A RESOLUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, RECOMMENDING THAT PROFESSORS OFFER EXTRA CREDIT TO STUDENTS BASED ON THE PRECENTAGE THAT FILL OUT COURSE EVALUATIONS.

WHEREAS: It is stated on NKU's evaluation website that, "NKU takes instructor and course evaluations very seriously. They are an important means of gathering information about instructors and courses, information that will be used to enhance student-learning opportunities", and

WHEREAS: Getting students to fill out course evaluations has been a well-established and pervasive issue that has continued to hinder the university, and

WHEREAS: The current incentive for filling out course evaluations is access to final course grades two weeks in advance and as such, is not viewed by many within the student body as a positive incentive because access to grades is essential in determining whether prerequisites to classes have been met, meaning that it hinders a student's ability to select classes, and

WHEREAS: Many department chairs base the promotion of professors on student evaluations, submission of more student evaluations will assist in not only offsetting some of the more radical critics of said professors who would be more inclined than other students to state their opinions, but would also paint a more accurate understanding of the professor's capabilities, and

WHEREAS: The whole of NKU including professors, administrators, and students alike could benefit from a more accurate portrayal of a professor's performance, and

WHEREAS: Departments, such as anthropology, that have already encouraged individual professors to implement extra credit for evaluations, have seen a substantial increase in the amount filled out with as much as 93% of students submitting evaluations, and

WHEREAS: Departments that have not seen professors implement this policy continue to see vast differences with the percentage of students filling out evaluations with some sections in the Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Organizational Leadership department reporting as low as 7% evaluation submission and an overall average, for the department, of only 46-47%, and

WHEREAS: The amount of evaluations submitted varies by course level and student level, making an individualized approach the most effective method, which aligns with strategies already in place and ensures that the professor can implement this incentive at their leisure and to the extent necessary for increased turnout and,

WHEREAS: Offering this incentive based on the percentage of the class who filled out evaluations guarantees that student privacy is protected, and

WHEREAS: The notion that extra credit for course evaluations is a "hand-out" to students is largely dismissed due to the fact that current strategies ensure that the amount of extra credit granted to students is not enough to substantially affect their grade, and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, ON THIS TWENTY-NINTH DAY OF OCTOBER 2018 THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDS THAT PROFESSORS OFFER EXTRA CREDIT TO STUDENTS BASED ON THE PRECENTAGE THAT FILL OUT COURSE EVALUATIONS.

Signed:

Hannah Maria Edelen, President

Attest:

Allan Millward, Senator

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION