

Last Thursday, the University Senate of The Ohio State University passed "A Resolution to Recommend the Inclusion of a Mental Health Statement on Course Syllabi." This resolution, authored by undergraduate student senators Michael Frank (lead sponsor), Zack Clark, Lauren Todd, Varsha Challapally, Vikas Munjal, Laura Hammerstein, Mario Belfiglio, Sunder Sai and Sam Whipple, Council of Graduate Students President David Bowers, and Inter-Professional Council President David Gorenz, showcases a commitment by the student governments at Ohio State to the importance of mental health.

The University Senate was created by action of the Board of Trustees on July 7, 1972. The Senate is a body of one-hundred-thirty-seven members representing three constituencies: faculty, administration, and students. The seventy faculty members, comprising the Faculty Council, represent faculty of the eighteen colleges, the University Libraries, the Military Sciences, and the four Regional Campuses. The twenty-six members of the Administration include the President, who serves as presiding officer of the Senate, the eighteen college deans, the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, the Senior Vice President for Business and Finance, the Senior Vice President for Research, the Executive Dean of the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences, the Executive Dean of the Regional Campuses, the Dean of the Graduate School, and the Director of Libraries. The forty-one student representatives include twenty-six from the Undergraduate Student Government, ten from the Council of Graduate Students, and five from the Inter-Professional Council. The voting majority rests with the faculty. In any year, sixty-four new members are seated. The Senate is therefore a continuing body. The actions and resolutions adopted in Senate continue to be effective until superseded or amended.¹

The leadership team of USG is proud of the tireless work and immaculate intent these university senators put into this resolution. The Ohio State University's Counseling and Consultation Services offers exemplary resources, and we are thrilled that they will be made more accessible to students through their course syllabi. At Ohio State, Undergraduate Student Government wants students to know that "#YouMatter." We hope this resolution will be a catalyst for reduced stigma and increased awareness as we work to grow as a community.

Sincerely,

Gerard C. Basalla

Gerard Basalla President

Minielle M. BiScolo

Danielle Di Scala Vice President

¹ <u>http://senate.osu.edu/?page_id=3</u>