A Resolution to Support Access to Course Syllabi Prior to Scheduling

Mario Belfiglio (for himself, Emily Underation, Sarah Souders, Mary Honaker, John Kaczmarek, and Emmy Wydman) introduced the following resolution directly to the floor.

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Whereas the Undergraduate Student Government represents all undergraduate students at The Ohio State University, and

Whereas many undergraduate students would like access to course syllabi prior to scheduling, and

Whereas integrating course syllabi into Buckeye Link’s Student Center course descriptions would allow students to view syllabi when searching for courses, and

Whereas several other Big Ten student governments have been working on earlier syllabi release, particularly due to the affordability aspect of knowing required textbooks prior to scheduling, and

Whereas universities such as The University of Oklahoma have a policy that course syllabi and textbook requirements must be made known ten weeks before the first week of class for the convenience of students,1 and

Whereas the Department of Accounting and MIS,2 the Department of Geography,3 and the Department of Computer Science and Engineering4 all have their syllabi available online, and

Whereas having access to syllabi would allow students to better understand the course they are signing up for, including its format, assignments, attendance requirements, and required textbooks, and

Whereas slower shipping times make it very difficult to order textbooks on the first day of class, when most syllabi are given, and have them arrive before the end of the second week, and

Whereas advanced access to course syllabi would allow students more time to shop around for textbooks and would make other options, such as textbooks with long shipping times, more viable;

Therefore Let it Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government supports making course syllabi available to students prior to the first scheduling window, and

1 http://www.ou.edu/outreach/ap/schedules_syllabi.html
2 http://fisher.osu.edu/departments/accounting-and-mis/courses/course-syllabi
3 https://geography.osu.edu/undergrad/majors/courses-and-current-syllabi
4 http://coe-portal.cse.ohio-state.edu/pdf-exports/CSE/
Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government supports integrating course syllabi into Buckeye Link’s Student Center.

Floor Vote: Aye: 41  Nay: 0  Present: 41

Abby Grossman  Abby Waidelich
President  Vice President

Date Adopted: January 20, 2016  Date Terminated: ________________