STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION 2017-121

TITLE: Resolution Recognizing the Hard-Work and Accomplishments of the Disability Resource Center

AUTHORS: The Disability Advocacy Ad-Hoc Committee

SPONSORS: Senate President Jackie Phillips, Senate President Pro-Tempore Trevor Schaettle, the Judiciary Committee

WHEREAS, the mission of the Disability Resource Center (DRC) is to utilize “knowledge and expertise in the fields of disability and higher education to create an inclusive environment”[1]; and,

WHEREAS, the DRC acts as a resource for various disabilities, facilitates support for reasonable accommodations, addresses the impact of disabilities on student performance, “[empowers] students to articulate their strengths and advocate for their accommodations,” and creates opportunities to educate the community[1]; and,

WHEREAS, the DRC facilitates over 10,000 examinations for students seeking reasonable accommodations, per semester[2]; and,

WHEREAS, the DRC currently have a student to staff ratio of approximately 476:1 while the national average is about 300:1[2]; and,

WHEREAS, the DRC has seen a 96% increase in students seeking accommodations in the past four years (2013-2017) [3]; and,

WHEREAS, the DRC is a valuable service available at the University of Florida, assisting students in need and helping to create a stronger Gator Nation.
THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate believes that all students are equally deserving of the opportunity to excel at the University of Florida, regardless of any existing disabilities.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages students to utilize the Disability Resource Center when applicable.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the positive impact the Disability Resource Center has had on the University of Florida student body.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate values the Disability Resource Center.

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Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Assistant Dean/Director Gerry Altamirano, Associate Dean Anthony DeSantis, The Interim Dean of Students Heather White, Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. David Parrot.

[1] https://drc.dso.ufl.edu/about/history-and-mission/