STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION 2018-1068

TITLE: Resolution Requesting that Student Government’s Executive Branch Collaborate with the Provost to Fund a 24/7 Library During the 2018-2019 Academic Year

AUTHOR: Senator Ben Lima

SPONSORS: Minority Party Leader Richard German, Senator Daniel Ospina

WHEREAS, it is uncertain whether the University of Florida will have a 24/7 study space with sufficient access to books, computers, and a quiet environment during the 2018-2019 academic year; and,

WHEREAS, Marston Science Library was open 24/5 in Fall of 2015 and Spring of 2016 and Library West was open 24/7 in Fall of 2016, Spring of 2017, and Spring of 2018; and,

WHEREAS, a study was conducted in Fall 2017 by the Smathers Libraries, the Division of Student Affairs Dean’s office, and the Student Affairs Office of Assessment and Research (SAAR) in order to collect data regarding University of Florida students’ preferences and usage of overnight study spaces on campus¹; and,

WHEREAS, in the aforementioned study, over 66% of respondents indicated a preference for Library West while only about 12% indicated a preference for Newell Hall (Spears 2017); and,

WHEREAS, a Spring 2018 study conducted by Laura Spears, Ph.D., Assessment Librarian for the George A. Smathers Libraries, concluded that “Newell Hall alone is insufficient to meet the current demand for overnight study space”²; and,

WHEREAS, then-Student Senate President Ian Green stated in a December 2017 “Platform Tracker” video that Student Government utilized data from the Fall 2017 survey as well as the Fall 2017 Library West 24/5 pilot program to work with the provost to successfully secure funding for Library West to be open 24/7 in Spring of 2018³; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate believes it is clear that the Student Body desires for Library West or Marston Science Library, which have historically been designated and funded as 24/7 libraries and which provide access to textbooks and other academic resources not offered by Newell Hall, to be funded as such during the 2018-2019 academic year.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate requests that Student Body President Ian Green, Student Body Vice President David Enriquez, Student Body Treasurer Stefan Sanguyo, and other relevant Student Government officials collaborate with Provost Glover and the University of Florida administration in order to secure the funding necessary to
designate either Library West or Marston Science Library as a 24/7 library during the 2018-2019 academic year.

2 http://ufdcimages.uflib.ufl.edu/IR/00/01/04/50/00001/OvernightHoursStudy_Spring2018_FinalRprt.pdf
3 https://www.facebook.com/ufstudentgov/videos/10155929472883936/

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Student Body President Ian Green, Student Body Vice President David Enriquez, Student Body Treasurer Stefan Sanguyo, Provost Joseph Glover, President W. Kent Fuchs, Dean of Students Heather White, and Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. David W. Parrott.