

First Reading: November 15, 2016
Second Reading: November 29, 2016
Pass: YES 21-6-2
Other:

Resolution 4-16-F Resolution to Support the Elimination of Printed Paper by all of Western Kentucky University's Campuses by the Year 2030.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to support the elimination of printed paper from the campus to promote a more sustainable university. As an organization, we strive to engage in initiatives, which will bring great environmental benefits to the region, and will make Western Kentucky University a progressive leader in preserving our globe.

WHEREAS: Paper is used in most courses for assignments, handouts, and exams, and

WHEREAS: According to Supply Chain Management, Western Kentucky University officially purchased \$132,912.79 worth of paper from July 1, 2015- June 30, 2016, and

WHEREAS: Millions of dollars are allocated to students for printing each year, which is based on the fact that Western Kentucky University has over 20,000 students, with every student receiving at least \$75 printing dollars for the academic year, and

WHEREAS: Many students do not use their allotted printing dollars, or they occasionally print trivial items because the funding is there to use, and

WHEREAS: Western Kentucky University loses this funding, when it could be used to invest in online servers to receive all assignments in a digital format, and

WHEREAS: Paper is environmentally harmful, not only because it contributes to deforestation, but to its contribution to waste generation, water usage, carbon dioxide production, and

WHEREAS: Although much of our paper is recycled, the environmental impacts of just producing the paper is enough to endanger our livelihood in the very near future, and

WHEREAS: Our campus generates more waste each year as the University grows, making it imperative to support any reduction to environmental harm possible, and

WHEREAS: While some may not be able to afford the means to electronically submit an assignment, computer labs are plentiful on campus, especially with Mass Media open 24 hours a day, and

WHEREAS: SGA has sponsored its own initiative to provide computers to students who need online access off campus through the Earn-A-Computer Program, and

WHEREAS: Using an online server to submit assignments reduces the risk of losing an important assignment, providing students with a means to easily resend an assignment that is not received.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University support the initiative to eliminate printed paper on all campuses of Western Kentucky University by the year 2030.

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