions and thus may jeopardize students’ opportunity to complete their education at the University of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, other universities have adopted a pass/fail option to minimize the negative impact upon students GPA during this unique situation; and

WHEREAS, University of Alabama students will be in direct competition with students from these other universities for internships, employment, and graduate school admissions; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting for the Student Government Association to voice this significant concern of the student body;

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Student Government Association does hereby recommend that The University of Alabama administration revisit the option to once again provide a pass/fail option for the Fall 2020 semester.

Be it further resolved that University administration should allow students the opportunity to choose the pass/fail option up until December 4, 2020.

Be it further resolved, The University must act in a timely manner so as to provide students with the opportunity to assess their options and make a decision on whether or not they will utilize the pass/fail option.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. James Dalton, Executive Vice President and Provost; 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.
Resolution R-25-20
The University of Alabama
25th Senate 2020-2021

Authors: President DeMarcus Joiner

Sponsors: Speaker of the Senate Olivia Davis, Secretary of the Senate Ellie Schulman, Senator Preston McGee, Senator J.J. McGrady

Endorsements: Price Dukes, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Sam Rickert, Vice President for Student Affairs; Jillian Fields, Vice President for External Affairs; Daniel Perkins, Vice President for Financial Affairs; Caitlyn McTier, Vice President for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion; Kathryn Hayes, Chief of Staff; Anna Beth Payne, Executive Secretary; Will Bradley, Director of Communications; Morgan Ross, Chief Advisor; Caroline Bonhaus, Chief Administrative Officer; Trinity Hunter, Deputy Chief of Staff; Emily Davignon, Director of Informational Technology; Jackson Fuentes, Press Secretary

A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING STUDENTS TO DRESS DOWN AT FOOTBALL GAME AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR DOWN SYNDROME

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

WHEREAS, The University of Alabama has a non-degree program to support students with identified, diverse learning needs – Crossing Points, and;

WHEREAS, the University of Georgia has a program to support students with intellectual disabilities - called Destination Dawgs; and,

WHEREAS, many student organizations at The University of Alabama, including the Best Buddies program, help to support people with disabilities on campus and in the Tuscaloosa community; and,

WHEREAS, many student organizations at the University of Georgia, including ESP@UGA, Special Olympics at UGA, and Student Council for Exceptional Children, help support people with disabilities on campus and in the Athens community; and,

WHEREAS, the month of October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month; and,
WHEREAS, The University of Alabama Crimson Tide football team will play against the University of Georgia Bulldogs football team on Saturday, October 17 at Bryant-Denny Stadium in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Student Government Association encourages all members of the student body to “dress down” on Saturday, October 17 to support raising awareness for fellow students with Down Syndrome; and,

Be it further resolved, that students will “dress down” by dressing casually for the football game against Georgia; and,

Be it further resolved, that the Student Government Association supports the efforts of the University to be inclusive in terms of students with disabilities; and,

Be it further resolved, that the Student Government Association supports ESP@UGA’s efforts with the Dress Down program to raise awareness and support for people with down syndrome; and,

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution will be sent to Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of The University of Alabama; Dr. Myron Pope, The University of Alabama Vice President for Student Life; Greg Byrne, Director of Athletics; Stephanie Shamblin, Student Government Advisor; Jere Morehead, President of The University of Georgia; Asim Ahmed, President of the University of Georgia Student Government Association; Rebecca Griesbach, The Crimson White Editor-in-Chief; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.