

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AMENDING Student Senate AND RELATED Student Body DESIGNATIONS TO UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SENATE & UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

Within the Student Body of the University of New Hampshire, undergraduate and graduate student bodies are represented by separate student senates. The current designation regards the “Student Senate” as representative of the undergraduate student body (herein “Undergraduate Student Senate”) and “Graduate Student Senate” as representative of the graduate student body.

The structures of Undergraduate and Graduate Student Senates are such that these bodies may advocate for the student-specific needs of each constituency. There are, however, no clear distinctions in terms of University branding for the Undergraduate Student Senate, Student Senate Speaker, University System of New Hampshire Board Representative or Student Body to reflect the *undergraduate-specific* constituency. All such positions (save joint designation of President and Speaker) are designated within the Graduate Student Senate and are not shared between undergraduate and graduate student bodies. Such general student language creates confusion for students seeking out appropriate representative bodies. Operational language defining the name of each student body, respective senate, and senate positions provides clarity for all students and all levels of leadership within the University of New Hampshire.

WHEREAS, the Undergraduate Student Senate Constitution Preamble specifies said body “shall serve as an advocate for all *undergraduate* students” with authority to “initiate and administer programs and services for the *undergraduate* Student Body” and,

WHEREAS, the University of New Hampshire leadership in public documentation addressed to the University System Board of Trustees assigns Undergraduate Student Senate and Graduate Student Senate distinctions and,

WHEREAS, the University System of New Hampshire Student Representatives to the Board of Trustees are specifically designated as Undergraduate and Graduate within System Office documentation and,

WHEREAS, the designation of Student Senate within University webpages, particularly regarding Wildcat Link, has created confusion among graduate students with respect to Graduate Student Senate elections and,

WHEREAS, graduate students are wholly ineligible to vote in advertised “Student Body” elections and,

WHEREAS, the Graduate Student Senate has unanimously passed a motion to formally request designation change,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, the Graduate Student Senate at the University of New Hampshire recommends immediate re-designation and re-branding of

Undergraduate Student Senate website materials to accurately reflect the constituency said body represents. Furthermore, subsequent branding efforts shall reflect the appropriate designation.