**STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1165**

**TITLE: Resolution to Implement an Arduino Kit Waste Location at Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering**

**AUTHOR(S): Senator Julia Pascoe, Senator Jocelyn Riley**

**SPONSOR(S): Judiciary Chairman Matthew Bravo, Senator Marissa Veeravagu, Senator Gianni Fillbrunn**

**WHEREAS,** EGN2020C, EEL3003, and IDS1940 are classes required for multiple majors in the College of Engineering and the Innovation Academy, which require students to purchase and use Arduino kits to participate and pass the class, and;

**WHEREAS,** these kits are not readily reusable and are often discarded irresponsibly after one semester of use, and;

**WHEREAS,** the University of Florida Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering is one of the largest academic buildings on campus, housing thousands of students, faculty, and lab facilities that generate a high volume of tech-related waste, and;

**WHEREAS,** the University of Florida Surplus on Elmore Drive diverts approximately 104 tons of electronic waste per year, according to its most recent AASHE STARS sustainability reporting [1], and;

**WHEREAS,** The UF Surplus PC shop refurbishes computer equipment to meet UF Information Technology (UFIT) standards. UF Surplus recycles end-of-life surplus property that cannot be used by other departments within the University or repurposed by another entity to reduce or eliminate the waste that is placed into landfills.

**WHEREAS,** University of Florida currently prohibits placing electronic devices in regular trash per environmental safety policies and all University of Florida-owned equipment must be processed through Surplus Asset Management or certified recyclers [2] [3], and;

**WHEREAS,** educational technology items currently have no convenient on-site disposal option at the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering, despite the high tech usage of students in the building, and;

**WHEREAS,** disposal options for electronic waste are limited to off-campus locations in Alachua County/Gainesville, which are not easily accessible to many students without personal transportation [4], and;

**WHEREAS,** on-campus recycling bins for batteries and small electronics are only available at locations such as the University of Florida Bookstore, Hub, or Libraries, which do not proportionally serve the engineering population concentrated around the Herbert Wertheim Engineering Building [5], and;

**WHEREAS,** establishing a designated bin at the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering building to recycle Arduino kits would support UF's sustainability mission, make engineering and Innovation Academy Arduino kit disposal more convenient for students, and promote sustainable practices on a daily basis; then,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate takes tech waste, particularly that required by University of Florida coursework in the College of Engineering and Innovation Academy, very seriously for its adverse environmental impacts.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate holds the operations of the University of Florida Surplus and Asset Management office, overseen by Michael Stringer, in high regard for their efficient and meticulous operations as well as their willingness to expand and improve.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the installation of an Arduino kit disposal bin at a central location within the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering building.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages the Student Senate and Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering to collaborate with University of Florida Surplus & Asset Management to aid in proper collection, sorting, and recycling of Arduino kits.

*Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the University of Florida Surplus Management Manager of Operations Michael Stringer.*
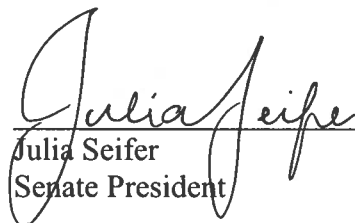
[1] - https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-florida-fl/report/2017-0630/OP/waste/OP-23/?utm_source
[2] - Electronics » Facilities Services » UF » University of Florida
[3] - https://www.ehs.ufl.edu/policies/electronics-reuse-recycle/?utm_source
[4] - https://sustainable.ufl.edu/campus-initiatives/waste/?utm_source
[5] - https://www.facilitiesservices.ufl.edu/departments/finance/recycling/recyclingguide/batteries/

Julia Seifer
Julia Seifer
Senate President

7/31/2r
Date