

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-1523

TITLE: Resolution to Create Immersion Experience Day

AUTHOR: Senator Matthew D. van Wert

SPONSOR(S): Senator Arshan Falasiri

WHEREAS, the College of Journalism and Communications has over 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students, comprised of all different walks of life and backgrounds, seeking various forms of post-graduate employment or educational opportunities [1]; and,

WHEREAS, CJC students are encouraged to apply for internships during their education from a variety of sources, including but not limited to faculty, staff, and companies; and,

WHEREAS, paid interns are about twice as likely to land a job after graduation compared to non-interns and nearly every professional recruiter claims previous experience is one of the most important decision-making factors in a hiring process [2]; and,

WHEREAS, CJC-sponsored Immersion Experiences provide real-world, tangible experience in a variety of communications and journalistic fields, of which mimics or provides internship experience and can be the first step towards professional development [3]; and,

WHEREAS, “[CJC Immersion Experiences] offer unique and extensive hands-on experience for all students from any major and any skill level. Led by industry professionals, [CJC Students] will be engaged in real-world settings producing news, digital and sports content for the North Central Florida community, designing campaigns and strategies for regional and national brands, or conducting research on the application of communications theories in diverse industries and environments. In addition to counting toward [a CJC] University degree, these opportunities allow [a CJC student] to gain experience, expand [a CJC student’s] expertise, and create portfolios that are employer ready.” [3]; and,

WHEREAS, such that CJC students are expected to prepare for their post-graduate professional lives, it would be beneficial for students to be made aware and reminded of the importance of such opportunities for professional and career-oriented growth; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes and supports the initiatives behind the CJC’s Immersion Experience opportunities.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages the allocation of additional resources towards the continued development and specifically dissemination of information regarding these opportunities for CJC students of all capabilities, backgrounds, and identities.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the powerful, career-building opportunity of Immersion Experiences, and encourages the creation of a new Immersion Experience Tabling Day to increase advertising of the opportunities and foster connectedness between students of each of the four degrees offered in the College of Journalism and Communications and possible opportunities found therein.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to: Katrice Graham Ed. D., Assistant Dean of Student Experience.

[1] <https://www.jou.ufl.edu/this-is-cjc/#:~:text=The%20University%20of%20Florida%20College,3%2C000%20undergraduate%20and%20graduate%20students.>

[2] <https://www.naceweb.org/about-us/advocacy/position-statements/position-statement-us-internships/#:~:text=According%20to%20the%20NACE%202022,internship%20experience%20just%200.77%20offers.>

[3] <https://www.jou.ufl.edu/home/main-immersion/>