STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION 2016-118

TITLE: Student Body Resolution Supporting Gator Adaa

AUTHOR(S): Senator Saloni Patel, Senator Lucas Zhou, Senator Yen Le

SPONSOR(S): Student Body Treasurer Kishan Patel, Hispanic Student Association President Mario Agosto, Black Student Union President Ashley Aristide, Asian American Student Union President Kevin Doan, Indian Student Association President Praveen Varanasi, Gator Adaa Captains Isha Kothari, Bhavika Goyal, and Sonam Parag, Senator Rodel Enderez, Senator Jenny Trang, Senator Brenda Obana, Senator Michael Hernandez

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, October 4th, 2016, the Bollywood dance fusion team, Gator Adaa, was practicing outside the Ben Hill Griffin Stadium near the statues of the Heisman Trophy Winners; and,

WHEREAS, they were approached by two intoxicated male individuals who disrespected the members of their team by mocking their dance styles and by referring to them as "invasive species;" and,

WHEREAS, following these events, a member of Gator Adaa raised awareness of the incident on Facebook1 and several local news outlets, such as Sparks Magazine2 and The Independent Florida Alligator3, have covered the story; and,

WHEREAS, since then a report has been sent to the Bias Education and Report Team and Gator Adaa has met with Asian Pacific Islander American Director, Krystie T. Nguyen, and will meet with Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. David Parrott to discuss proactive responses; and,

THerefore, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the views of these individuals who made these derogatory comments do not align with the views of the University of Florida Student Senate; and,

1 https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1452433254773099
3 http://www.alligator.org/news/campus/article_4b74d838-8b75-11e6-a4c9-b776eb792364.html
THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate believes that all individuals deserve equal treatment and respect regardless of ability, age, creed, ethnic or national origin, gender, gender identity and expression, marital status, political or social affiliation, race, religion, or sexual orientation; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages students to utilize resources such as U Matter, We Care, the Counseling and Wellness Center, the Bias Education and Response Team, Students Taking Action Against Racism, Multicultural and Diversity Affairs, and Asian American Pacific Islander Affairs in order to build a proactive response to discriminatory acts.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. David Parrott, Asian Pacific Islander American Affairs Director Krystie T. Nguyen,