

**Student Senate** 

3000 J. Wayne Reitz Union PO Box 118505 Gainesville, FL 32611 352-392-1665

## STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-1194

TITLE: Resolution Advocating to Increase Funding for Programming Activities for International Students by Creating New Partnerships Between Organizations and Student Government

**AUTHOR(S): Senator Angelina Fentress** 

SPONSOR(S): Majority Party Leader Julia Seifer, Senator Gabriela Prieto

WHEREAS, the University of Florida hosts a population of approximately 6,000 international undergraduate students that face unique barriers to involvement [1]; and

WHEREAS, international students make up more than a quarter of the overall graduate student population, with students coming from 140 different countries to attend our university [2]; and

WHEREAS, the University of Florida hosts over 1000 student organizations that appeal to various populations and provide community surrounding interests, professionalism, activity, service, and more [3]; and,

WHEREAS, many students benefit both personally and academically by attending UF events and getting involved in various UF organizations that create welcoming communities for those students who may otherwise feel isolated or alone; and,

WHEREAS, the advertisement and communication surrounding the various organizations offered is lackluster and is not inclusive in regards to language and accessibility, creating barriers for the international students trying to form community and connection on campus; and,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes a need to increase funding for programming activities designed for international students that will foster connection between students and various organizations.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the necessity to form a strong partnership with student leaders from a multitude of representative organizations to participate in these activities.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes that increasing the specially funded events for International Students will provide continuity and communication between underrepresented groups on campus and allow for more accessibility to on-campus opportunities that will help our international students excel on our campus and impact UF through the SG funded partnerships and opportunities.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to University of Florida President Ben Sasse, Student Body President Olivia Green, Executive Director of UFIC Susanne Hill, International Affairs Cabinet Director Melvin Osei Opoku, Interim Director of Campus Engagement Justin Donnelly.

- [1] https://www.eng.ufl.edu/students/students/international/international-students/
- [2] https://graduateschool.ufl.edu/gss/international/

[3] https://studentinvolvement.ufl.edu/get-involved/

ohn Brinkman

Senate President