

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1218

TITLE: Resolution Supporting the Campus-Wide Student Mental Health Survey

AUTHOR(S): Information and Communications Chair Katherine Finfrock

SPONSORS: Mental Health Ad Hoc Co-Chairs Alexandra Dill and Nicholas Andrews, Senate President Maya Idiculla

WHEREAS, the University of Florida is responsible for supporting the health and wellbeing of all of their students both mentally and physically; and,

WHEREAS, the Gallup and Lumina Foundation’s “2023 State of Higher Education Report” reported on the issue of mental health and academic success by finding that out of students who are considering dropping out of university, “55% cited emotional stress as one of the reasons and 47% cited “personal mental health reasons” [1]; and,

WHEREAS, according to the Center for Collegiate Mental Health 2024 Annual Report, “Rates of prior counseling and psychotropic medication usage continued to increase and currently are at their highest levels since this data was collected in 2012”, emphasizing the need for increased mental health resources on college campuses [2]; and,

WHEREAS, the Health Minds Study results indicate the need for increasing awareness of the current resources for mental health and the Counseling and Wellness Center at UF by finding that “of the 47 percent of students who screened positive for symptoms of anxiety or depression, fewer than half had received therapy or counseling in the past year” [3]; and,

WHEREAS, the Counseling and Wellness Center has partnered with the UF Student Senate to create a campus-wide mental health survey that will be used to assess the current state of students mental health and the mental health resources students need most; and,

WHEREAS, this survey will increase students’ knowledge of the current resources at the Counseling and Wellness Center and will work to bridge the gap between the UF students’ struggling with mental health and those who receive mental health treatment; and,

WHEREAS, the mental health of college students is becoming an important conversation at all universities due to the implications it has on academic success and overall wellbeing of students, increasing the need to collect data and expand resources on the matter; and,

WHEREAS, at the time of this resolution, the survey is open and collecting anonymous data, but the final results have not yet been recorded; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the University of Florida Student Mental Health Survey and recognizes the need to collect data on student mental health concerns.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate commits to continuing support for the Counseling and Wellness Center in advocating for the expansion of student mental health resources.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate is dedicated to supporting the mental health of all students and ensuring that they have access to the support and resources needed to thrive.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Kristin A. Malloy, Ed.D. ADA/504 Coordinator; Natasha Fox, ADA Case Manager

[1]<https://www.luminafoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/State-of-Higher-Education-2023.pdf>

[2]<https://ccmh.psu.edu/assets/docs/CCMH%202024%20Annual%20Report.pdf>

[3]https://healthymindsnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/HMS_national_report_090924.pdf