

## **STUDENT SENATE BILL 2021-1030**

**TITLE: Allocation of Reserves to Student Activities & Involvement for Construction Projects within the Student Engagement Portal of the J. Wayne Reitz Union**

**AUTHOR:** Student Body President Cooper Brown

**SPONSORS:** Budget and Appropriations Chairwoman Elizabeth Hartzog and Budget and Appropriations Committee

**AMOUNT:** \$315,000.00

### **The Student Engagement Portal of the J. Wayne Reitz Union Renovation Project**

**Background:** The Student Engagement Portal (“the Portal”) within the J. Wayne Reitz Union serves as the hub for countless students, faculty, staff, student organizations, and student leaders. The Portal provides opportunities for students to build community and connections that enable them to engage, transform, and thrive. It is the goal of Student Government to ensure the Portal is a vibrant space that is constructed in a way that maximizes this engagement. Now that the Reitz Union expansion has been open over five years, the space requires some updates in order to effectively serve students and ensure the space better reflects the operations of the various Departments located within the Portal. This reserve transfer will go toward five construction projects within the Portal. First, removing the second level desk for Student Activities & Involvement (“SAI”) and creating a lounge/seating area within the heart of the Portal. Second, enclosing an open staff workspace to create an additional office on the third level in the SAI administrative corner. Third, installing an automated or app-based system for students (and staff) to access the conference rooms within the Portal. Fourth, installing larger televisions within the third level lounge that have access to cable and/or a gaming system (i.e., a Nintendo Switch). Finally, enclosing an open staff workspace to create an enclosed office on the third level within SG Finance. Any unused funds for these projects will be transferred back to Student Government Reserves.

The funds will be allocated as follows:

Student Engagement Portal Renovation: \$192,000.00 (Contractors), \$35,000.00 (Furniture), \$25,000.00 (Portal and Portal Conference Room Technology), \$63,000.00 (Contingency).

#### **Intent:**

To update the Student Engagement Portal within the J. Wayne Reitz Union to create a more vibrant space that elevates the student experience, better supports student organizations and student leaders, and reflects the current operations of Student Engagement.

*Proviso: This allocation is a one-time reserve transfer that will exhaust at the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2022. The projects are scheduled to reach completion prior to May 1, 2022.*