

To: The University Senate

From: Purdue Student Government and Purdue Graduate Student Government

Subject: Mental Health Action Week to be recognized on Official Purdue **Academic** Calendar

Reference:

1. Purdue University Student Governments Joint Resolution 21-01
2. **Academic Calendar - <https://www.purdue.edu/registrar/calendars/2021-22-Academic-Calendar.html>**

Disposition: University Senate for Discussion and Adoption

Rationale: **WHEREAS**, Mental Health Action Week (MHAW), formally known as Mental Health Awareness Week, was established by the Purdue Graduate Student Government (PGSG) and first hosted in February 2018 as an annual event for graduate students; and

WHEREAS, Purdue Student Government (PSG) and PGSG partnered in the Spring of 2019 to establish an annual campus-wide MHAW held in the Spring. This collaboration was created with the intention to highlight the importance of mental health across the Purdue community. In addition to the campus wide MHAW hosted by PSG and PGSG in the Spring, PGSG also continues to offer a graduate student focused MHAW each Fall; and

WHEREAS, MHAW has become a widely successful initiative on Purdue's campus. With MHAW in March 2021 including over 80 events and featuring 30 different student organizations; and

WHEREAS, the rise of the global pandemic and other national and international points of heightened stress have further highlighted and called attention to unaddressed and underlying mental health concerns in individuals; and

WHEREAS, the attention and maintenance of all Boilermaker's mental well-being are critical to the continued success of our University community, including academic success and excellence.

Proposal: **Therefore, be it RESOLVED**, That Purdue University officially recognize Mental Health Action Week (MHAW) by adding it to the **Academic** Calendar for the 2021-

2022 school year and for all university calendars after and following;
and

- a. Mental Health Action Week will be scheduled the week before spring break.

Be it also RESOLVED,

That the Purdue University community, including faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduate students utilize this week to focus on the importance of mental health by sharing mental health resources across and collaborating on MHAW events. This may include, but is not limited to discussing MHAW and sharing resources in courses and other academic and communal spaces; and

Be it further RESOLVED,

The addition of MHAW to the [Academic Calendar](#) would not interfere with regular University operations and is a commemorative week for the Boilermaker community to focus on mental health and mental health initiatives and resources.

The University Senate amends the academic regulations on the [Academic Year and Calendar Part A, Academic Calendar \[2\]](#), to add this text as point #8:

8. Additional symbolic dates directly relevant to academic success to be recognized in the academic calendar can be added by the explicit vote of the University Senate.

- a. Mental Health Action Week will be scheduled the week before spring break.

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Sponsor(s):

PSG Passage Date: 9/29/2021

PGSG Passage Date: 9/15/2021

PSG President: Shannon Kang

PGSG President: Madelina Nuñez

PSG Senate President: Olivia Wyrick