

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-1499

TITLE: Resolution Advocating for Extended Dining Hall Hours During Finals Week

AUTHOR(S): Senator Logan Siemienas, Senator Matthew Haller

SPONSOR(S): Majority Party Leader Julia Seifer, Member-at-Large Roman Quattrocchi, Senator Mitchell McGruder, Senator Joshua Yaciuk, Senator Penny Garza, Senator Danielle Collins, Senator Justin Nikpour, Senator Alex Wierichs, Senator Arshan Falasiri

WHEREAS, according to some studies, a college students' brain is the most active from 4:00 PM to 9:30 PM, and thus that time frame is the best time to study to retain information [1]; and,

WHEREAS, during peak testing times within a semester, such as during finals week, a significant number of students study between the aforementioned hours, especially during reading days after classes are over; and,

WHEREAS, there is a scientifically proven correlation between regular meal intake, defined as 2-3 meals per day, and higher GPAs and improved cognitive function in college students [2]; and,

WHEREAS, students may experience a shift in their regular sleep schedules during finals week to accommodate for the increased workload, with the average student going to bed past 12:45 AM during finals week [3][4]; and,

WHEREAS, key dining services such as Cravings Campus Kitchen and The Food Hall at Gator Corner that many on-campus students rely on are only open until 8:00 PM, and there are no dining halls available to students anywhere on campus after 9:00 PM [5]; and,

WHEREAS, Business Services at the University of Florida support the missions and goals of the University of Florida and Business Affairs by providing essential dining services, through Florida Fresh Dining and Palm & Pine Catering, in order promote student success and provide benefit to the campus community [6]; and,

WHEREAS, students are less likely to receive optimal nutrition for cognitive function during exam weeks due to their disrupted sleep schedule and the lack of dining services open past 9:00 PM; and,

WHEREAS, other public universities in Florida, such as the University of South Florida and Florida State University, have numerous dining locations open until at least 10:00 PM or later [7][8]; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the need for dining services at the University of Florida to be open later during the weeks during final exams to accommodate the change in students' schedules and to encourage student success through positive study and eating habits.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate commits to working with dining services along with Chartwell to create a plan that provides at least one on-campus dining service for students past 9:00 PM.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Assistant Vice President of Business Services Eddie Daniels, Director of Food & Beverage Services Matthew Mueller, Vice President of Florida Fresh Dining Operations Brian Dagnall, and Director of Florida Fresh Dining Services Elsie Layne.

[1] <https://collegesteps.wf.com/science-best-times-day-everything/#:~:text=Study%3A%204%3A00%20%E2%80%93%209,as%20the%20day%20goes%20on.>

[2] <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5746694/>

[3] <https://dailyillini.com/news-stories/2017/12/14/students-discuss-sleep-finals-week/>

[4] <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6773696/>

[5] <https://dineoncampus.com/UF/hours-of-operation>

[6] <https://businessservices.ufl.edu/about/>

[7] <https://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/msc/dine-and-shop/restaurants.aspx>

[8] <https://seminoledining.campusdish.com/>



7/25/24

Monish Vijayaraghavan
Senate President

Date