



**Student Government Resolution 119.028**

**A Resolution Encouraging the Restructuring of Student Government Committee  
Programming**

**Sponsored by Deanna Schmidt, President of the Student Association and Katie Alexander,  
Vice President of the Student Association**

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 University policy and in the fulfillment of the University's mission; and
- The Student Government's role on Truman State University's campus is to primarily serve as a policy-making body; and
- The Student Government hosts events and programming throughout the year to enhance these policy efforts, advocate for the student body, and spread awareness of key issues; and
- On March 22, 2020, the Student Government unanimously passed a resolution encouraging the Student Government to plan an annual professional programming event for the student body;<sup>1</sup> and
- This resolution encouraged such professional programming events to occur in the fall; and
- Planning a large-scale program for the fall semester may prove difficult, as it would either require the previous administration to appoint a chair and conference theme for the following fall that is not within their term limit, or a new administration to find a chair and theme with limited time before summer break to allow for sufficient planning time; and
- Thus, it would be significantly easier for the annual professional programming event to occur in the spring; and
- One major drawback to hosting this professional programming event in the spring is the saturation of Student Government events in the spring semester; and
- These events typically include, but are not limited to:
  - The Academic Accolades Banquet

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<sup>1</sup> [Student Government Resolution 119.019](#)

- Diversity Week
  - Earth Week
  - Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee Programming
  - Sexual Assault Prevention Week
  - Student Appreciation Week
  - Truman at the Capitol
  - Spring Elections
- Hosting too many Student Government events within a short time frame causes them to be overlooked and unattended by the student body; and
  - Requiring committee chairs to plan specific events for specific time frames detracts from chairs' ability to focus on their primary role of policy-making throughout the year; and
  - The Student Government governing documents do not specify that these events need to occur in the spring, last a full week, or even occur in consecutive days;<sup>2</sup> and
  - Some of these events, including Diversity Committee programming, Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee programming, and Student Appreciation programming could happen throughout the year, even in the fall; and
  - Hosting such events in a more flexible manner year-round could allow chairs to tailor their events to better supplement their primary goal of policy making; and
  - Spreading out the timing of these events to occur throughout the year would also help maintain student interest in Student Government events, rather than overwhelming the student body with events in the spring semester;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT,

- Recognizes the importance of hosting programming to enhance our efforts in policy making; and
- Encourages the 2020-2021 Student Government to pilot a restructuring of committee programming, encouraging chairs to host 2-3 programming events throughout the year at times they deem most critical to spreading awareness of a topic or issue with the student body relevant to their committee's work; and
- Further encourages the 2020-2021 Student Government to host a professional programming event as outlined in Student Government Resolution 119.019 in the Spring 2021 semester to allow for sufficient planning time; and
- Recommends the 2020-2021 Student Government evaluate the success of this pilot program to make longer-lasting and more concrete suggestions for future Student Government bodies.

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT DIRECTS THAT,

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<sup>2</sup> See [Constitution](#), Article II Section 11 and the [Standing Rules](#), Article I Sections 11-16.

Additional copies of this resolution be disseminated to President Sue Thomas; Janna Stokskopf, Vice President of Student Affairs; Union and Involvement Services; the Student Activities Board; the Center for Diversity and Inclusion; the Sustainability Office; University Archives; and the Truman Media Network.

Passed by Unanimous Consent, April 19, 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deanna Schmidt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D".

Deanna Schmidt, President of the Student Association.