SGA Resolution 2-14-F

A resolution for all campus faculty and staff to make all pdf. documents using the Adobe Acrobat X Pro Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software.

Whereas: It can take disabled students up to three weeks to receive course materials from the Disability and Access Center;

Whereas: The end of open access printing has increased student expenses;

Whereas: Middle Tennessee State University is continuously looking for ways to further the campus sustainability initiative;

Whereas: Implementing Adobe X Pro software and making pdf. documents OCR could reduce student expenses and MTSU’s overall impact on the environment.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE 77TH CONGRESS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY THAT:

Section 1: Adobe Acrobat X Pro Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software will be installed on all campus computers.

Section 2: Any and all student resources in pdf. format will be made using Adobe X Pro OCR software.

Section 3: Any student resource material not meeting OCR criteria shall be revised or recreated in accordance with said criteria.

Section 4: Resolution will go into effect immediately upon favorable passage.

Sponsor: Senator Austin Wood

Co-Sponsor: Senator Chris Hardman
Senator Ashley Johnson

Speaker of the Senate  SGA President  VP of Student Affairs
To: Dr. Debra Sells  
Vice President for Student Affairs and  
Vice Provost for Enrollment and Academic Services  

From: Bruce Petryshak  
Vice President for Information Technology and CIO  

RE: SGA Resolution 2-14-F  

Date: November 24, 2014  

I am writing in response to your recent memo regarding Student Government Association Resolution 2-14-F, requesting that all faculty and staff make all PDF documents using the Adobe Acrobat X Pro Optical Character Recognition (OCR) Software. The resolution also requests that the software referenced be installed on all university computers.  

Currently the software specification for all standard university computers contains the above noted software. At the time of this writing there are approximately 1,000 computers that have the software installed. We expect upgrades to take place this year that will result in all computers having the requested software by the Fall of 2015.  

The first portion of the resolution requests that all faculty and staff creating student materials use the OCR software capability. This is an Academic Affairs issue and will need to be addressed by that division. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.
TO: Mr. Bruce Petryshak  
Vice President for Information Technology and CIO

FROM: Debra Sells, Ed.D.  
Vice President for Student Affairs and  
Vice Provost for Enrollment and Academic Services

RE: SGA Resolution 2-14-F

DATE: October 10, 2014

I am forwarding the attached Student Government Association Resolution 2-14-F requesting that all faculty and staff make all pdf Documents using the Adobe Acrobat X Pro Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software.

Resolutions passed by the Student Government Association are generally understood to be recommendations. Legislation resulting in these resolutions is brought before the SGA by one or more members of the Senate, and is generally subject to debate within the senate. Senate meetings are open to the full student body, and thus debates are sometimes observed by and/or joined by students other than SGA senators. Resolutions are not binding upon administrators or departments, but are generally regarded as expressing the will of the Senate on the issue brought before them.

Once a resolution has been passed by the Senate, I forward that resolution to the administrator or department most likely to benefit from reviewing the student recommendation, and in the best position to provide a response regarding possible future action. I generally ask the administrator to whom I have forwarded the resolution for some timely response that helps SGA to understand the potential feasibility of the proposal. If, in your opinion, the resolution requests action which is not feasible, I ask for your help in explaining why it is not practical, affordable, or otherwise in the best interest of the university.

In the immediate instance, I believe it would be appropriate for you to review the SGA’s recommendation and provide such a response to me within 30 days. Please contact Andrew George, SGA President, or Dr. Danny Kelley if you have any questions regarding this legislation.