To: The Purdue University Senate  
From: Purdue Student Government Committee on Mental Health, The Student Affairs Committee, and The Equity and Diversity Committee  
Subject: Increased Mental Health Resources  
Disposition: University Senate for Discussion and Action  
References: PSG Senate Resolution 15-45, PSG Comprehensive Mental Health Report & Proposal

WHEREAS: Purdue Student Government published the attached report regarding the need for increased mental health funding, as demonstrated by collected information about the need and potential solutions from Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) itself, Purdue administrators, student leaders, and fellow Big Ten Universities; and also passed a resolution recommending the University Senate’s attention to mental health and support of the report, and

WHEREAS: The demand for mental health resources at Purdue has gone up an average of 15% each of the past two years and is projected to continue rising as: more students are entering Purdue every year, more are needing mental health resources, the types of issues students are having are becoming increasingly more severe, and stigmas are beginning to be overcome, and

WHEREAS: According to the Director of CAPS, Dr. Prieto-Welch, CAPS is currently eight clinicians short of what the International Association of Counseling Services recommends, leaving Purdue behind other Big Ten universities in the area of mental health, and

WHEREAS: The lack of resources is causing long wait times for students seeking one-on-one counseling, with up to 107 students on the wait list for intake during the Fall 2015 semester, and

WHEREAS: The mental well-being of the student body is of paramount importance, as it impacts student performance, safety, and the entire Purdue University community.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Purdue University Senate supports the PSG Comprehensive Report on the Status of Mental Health Resources & Funding Options at Purdue University, and recommends that Purdue University hires eight additional clinicians, perhaps by utilizing one of the mechanisms brought forth in the PSG report.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Russell Jones, Chair  
Student Affairs Committee

APPROVED:  
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