A resolution allocating funding to the Psychology Clinic for a student fee-free pilot program

Presented on the 21st of March 2019

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WHEREAS, The Psychology Clinic provides a number of important mental health support services to students on campus; including psychological assessments, group therapy, and individual therapy;¹ AND

WHEREAS, Due to their unique qualifications, the Psychology Clinic is able to provide certain services for student patients with intensive needs that other on-campus providers of mental health support services are unable to provide at the same level, such as critical diagnostic assessments and treatment for student patients with severe mental illness;² AND

WHEREAS, Other on-campus providers of mental health support services, such as Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and the College of Education Counseling and Testing Center charge no fees for students to utilize their services;³ AND

WHEREAS, The Psychology Clinic charges student patients for therapy sessions they receive and psychological assessments that the Psychology Clinic performs;⁴ AND

WHEREAS, The Psychology Clinic receives roughly $5,000 per academic year in fees from student patients for such services;⁵ AND

WHEREAS, Due to increasing demand for mental health support services on campus, all three providers of mental health support services on campus have experienced increasing waitlists for their services;⁶ AND

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¹ clas.wayne.edu/psychclinic/
² Meeting with Dr. Douglas Barnett, Director of the WSU Psychology Clinic
³ The South End Article: CAPS swamped, students wait weeks for psychological services
⁴ clas.wayne.edu/PsychClinic/contact
⁵ Email from Dr. Douglas Barnett, Director of the WSU Psychology Clinic
⁶ The South End Article: CAPS swamped, students wait weeks for psychological services
WHEREAS, Due to resource constraints, the three providers of mental health support services on campus have begun to pool resources and share waitlists by referring patients to each other in an effort to reduce the wait times students face in order to access such services;\textsuperscript{7} AND

WHEREAS, Student patients can not easily move on and off the shared waitlist between the three on-campus providers of mental health support services when one provider charges students for the services it provides but the others do not; AND

WHEREAS, The cost for accessing services at the Psychology Clinic presents a significant barrier to students that prevents them from utilizing the services they provide, and thus relieving the shared waitlist; AND

WHEREAS, Due to the growing mental health crisis on college campuses, the need to expand access to on-campus mental health support services has never been greater;\textsuperscript{8} AND

WHEREAS, Research has shown the tremendous positive impact that access to on-campus mental health support services has on advancing student success;\textsuperscript{9} AND

WHEREAS, it is the core mission of the Wayne State University Student Senate to support initiatives that promote student success and expand access to student support services on campus; AND

WHEREAS, the Wayne State University Student Senate has made a commitment to supporting access to mental health support services on campus.\textsuperscript{10}

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wayne State University Student Senate will provide $5,500 in funding to the Psychology Clinic as a pilot program for the 2019-2020 academic year to offset the cost for providing services to student patients; AND

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Psychology Clinic will thus cease charging students for utilizing their services during the 2019-2020 academic year; AND

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Psychology Clinic will assess the feasibility of the pilot program at least once during the 2019-2020 academic year, and once after the end of the 2019-2020 academic year.

\textsuperscript{7} The South End Article: [CAPS swamped, students wait weeks for psychological services](http://www.southend.com/article/caps-swamped-students-wait-weeks-for-psychological-services)

\textsuperscript{8} [jedfoundation.org/psychiatric_times_the_crisis_in_college_and_university_mental_health/](http://jedfoundation.org/psychiatric_times_the_crisis_in_college_and_university_mental_health/)

\textsuperscript{9} [CAPS data on student success as a result of service utilization](http://www.southend.com/article/caps-swamped-students-wait-weeks-for-psychological-services)

\textsuperscript{10} The Student Senate hosted “CAPS Week” and lobbied for a doubling of funding to CAPS in 2016
AND FINALLY BE IT ORDERED, that the Wayne State University Student Senate will circulate this resolution to all relevant outlets, including the University President, the University Provost, the members of the Board of Governors, and the President of the Wayne State University Academic Senate.

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Stuart Baum               Dalia Ibrahim
President                 Vice President