A Resolution to Establish a Trial Run for an On-Campus Clothing Closet to Provide Free Business Attire for Low-Income Students

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WHEREAS, many students at the University of Georgia receive some form of need-based financial aid, meaning that extracurricular financial commitments may be difficult to fulfill; and

WHEREAS, business professional attire, necessary for professional environments and opportunities such as job interviews, often requires substantial financial investment; and

WHEREAS, despite the University of Georgia’s recognition of a need to access discounted business professional attire—demonstrated through the existing partnership with JCPenney—the possibility that any cost to bear may be too high cannot be discounted; and,

WHEREAS, The University of Georgia considers itself a leader in the world of higher education; and,

WHEREAS, an initiative of the recent Capital Campaign is to raise money to provide for more need-based aid; and,

WHEREAS, ten of the fourteen schools in the Southeastern Conference and several peer, aspirational, and in-state institutions have already established similar programs¹; and,

WHEREAS, students should not be denied an opportunity to succeed on the basis of their ability to purchase business professional clothes; and,

¹ See Appendix I
WHEREAS, a demonstration of significant need for this initiative may result in a more lasting iteration for future students; and,

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association of the University of Georgia prides itself on serving as “the voice of every Bulldog;”

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association, through the passage of this resolution, affirms the prerogative of the authors of this legislation, in conjunction with relevant and interested parties, and before moving forward with the subsequent clauses of this resolution, will dedicate our efforts to exploring and determining the best possible solution to the problem of accessible business-professional attire at the University of Georgia, to be delivered in a report to the Senate; and,

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association will host a clothing donation drive in the first half of the Spring 2018 semester; and,

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that clothes collected in this donation effort will be housed in the Student Government Association office on the first floor of Tate; and,

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association, upon selection of a fitting date and time, will host a multiple-hour trial run of a clothing closet allowing students to rent business professional attire at no cost to the students, which will be widely publicized in the preceding days and weeks; and,

LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon completion of this trial, members of the Student Government Association will determine whether enough need has been demonstrated to continue into further actions with regard to establishing a permanent clothing closet on campus.
Appendix I:

- [https://www.career.fsu.edu/ClothingCloset](https://www.career.fsu.edu/ClothingCloset) (FSU)
- [http://www.career.emory.edu/about/programs_scholarships/clothing_closet/index.html](http://www.career.emory.edu/about/programs_scholarships/clothing_closet/index.html) (Emory)
- [https://careercenter.umich.edu/content/clothes-closet](https://careercenter.umich.edu/content/clothes-closet) (Michigan)
- [http://hireacane.miami.edu/resources/dress-for-success/index.html](http://hireacane.miami.edu/resources/dress-for-success/index.html) (University of Miami)
- [http://www.morgan.edu/student_affairs/center_for_career_development/career_closet.html](http://www.morgan.edu/student_affairs/center_for_career_development/career_closet.html) (Morgan State University)
- [https://career.sa.ua.edu/resources/crimson-career-closet/](https://career.sa.ua.edu/resources/crimson-career-closet/) (University of Alabama)
- [https://aglifesciences.tamu.edu/blog/2016/01/29/texas-am-career-closet/](https://aglifesciences.tamu.edu/blog/2016/01/29/texas-am-career-closet/) (Texas A&M)
- [http://www.subr.edu/index.cfm/page/1483/n/1290](http://www.subr.edu/index.cfm/page/1483/n/1290) (Southern University)
- [https://career.ku.edu/clothing](https://career.ku.edu/clothing) (Kansas)
- [https://career.sa.u.edu/resources/crimson-career-closet/](https://career.sa.u.edu/resources/crimson-career-closet/) (University of Alabama)
- [https://www.cpp.edu/~career/student/clothes-closet.shtml](https://www.cpp.edu/~career/student/clothes-closet.shtml) (Cal Poly Pomona)
- [http://www.careerservices.txstate.edu/Career-Closet-.html](http://www.careerservices.txstate.edu/Career-Closet-.html) (Texas State)
- [https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/students/career/student/clothes-closet.cshtml](https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/students/career/student/clothes-closet.cshtml) (University of Alaska Anchorage)
- [https://www.sa.sc.edu/sg/carolina-closet/](https://www.sa.sc.edu/sg/carolina-closet/) (South Carolina)
- [https://career.utk.edu/events/smokeys-closet/](https://career.utk.edu/events/smokeys-closet/) (UTK)
- [https://career.uwosh.edu/student-resources/career-closet/](https://career.uwosh.edu/student-resources/career-closet/) (University of Wisconsin-Ashkosh)
- [https://www.vanderbilt.edu/career/commodore-closet/](https://www.vanderbilt.edu/career/commodore-closet/) (Vanderbilt)
- [https://careerservices.calpoly.edu/explore-services/trending/professional-clothing-closet](https://careerservices.calpoly.edu/explore-services/trending/professional-clothing-closet) (Cal-Poly)