1   **49-R-18**
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3   **<u>A Resolution to Further Improve the Academic Programming of the STEP Program at The</u>**
4   **<u>Ohio State University</u>**
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6   Connor Dorony (for himself, Kyle Dorony, Shamina Merchant, Samer Abusway, Kurt Shaffer,
7   and Kimmy Sullivan) introduced the following resolution to the Steering Committee, where it
8   passed.
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10   *   *   *
11
12   **Whereas** the Undergraduate Student Government represents all undergraduate students at The
13   Ohio State University, and
14
15   **Whereas** the Second-Year Transformational Experience Program (STEP) is a program designed
16   to promote student success and development,[1] and
17
18   **Whereas** the program is intended to connect students with faculty members in order to improve
19   students' engagement on campus, as well as develop tools for life and professional skills[1], and
20
21   **Whereas** STEP participants are required to attend weekly meetings with their faculty member
22   and cohort to set personal goals,[2] and
23
24   **Whereas** most weekly cohort meetings are scheduled based on student availability, and
25
26   **Whereas** students do not typically have majors or professional interests similar to others in their
27   cohort, and
28
29   **Whereas** some STEP cohorts are centered around Scholars groups, where participants have
30   similar majors and areas of professional study, and
31
32   **Whereas** participants are also required to attend three professional development co-curricular
33   programs (PDCs) during the autumn semester,[3] and
34
35   **Whereas** previous STEP participants have voiced concern that the current PDCs are not fully
36   effective in helping students develop professional skills,[4] and
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39   _____
40   [1] https://step.osu.edu/program-overview/
41   [2] https://step.osu.edu/six-step-categories/
42   [3] http://step.osu.edu/program-overview/professional-development-co-curricular-requirement/
43   https://usg.osu.edu/posts/documents/doc_2182016_11315587.pdf
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46   **Whereas** participants may be prone to choose PDCs based on what fits into their busy schedules
47   rather than which programs best match with their personal and professional interests, and
48
49   **Whereas** weekly cohort meetings, if properly utilized, provide a better opportunity for the
50   program to more effectively meet its objectives than PDCs,[2] and
51
52   **Whereas** former STEP participants have suggested that current cohort meetings could be better
53   structured and more purposeful,   and
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55   **Whereas** the diverse array of professional interests among most current cohort members may
56   make it difficult for every student in the cohort to benefit from the professional development
57   activities planned during weekly meeting times;
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59   **Therefore Let it Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government supports improving
60   the structure of weekly STEP cohort meetings to more effectively utilize the allotted time, and
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62   **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government advocates extending
63   the model used in Scholars STEP cohorts so that all cohorts are organized based on major or area
64   of professional interest to more effectively tailor the experience to the student, and
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66   **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government supports including
67   specific professional development activities during weekly cohort meetings, and
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69   **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government encourages a detailed
70   sample STEP Curriculum Plan to be created prior to the first STEP meeting of the 2017-2018
71   academic year, and
72
73   **Let it Further Be Resolved** that this sample Curriculum Plan should be given to faculty
74   members, and be accessible to students, to serve as an example for cohort programming, and
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76   **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the proposed sample STEP Curriculum Plan should include
77   professional development opportunities including, but not limited to, resume building and career
78   fair and interview preparation, and
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80   **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government would like to work
81   with administration to improve the professional development aspects of the Second-Year
82   Transformational Experience Program.
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87   Floor Vote: Passed
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91
92 *Gerard C. Basalla*
93 _____   _____
94   Gerard Basalla   Danielle Di Scala
95   President   Vice President
96
97
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101   Date Adopted: _____10/19/16_____   Date Terminated: _____