

Fall 2022

F22RS SGR 5 (Establishment of Graduate Healthcare Committee)

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WHEREAS the health and safety of the students are affected by the state of graduate student healthcare at LSU, AND;

WHEREAS the committee will report to the state of Louisiana of the health, safety, and quality of the graduate student healthcare at LSU, AND;

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Fifty Sixth Student Senate of Louisiana State University

AT THE SPRING REGULAR SESSION OF

Two Thousand and Twenty-Two

S.G.R. 5

ORIGINAL

AUTHORED BY SENATORS:

DOHRENWEND

BOODHOO

CERQUONE

CLENDANIEL

EGBEJIOGU

GERALDSEN

GHOSE

HODGES

KACZYNSKI

KAFILI

A Resolution

To establish the Committee on the Graduate Student Healthcare Crisis as a temporary committee of LSU Student Government, pursuant to Article XIV of the LSU Student Government Bylaws

WHEREAS, the state of graduate student healthcare at LSU is abysmal — graduate assistant health insurance costs at LSU are not provided nor subsidized by the University, mental health and nutrition services are inadequate, privatization is afoot, and many students have reported issues with surprise billing, AND;

WHEREAS, while progress has been made in recent years, international graduate students are required to enroll in health insurance as a condition of their visas and the choices offered are either cost-prohibitive otherwise significantly lacking in quality, and do not provide proper consultation on the limited choices offered, AND;

WHEREAS, the health and welfare of graduate students at LSU, and their families, are shouldered by the students for referred mental health services, emergency services, lab-work, and any out-of-network service such as urgent care and aftercare health services, AND;

WHEREAS, this committee will develop and recommend changes to the state of healthcare affordability, access, and quality for graduate students, especially those working on assistantships and all international graduate students, AND;

WHEREAS, this committee will have the following duties, powers, and responsibilities:

- The duty to meet with various members of the LSU community in order to carry out actions to fulfill the Committee's goals and objectives
- The responsibility to keep the Legislative and Executive branches informed on matters pertaining to the committee according to the proscription outlined in this legislation
- The powers necessary to carry out actions to fulfill the Committee's goals and objectives, including (but not limited to) to approval of Student Senate legislation referred to it

AND;

WHEREAS, this committee will meet monthly; unless more frequent meetings are needed at the discretion of the Chair, AND;

WHEREAS, this committee will report at least monthly to the 56th and, if necessary, the 57th and 58th Senates of the LSU Student Government and provide regular updates to the Executive Branch of the Student Government as requested by the Student Body President or Chief of Staff, AND;

WHEREAS, the Committee shall have the following nine (9) voting members, of whom, at least two (2) must be international students:

- Four (4) members of the Student Senate, including at least three (3) from the Graduate School, appointed by the Speaker of the Student Senate
- The President of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) or their designee
- The Vice President of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) or their designee
- Two (2) members appointed by the President of the Graduate Student Association (GSA)
- One (1) member appointed by the Student Body President

AND;

WHEREAS, the Committee shall have the following five (5) ex-officio, non-voting members:

- The Student Body President
- The Student Body Vice President
- The Speaker of the Student Senate
- The Speaker pro tempore of the Student Senate
- The Chief Justice or their designate from the University Court,

AND;

WHEREAS, the Speaker of the Student Senate shall preside over the election of the At-Large Representative, AND;

WHEREAS, the Chair, in cooperation with the Committee, shall have the following powers and responsibilities:

- Setting location, date, time, and duration of the meetings
- Presiding over committee meetings
- Appointing a Vice Chair
- Terminating the Committee membership of a member for just cause
- Prioritizing consideration on matters pertaining to the committee's goals and objectives

AND;

WHEREAS, the Chair shall be elected by a simple majority of the voting members of the Committee as the first order of business at the first meeting of the Committee, and the Committee shall reserve the right to hold an election for a new Chair at their discretion, AND;

WHEREAS, the Speaker of the Student Senate shall preside over the election of the committee chair, AND;

WHEREAS, since there will not be an elected Chair prior to the first meeting, the committee members shall decide amongst themselves the location, date, and time of the first meeting, AND;

WHEREAS, the Committee's findings and recommendations shall be electronically transmitted to the Speaker of the Student Senate, Student Body President, and made public record, AND;

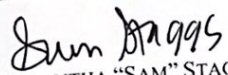
WHEREAS; the Committee shall operate until the end of the Fall 2023 semester, unless disbanded at an earlier date by a three-quarters vote of the Committee membership, AND;

WHEREAS; the findings and recommendations of the committee will be reported to: the Student Government, the President of Louisiana State University, the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University, the Dean of the Graduate School, the LSU Health Center, and all other relevant university and state officials.


THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE, that the Committee on the Graduate Student Healthcare Crisis be established and begin to review, recommend and implement changes to graduate student healthcare policies.

THIS BILL SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON PASSAGE BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY (ONE-HALF PLUS ONE) VOTE OF THE LSU STUDENT SENATE AND SIGNATURE BY THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT, UPON LAPSE OF TIME FOR PRESIDENTIAL ACTION OR IF VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT AND SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY THE STUDENT SENATE ON THE DATE OF SUCH APPROVAL.

APPROVED:


SAMANTHA "SAM" STAGGS
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

DATE: 10-17-22


LAUREN "LIZZIE" SHAW
STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

DATE: 10-17-22