To Whom It May Concern:

The Student Senate of the University of New Hampshire recently passed the attached resolution regarding the financial burden of receiving course credit for internships. The student representatives feel strongly that the current charge for receiving academic recognition for internships is an inappropriate burden that may discourage students from pursuing experience in the workforce. Additionally, the Student Senate recognizes that pursuing experience in the workforce through internships is precisely what students are being encouraged to do for various reasons. Therefore, the Student Senate respectfully requests that full course credit payments be replaced with a more reasonable filing fee.

Respectfully,

Gabriel Hoffman
Student Senate Speaker
University of New Hampshire
Student Senate Resolution XXXVII – 43a Regarding Summer Tuition and Internship Course Credit

Introduced by: Student Body President, Cameron Cook, Academic Affairs Chairperson, Justin Poisson

Date: April 17th, 2016

Whereas, the University of New Hampshire (UNH) defines a paid internship as “Receiv[ing] an hourly wage (equivalent or greater than the NH state minimum wage) or stipend over the course of their internship” 1, and

Whereas, the UNH Career Center documents the blanket UNH policy regarding summer internship course credit on their website 1 and has forms for students to file for said credit on their website 3, and

Whereas, to obtain credit a student must obtain a faculty sponsor, have the internship be relevant to the course work in your major, obtain signatures from your academic advisor, the UNH Career Center, and the UNH Registrar 2, and you must pay for the course credit based on the summer tuition charges UNH levies1, and

Whereas, Summer Session, for 10 credits or less, costs 426 dollars per credit plus mandatory tech fees and other fees that together total approximately two thousand dollars per four credits, and

Whereas, in recent history UNH has been actively pushing for more students to pursue relevant internships as well as helping to prepare UNH students for the professional world through efforts such as the implementation of the Curran Report, and

Whereas, to burden students with thousands of dollars for pursuing credit for quality internships that develop the individual and build the brand of UNH is counterintuitive to recent efforts, therefore

Be it resolved by the Student Senate of the University of New Hampshire to recommend to the respective colleges at UNH, the UNH Registrar’s Office, and UNH Career Center that they change their policies regarding course credit for summer internships to include the following recommendations:

1. Eliminate the requirement for students to pay for full course credit for paid or unpaid internships during the Summer Session.
2. Replace this requirement with a filling fee of less than three hundred dollars total and give students full course credit with the goal of incentivizing students to pursue relevant internships to be documented by UNH.

3. When administering this filling fee, include an option for undergraduate students to request that fee be added to the upcoming fall or previous spring semester bill for payment.

Senate Action: Passes
Speaker Verification: Gabriel Hoffman