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JR-19F-3426: Resolution on Harassment by Visitors on Florida State University Campuses

Student Government Association University of North Florida

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- 2 Whereas: The Student Government of the University of North Florida was established to represent
3 student concerns in all University wide matters, and;
- 4 Whereas: The Senate is the legislative body of the University of North Florida's Student Government
5 given the responsibility of carrying out such legislative acts that are necessary and proper for the
6 Student Body of the University of North Florida; and;
- 7 Whereas: The Student Government of the University of North Florida has the responsibility and
8 constitutional duty to advocate for matters pertaining to the student body; and;
- 9 Whereas: The Legislative Branch recently conducted a survey, called Osprey Voice, to obtain satisfaction
10 ratings for how comfortable students feel when walking on campus;
- 11 Whereas: "Campus Preacher" or a "Campus Speaker" is a student or nonstudent that is on campus
12 delivering a religion-based address to the public;
- 13 Whereas: The Osprey Voice results showed that 83.9% of the 662 University of North Florida students
14 surveyed claimed to be uncomfortable with the campus preacher's presence and rhetoric;
- 15 Whereas: The Osprey Voice results showed that 42.4% of the 662 University of North Florida students
16 surveyed claimed to have been directly verbally harassed by a campus preacher or speaker, using
17 the following definition of verbal harassment: "a destructive form of communication intended
18 to harm the self-concept of the other person and produce negative emotions."
- 19 Whereas: The Osprey Voice results also showed that of all the women that participated in the survey,
20 51.3% have claimed to be harassed, compared to 38.2% of the men. This difference is
21 statistically significant ($p= 0.003$);
- 22 Whereas: The Osprey Voice results also showed that of all the practicing non-Christian students, 64.4%
23 claimed to be harassed. This difference is statistically significant ($p<0.001$), indicating that
24 practicing non-Christians are significantly more likely to claim to be harassed than practicing
25 Christian students.
- 26 Whereas: The Osprey Voice results also showed that of the LGB and straight students that took the
27 survey, 65.8% of LGB students claimed to be harassed, compared to 43.3% of straight students.
28 This difference is statistically significant ($p<0.001$);
- 29 Whereas: The Osprey Voice results also showed through the comments section that multiple students
30 claim to have been touched. A Jewish student reported his arm was grabbed, another student
31 who was a wheelchair user reported being "prayed over" and touched. Students have received
32 comments that would be considered sexual harassment, such as graphic comments about one's
33 body in a sexual way. Students have been subject to inflammatory race related comments, such
34 as singling out students of different races and being told that speaking in a language other than
35 English is "honoring the devil." Students have reported being followed by a campus preacher
36 to their classes and to the parking garages on campus;



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- 37 Whereas: Our Osprey Voice results indicate that speech in non-academic spaces is often used to disrupt
38 student life rather than engage in civil discourse;
- 39 Therefore: In order to protect academic freedom while also ensuring student safety and success, we, the
40 University of North Florida's Student Government, urge the Council of Student Affairs to
41 consider campus-wide anti-harassment policies or codes that apply to visitors on university
42 campuses, as well as students, across the Florida State University System.
- 43 Furthermore: Let this resolution, along with the attached comments, be forwarded to Interim Associate
44 Provost Dr. Dan Moon, to be addressed by the Council of Student Affairs, as well as Governor
45 Zenani Johnson, Chair of the Florida Student Association.

Legislative Action

Author: Kayla Dougherty
 Co-Author: Ally Schneider
 Sponsor: Kayla Dougherty
 Committee: University and Student Affairs
 Committee Action: 7-0-0
 Senate Action: Unanimous Consent
 Date of Action: 9/20/19

Signed and Delivered to the Student Body President
 on this 23rd day of Sept., 2019.

Signed: [Redacted]
Thatcher Hart, Student Senate President

Place Time Stamp Here
 ROT 23SEP19 10:44

Executive Action

Let it be known that is hereby

APPROVED / VETOED

on this 23 day of Sept, 19

Signed, [Redacted]
John Aloszka, Student Body President

Signed and Delivered to the Senate Secretary

Place Time Stamp Here
 ROT 23SEP19 10:44