A Resolution to Advocate for Increased Accessibility to the Second-Year Transformational Experience Program (STEP)

Kimmy Sullivan (for herself, Connor Dorony, Kyle Dorony, Shamina Merchant, Samer Abusway, and Kurt Shaffer) introduced the following resolution to the Steering Committee, where it passed.

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

Whereas the Second-Year Transformational Experience Program (STEP) is a program designed to enhance the experience of participating second-year students,¹ and

Whereas a significant number of freshmen reported being unaware of STEP,² and

Whereas students who do not receive sufficient information about STEP are unlikely to develop an interest in and decide to participate in the program, and

Whereas accessibility to STEP may therefore be contingent upon the amount of exposure and information a student has about the program, which may vary drastically between students depending on a number of factors, and

Whereas Ohio State students in their second year may have spent their first year at a different university, an Ohio State regional campus, or Ohio State Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI), and

Whereas transfer students and campus change students are eligible to participate in STEP,³ and

Whereas during the process of transferring from another university or a regional campus and ATI, students may not receive sufficient information about STEP to make the decision to participate, and

Whereas second-year students on regional campuses and and Ohio State ATI who choose not to transfer to the Columbus campus are excluded entirely from STEP;

¹ https://step.osu.edu/program-overview/
² http://step.osu.edu/program-overview/faqs/
³ https://step.osu.edu/program-overview/faqs/
Therefore Let it Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government suggests improving the marketing of information about STEP to freshmen on all Ohio State campuses, such as requiring RAs to mention the program to their students, and

Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government encourages an increase in the number of STEP information sessions held at all Ohio State campuses and Ohio State ATI, as well as increased marketing of these sessions, and

Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government recommends providing a link to more information about STEP, such as a link to a description or an infographic, alongside the option to opt in to the program, on all second-year transfer, regional transfer, and Columbus campus housing applications, and

Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government recommends that The Ohio State University administration looks into expanding STEP to all regional campuses.

Floor Vote: Passed.

Gerard Basalla
President

Danielle Di Scala
Vice President

Date Adopted: 10/26/16
Date Terminated: __________________