

R F2017.02

A Resolution Advocating for the Change of the LSA Final Exam Policy

A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government

April 5, 2017

Sponsors: Ryan Gillcrist, Hanna Simmons, Nick Meier, Gaby Font, Cami Johnson, Jenna Varcak, Emily Lustbader, and Wyatt Puscas

Whereas, the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life”;¹ and,

Whereas, the current University of Michigan Final Exam policy regarding maximum number of exams is that, “If any student is assigned four examinations during the same day, the University Final Examination Committee will seek reassignment if so requested by the student at least two weeks prior to the beginning of the Final Examination Period”;² and,

Whereas, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan states that it is the institution’s mission “to ensure that each member of our community has full opportunity to thrive in our environment”, and,

Whereas, taking three finals within a single day not only affects student stamina, but also is a very stressful experience and detrimental to the mental health of those students; and,

Whereas, the stress from multiple exams can negatively impact academic performance; and,

Whereas, exams are often scheduled back-to-back, making transition difficult; and,

Whereas, during the final exam period, Counseling and Psychological Services (hereafter CAPS) experiences an increase in appointments due to the high amount of student stress; and,

Whereas, information about exam times is not easily accessible at the time of registration and results in many students unknowingly scheduling three final exams during the same day; and,

Whereas, the University of Nebraska--Lincoln, The Ohio State University, Penn State University, University of Minnesota--Twin Cities, University of Wisconsin--Madison, Purdue University, Harvard University, Princeton University, University of Illinois--Urbana-Champaign, Brown University, University of Pennsylvania, Dartmouth University, Cornell University, Columbia University, and Yale

¹ The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II

² <http://www.ro.umich.edu/exams/>

University, all have policies in place where rescheduling is available if students have three or more exams on the same day; and,

Whereas, many of the above universities have two-hour exam blocks and comparable or shortened exam periods despite stricter limits on number of finals per day and do not face scheduling difficulties.

Be it therefore resolved, LSA SG strongly encourages the College to change its final current exam policy so that students with three exams on the same day can reschedule one exam in order to combat student stress; and,

Be it finally resolved, LSA SG shall send a copy of this resolution and a letter to LSA Dean Andrew Martin, LSA Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education, Angela Dillard, Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Education, Esrold Nurse, Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Education, Marjorie Horton, Curriculum Committee and Enrollment Manager, JoAnn Peraino, Associate Vice Provost and University Registrar, Paul Robinson, Associate Registrar, Kortney Briske, SACUA Chair, and Director of CAPS, Todd Sevig.