

A Resolution to Support the Inclusion of a Mental Health Statement on Course Syllabi

Michael Frank (for himself, Sophie Chang, Lauren Fechtel, Paige Bennett, Win Adissem, Melissa Chime, and Varun Jambunath) 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 National Institute of Mental Health estimates that 18.1% of U.S. adults suffer from any form of mental illness,¹ and

Whereas 95% of college counseling center directors surveyed said the number of students with significant psychological problems is a growing concern in their center or on campus,² and

Whereas The Ohio State University Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) provides a multitude of resources to prevent and treat mental illness,³ and

Whereas the Office of Academic Affairs requires all faculty at The Ohio State University to distribute course syllabi to their students, and

Whereas The Ohio State University advises all faculty members to include syllabi statements that address academic misconduct and available services for students with disabilities,^{4,5} and

Whereas the inclusion of a mental health statement on all course syllabi will increase awareness of contact information for campus resources that offer treatment for mental health issues, and

Whereas the 48th General Assembly passed 48-R-15, which supported the inclusion of a mental health statement on course syllabi;⁶

Therefore Let it Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government recommends that the administration of The Ohio State University encourage every academic department to include a mental health statement on their course syllabi.

¹ <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/prevalence/any-mental-illness-ami-among-us-adults.shtml>

² <http://www.apa.org/monitor/2013/06/college-students.aspx>

³ <http://ccs.osu.edu/about-us-and-our-services/>

⁴ <https://oaa.osu.edu/coamfaqs.html#academicmisconductstatement>

⁵ <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/faculty-staff/syllabus-statement/>

⁶ https://usg.osu.edu/posts/documents/doc_1182015_134957852.pdf

Floor Vote: Aye: Passed

Gerard C. Basalla

Gerard Basalla
President

Date Adopted: 9/21/16

Danielle M. DiScala

Danielle Di Scala
Vice President

Date Terminated: _____

Sample Mental Health Statement for Course Syllabi:

Columbus Campus Statement:

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the **Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS)** by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling **614-292-5766**. **CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org.**