



### **Student Government Resolution 118.012**

#### **A Resolution Establishing Mental Health Week in the Student Government Standing Rules Sponsored by Joe Slama, Chair of Health, Wellness, and Safety; Adam Barker, Rules Revision Ad Hoc Committee Chair; Caroline Costello, Sexual Assault Prevention Designee; Kathleen Placke, Voting Senator**

WHEREAS,

- The Student Government is the official governing body of the Student Association and exists to represent the present and long-term best interests of the Student Association in the formulation of the University policy and in the fulfillment of the University mission; and
- For the previous two years, the Health, Wellness, and Safety committee has organized and sponsored a week-long series of publicity and educational events explicitly addressing mental health under the name of Mental Wellness Week; and
- The committee has for both years collaborated in this process with several on-campus groups and organizations with professional and academic expertise and interest in campus mental health; and
- The first collaborative Mental Wellness Week ran March 26-29, 2018;<sup>1</sup> and
- The second collaborative Mental Wellness Week ran February 11-17, 2019;<sup>2</sup> and
- Events have included screenings, suicide prevention training, presentations on Truman's mental health culture, faculty talks on how to live healthier lives, information nights for campus health groups, and stress relief events; and
- The Health, Wellness, and Safety committee has received a suggestion from the Office of Student Affairs to hold this programming towards the beginning of the spring semester in order to maximize impact; and
- Mental health has in recent years emerged as one of the most discussed, pressing, and challenging topics on Truman's campus;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

- Considers the past two iterations of Mental Wellness Week a success; and
- Adopts the name "Mental Health Week" for this programming; and

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<sup>1</sup> <http://newsletter.truman.edu/article.asp?id=18612>

<sup>2</sup> <http://newsletter.truman.edu/article.asp?id=21113>

- Recommends that “Mental Health Week” occur in the first half of the second semester in years following; and
- Approves the proposed changes<sup>3</sup> to the Standing Rules;<sup>4</sup> and
- Encourages the Health, Wellness, and Safety committee to collaborate on this programming with other campus offices and organizations<sup>5</sup> invested in student well-being in organizing these events; and
- Encourages the Health, Wellness, and Safety committee to begin planning for Mental Health Week at the start of each school year.

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT DIRECTS THAT

Additional copies of this resolution be disseminated to President Sue Thomas; Truman State University Board of Governors; Janna Stoskopf, Vice President of Student Affairs; Brenda Higgins, Associate Vice President for Student Health & Wellness and Co-Chair of the JED Committee; Evonne Bird, Co-Chair of the JED Committee; William Nelson, Interim Director of Residence Life; the Student Activities Board; Jeanne Harding, Interim Dean, School of Health Sciences; Mona Davis, Assistant to the Dean, School of Health Sciences & Education; Robert Tigner, Psychology Department Chair; Michael Bird, Health and Exercise Sciences Department Chair; Positive Peers; Psi Chi; the Student Public Health Association; the Greek Mental Wellness Committee; Residence Hall Association; Phi Epsilon Kappa; the Office of Special Collections; and the Truman Media Network.

Passed by Unanimous Consent, March 3, 2019



Keaton Leppanen, President of the Student Association

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<sup>3</sup> See Appendix A.

<sup>4</sup> The clause numbers of the following changes will be updated before they are implemented.

<sup>5</sup> See Appendix B for a suggested list of organizations.

## **Appendix A**

Article I

Section 16: Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee

**Clause 3**

The Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee shall also be responsible for programming concerning the mental and physical well-being of the Truman student body lasting at least three days.

## **Appendix B**

The Health, Wellness, and Safety committee has drawn from the passion and experience of several campus offices and organizations to host mental health events in the past, and encourages the future committee to do the same when hosting Mental Health Week in keeping with the stipulations of this resolution.

Such offices and organizations may include: University Counseling Services, the JED Committee (and, upon Truman's graduation from the JED program, any entity which replaces the JED Committee), the Office of Student Affairs, Residence Life, Health Science senior capstone students (who often begin work on their capstone prior to the spring semester and should be contacted through the Health and Exercise Sciences Department), SAB, Psi Chi, Positive Peers, the Student Public Health Association, the Greek Mental Wellness Committee, the Residence Hall Association, and Phi Epsilon Kappa.