



Student Senate

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

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1203

TITLE: Resolution Proclaiming February 17th as University of Florida History Day

AUTHOR(S): Senator Giselle Linares

SPONSOR(S): Senator Maya Doonan, Senator Sherry Luo

WHEREAS, the University of Florida (UF) has a rich and unique history that deserves recognition, celebration, and preservation for future generations of students; and,

WHEREAS, the year 2026 marks the 120th anniversary of the University of Florida opening its doors in Gainesville in 1906, a milestone in the growth of higher education in the state of Florida [1]; and,

WHEREAS, the date of February 17th holds special significance, as it is the date when Yulee Hall was completed, allowing UF to officially become a co-educational institution, forever transforming the University's culture, traditions, and legacy; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of University of Florida History Day is to raise awareness about UF's unique past, educate the general student body about the milestones that shaped our campus community, and celebrate the institution's progress through time [1]; and,

WHEREAS, the celebration will be held in partnership with the UF Department of History, the George A. Smathers Libraries University Archives, and Phi Alpha Theta [2]; and,

WHEREAS, the UF Student Senate recognizes the importance of celebrating the University's history and ensuring that our predecessors' contributions to the institution are honored and remembered; and,

WHEREAS, fostering pride in the University of Florida's history enhances student identity, belonging, and commitment to the values that define our campus community [3]; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate formally proclaims February 17th as University of Florida History Day.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the UF Student Senate recognizes the importance of fostering awareness of UF's history and promoting events that educate and celebrate the University's legacy.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages all students, faculty, and staff to participate in events and initiatives that honor UF's past, celebrate its 120th anniversary and all anniversaries hence forward and promote pride through history.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the UF Department of History Chair Dr. Joseph Spillane, Director of University Archives Sarah Coates, President of Phi Alpha Theta at UF, and the George A. Smathers Libraries Director of Marketing and Communications Alex Avelino.

[1] - <https://handbook.aa.ufl.edu/about-uf/>

[2] - <https://history.ufl.edu/undergraduate-studies/phi-alpha-theta/>

[3] - <https://www.ufl.edu/about/core-values/>


Julia Seifer
Senate President

10/8/25
Date