RESOLUTION 5-045

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PRINTING CAPS AFTER HOURS PHONE LINE ON THE BACK OF STUDENT MCARDS

WHEREAS Student mental health and wellbeing is, and must remain, a chief concern and priority for the University administration, faculty, staff and student body; AND

WHEREAS, A 2011 study by the American College Health Association cited depression and anxiety as two of the “top impediments to academic performance”¹; AND

WHEREAS, A 2012 National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) study found that 50% of surveyed students who dropped out of college for mental health reasons had never sought counseling²; AND

WHEREAS, According to the University of Michigan’s Counseling and Psychological Service’s (CAPS) 2014-2015 annual report, more than 4,000 students sought out its services during that academic year, a “17% increase in demand for services, [which was] more than 4 times the expected increase based on activity from prior years”³; AND

WHEREAS, CAPS instituted an after hours crisis phone line in October 2015 to address the increasing number of student concerns and requests for services, and, in its first month alone, ninety (90) students utilized this service; AND

WHEREAS, The after hours phone line can function as a gateway service and resource for students seeking help, counseling and/or services in a number of areas, such as dealing with anxiety, depression and/or thoughts of suicide; AND

WHEREAS, The above information could be further publicized by printing it on the back of all student Mcards (identification cards) henceforth issued, as all students are provided with their own Mcard during Freshman Orientation; AND

¹ http://www2.nami.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Find_Support/NAMI_on_Campus1/Learn_About_The_Issue/Learn_About_The_Issue.htm
WHEREAS, Printing CAPS after hours phone line on the back of Mcards may serve as a powerful symbol in the consolidated effort to address and reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness on our campus; AND

WHEREAS, Other schools, such as the University of Missouri, have printed their respective crisis phone lines on the back of university student identification cards; AND

WHEREAS, The addition of CAPS after hours phone line onto Mcards has the support of Dr. Todd Sevig, Director of the Counseling and Psychological Services, among other student leaders and professionals working on advancing student mental well-being; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That Central Student Government (CSG) officially supports the initiative to print CAPS after hours phone line on the back of student Mcards in the format as follows:

“CAPS After Hours Line: 734-764-8312”;

AND BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, That CSG will continue to actively promote the wellbeing of all students by calling on University administrators to print CAPS after hours phone line on the back of student Mcards.

RESOLVED, That CSG and the authors of this Resolution will work with ProtoCall, the group which services this after hours phone line, to disseminate any necessary and appropriate information to callers on other Student Life organizations that deal with student wellness.

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Presented to the Assembly for First Reads on 2/23/16

Presented to the Assembly for Second Reads on

Yes: _____ No: _____ Abs: _____ Date: _______________________

Signature Necessary: ______ Signature Received By: _______________