

A RESOLUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, EMPHASIZING THE NEED FOR MORE FUNDS TO BE ALLOCATED TO THE W. FRANK STEELY LIBRARY FOR DATABASES

WHEREAS: On September 10, 2018 the issue was raised that the university subscription to the Modern Language Association International Bibliography was canceled in July of 2018. A petition signed by students and faculty alike was submitted to the Student Government Association, and

WHEREAS: W. Frank Steely Library discontinuing subscriptions to databases is an attempt to decrease the budget gap created by a lack of funding, and

WHEREAS: Associate Dean for Collections for the library, Lois Schultz said "When over 95% of the budget is in databases and journals, then in order to stay within the budget, something has to be cut. This is going to be a recurring problem each year until some modification is made to the budget allocation," and

WHEREAS: Student researchers have had difficulty accessing the specific journals they need for research, and

WHEREAS: The Interim Dean of the W. Frank Steely Library proposed the discontinuation of 12 database subscriptions to be able to afford our SAGE full-text journal subscription. Databases discontinued by the W. Frank Steely Library include Lexis-Nexis, Credo, ARTstor, Books in Print, American Library Directory, TAQ, Grants for Libraries, Mergers and Acquisitions, and several other journals, and

WHEREAS: These represent databases used by a diverse set of majors including arts, architecture, humanities, science and language majors, and

WHEREAS: While short-term funding for the MLA International Database was offered by the Department of English and the College of Arts and Science, long term funding was found by cutting databases and a lower than expected inflation, and

WHEREAS: Databases provide a vital tool for student, faculty, and staff research alike, and

WHEREAS: Northern Kentucky University has a growing population of undergraduate researchers. Undergraduate research offers students an opportunity to not only engage more deeply in the material they are studying, it also gives them an opportunity to gain confidence as future academics and researchers, and

WHEREAS: The library has implemented the SourceFinder system to provide access to infrequently used, and currently unavailable materials due to database gaps, and

WHEREAS: A library should not be forced to reduce the number of academic resources for its students due to underfunding, and

WHEREAS: The W. Frank Steely Library has received \$1,200,194 in collection budgetary allocations since the 2015/2016 fiscal year, while continuing-cost items have increased from \$1,164,027 to \$1,406,086, causing cuts to be made to remain in the allocated amount, and

WHEREAS: This marks an increase of continuing-cost items by \$205,892, and

WHEREAS: The W. Frank Steely collection of books has only increased by .39% in the past three years, with the new library system preventing a statistic from before 2015. The library has lost a purchasing power of 6.5% every year for four years, this trend of loss will continue unless assuaged by increased funding, and

WHEREAS: While Northern Kentucky University remains continually underfunded, we must ensure that students have access to tools necessary to excel academically and to conduct research by allocating money to meet the continuing cost items of the W. Frank Steely Library.

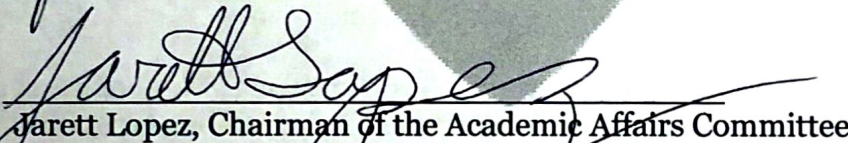
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, ON THIS TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF MARCH 2019 THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY EMPHASIZES THE NEED FOR MORE FUNDS TO BE ALLOCATED TO THE W. FRANK STEELY LIBRARY FOR DATABASES

Signed:



Hannah Maria Edelen, President

Attest:



Jarett Lopez, Chairman of the Academic Affairs Committee

STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION