



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT
~ THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ~
SENATE RESOLUTION 22-01

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10/26/21

SPONSORS: Senator Morgan, Senator Chambers, Senator Martine,
Senator Murphy

SR 22-01

USG Resolution to Implement the Pass/No Pass Grading System

WHEREAS, Undergraduate Student Government is the recognized constituency of undergraduate students at Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) under Board of Trustee Policy 3.F.3;

WHEREAS, Undergraduate Student Government has the authority to make recommendations to the University administration and board of trustees regarding university life, policies and procedures, and general SIU programs;

WHEREAS, there is direct correlation between individuals' physical, social, and mental wellness and their academic success and retention;

WHEREAS, there has been an increase in students on campus that are suffering through the financial pressure of paying for school, supporting their family, and supporting their individual needs to survive;

WHEREAS, SIUC has had a great influx of incoming first year students and returning students experiencing major challenges while trying to transition back to fully in-person learning after three semesters of learning in a fully online and/or hybrid setting;

WHEREAS, the Fall 2021 freshman class that reside in University Hall, on Wall and Park St, are experiencing immense challenges with class attendance and meal interventions due to a lack of efficient transportation and economic disadvantages;

WHEREAS, SIUC students are experiencing the ongoing trauma from shootings that occurred at two separate off-campus events. The first shooting occurred on Sunday, August 22nd at 501 W. Cherry St in Carbondale. This resulted in the murder of fellow Saluki by the name of Keeshanna



Jackson and left three others wounded. The second occurred shortly after midnight on October 23rd, where officers found two students with gunshot wounds. Both students were sent to Memorial Hospital for treatment. As of today, one victim remains in care for further treatment;

WHEREAS, the resources for students to utilize the Counseling and Psychological Services are limited due to an insufficient number of employees within the Counseling and Psychological Services department;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Undergraduate Student Government calls upon the University:

1. To adopt this resolution in support of a Pass/No Pass grading option for the Fall 2021 semester. The pass/No Pass grading system should operate just as it did in Spring 2021. The Pass/No Pass grading opt-in option which will only be provided to undergraduate and graduate students. Students at the School of Law will not be provided with the Pass/No Pass grading option;
2. To provide adequate academic advising and as much information as possible, to ensure that students fully understand how a Pass/No Pass grade might impact them as a student (e.g. scholarship requirements and advance degree requirements);
3. To conduct a campus-wide mental health survey to capture a snapshot of the struggles that our students, faculty and staff face day-to-day. Results from this survey will allow us to provide the best care for the Carbondale campus as a whole;
4. To establish and influence a culture of compassionate instructing and learning with our Teaching Assistants, Instructors and Professors through certified workshops and trainings;
5. To explore ways to re-enroll students who have withdrawn from a course prior to the October 24th course withdrawal deadline;
6. To conduct a study within University Housing to analyze the success of students by major, academic program, Living Learning Community, and socioeconomic status;
7. To review the academic calendar with the intent of including a fall break;



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the SIU Chancellor and his cabinet must declare a state of emergency to address the mental health crisis disturbing our community. The University needs to close (for all non-essential staff, instructors, and students) for three (3) days. During that break we must host round tables across campus to hear directly from our students, staff, and faculty. The qualitative data along with the quantitative data will put the University in the best position to fulfill the mission of our institution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED, Undergraduate Student Government asks that the Graduate and Professional Student Council, the Graduate Council, the Faculty Senate, and the Dean of Students formally join us in this resolution to support our students in this time of tragedy.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Isaiah Overton".

Isaiah Overton, President, Undergraduate Student Government

Dianah McGreehan, President, Graduate and Professional Student Council

Thomas Shaw, Chairperson, Graduate Council

Yueh-Ting Lee, President, Faculty Senate

Jennifer Jones-Hall, Dean of Students, Interim Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs