Student Senate Resolution 2015-127

Title: Resolution to Support Gainesville’s Entrepreneurial Community and to Honor its Contributors

Authors: Senator Hammaad Saber, Gator Innovators Chairman David Nassau

Sponsors: Student Body President Joselin Padron-Rasines, Student President Vice President Kevin Doan, Senator Shixiu Wang, Senator Thanh-Uyen Pham, Senator Preston Jones, Senator Sara Wedemeyer, Senator Mausam Trivedi, Rules & Ethics Chairwoman Maddie McClinton, Senator Nathalia Ortega

WHEREAS, in recent years, the University of Florida and the City of Gainesville have been pushing for innovation and entrepreneurship to be more prominent, through initiatives such as Innovation Hub, Infinity Hall, Innovation Academy, and more; and,

WHEREAS, Gainesville is host to the most business incubators per capita in the nation\(^1\) and the World’s #1 Biotech Incubator\(^2\); and,

WHEREAS, one of the six Gainesville incubators created over 1,460 jobs from 2004 to 2010\(^3\); and,

WHEREAS, the Innovation Hub at the University of Florida has created over 760 jobs, raised over $50 Million, and has been home to nearly 50 startups\(^4\); and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida was named the number one public university for transferring technology to the marketplace by the Milken Institute in 2006\(^5\); and,

WHEREAS, Josh Greenberg, co-founder of Grooveshark and an incredible influence to the entrepreneurial community of Gainesville, passed away on July 19, 2015\(^6\); and,

WHEREAS, Jerry Declasse, a UF Innovation Academy student leader and recognized figure of the Gainesville entrepreneurial community, passed away on January 16, 2015\(^7\); and,

\(^1\) [http://www.gainesvillechamber.com/innovation-gainesville/cool-things/](http://www.gainesvillechamber.com/innovation-gainesville/cool-things/)
\(^3\) [http://sidmartinbio.org/beta/awards-results/](http://sidmartinbio.org/beta/awards-results/)
\(^4\) [http://floridainnovationhub.ufl.edu/startups/](http://floridainnovationhub.ufl.edu/startups/)
\(^5\) [http://innovationsquare.ufl.edu/system/files/1_1790163994_uof-11003-innova_sq_broch(m).pdf](http://innovationsquare.ufl.edu/system/files/1_1790163994_uof-11003-innova_sq_broch(m).pdf)
\(^7\) [http://www.alligator.org/news/campus/article_b4e27b5e-a06c-11e4-b9fd-379da080b521.html](http://www.alligator.org/news/campus/article_b4e27b5e-a06c-11e4-b9fd-379da080b521.html)
WHEREAS, the success of the entrepreneurial community is largely due to the incredible contributions of key individuals such as Jerry Declase and Josh Greenberg; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate commends and honors Jerry Declase, Josh Greenberg, and all contributing members of the entrepreneurial community in Gainesville; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the growth and endeavors of Gainesville's entrepreneurial community.

[Signature]
Davis Bean
Senate President

8-6-15
Date