SGA Resolution 9-14-F

A resolution to initiate the use of therapeutic dogs during specified academic dates at Middle Tennessee State University

Whereas: Offering "dog days" could be beneficial to our students during high-stress periods of the academic calendar;

Whereas: Studies and research show that the presence of a dog lowers one’s anxiety and stress levels;

Whereas: The expense of a program such as this would likely be minimal to our university;

Whereas: The Middle Tennessee State university campus grounds and layout are already perfect for such a plan;

Whereas: Trial runs of bringing therapeutic dogs to campus have been largely successful.

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

Section 1: Middle Tennessee State University will sponsor a stress relief program on our campus grounds.

Section 2: This event will take place in the lobby of the James E. Walker Library.

Section 3: These "dog days" will take place the first week of every semester, the scheduled week of midterms and the scheduled week of finals in order to reduce student stress.

Section 4: Middle Tennessee State University will begin regular use of therapy dogs on campus by spring semester 2015.

Section 5: This resolution will go into effect immediately upon favorable passage.

Sponsor: Senator Chris Hardman

Co-Sponsor: Senator David Edwards

[Signatures]

Speaker of the Senate          SGA President          VP of Student Affairs
TO: Mr. Andrew George, President
    Student Government Association

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

RE: SGA Resolution 9-14-F

DATE: December 12, 2014

I have reviewed SGA Resolution 9-14-F regarding campus programming involving therapeutic dogs. I’m delighted that students were so happy with the program recently hosted by the Walker Library that included having a dog on hand with which students could interact.

I’ll share your positive feedback with the Dean of the Walker Library, Ms. Bonnie Allen. I know she’ll be pleased that their program was appreciated, and I’m sure she’ll give further consideration to similar programs in the future, as appropriate.

Thanks for sharing this feedback with us.

c: Ms. Haley Cobb
    Ms. Chelsea Jones
    Ms. Gabby Woodland
    Dr. Danny Kelley