WHEREAS, the current UGA Grade Scale Policy does not include a Classification above “A+” and,

WHEREAS, the current UGA Grade Scale Policy is inconsistent in that it differentiates work deserving of a “B” or “B+”, but not an “A” or “A+”; and,

WHEREAS, the current UGA Grade Scale Policy does not provide a classification to show Grad Schools and Future Employers that a student has submitted work that exceeds the expectations of an “A,” and,

WHEREAS, an “A+” allows students’ transcripts to more accurately reflect their specializations and areas of excellence; and,

WHEREAS, most American Bar Association affiliated Law Schools require a Credential Assembly Service Report to be included in applications; and,

WHEREAS, a survey was conducted of the student body where 292 student responses were gathered; and,

WHEREAS, this survey had 49.66% of 292 students responded yes they would like an A+ to be added to the grading scale, 41.78% responded no they would not like an A+ to be added to the

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1 UGA Registrar - https://reg.uga.edu/students/grades
grading scale, and 8.56% of students responded maybe;³ and,

WHEREAS, these 202 schools⁴, including Harvard Law School⁵, University of Alabama⁶, Yale Law School⁷, and Duke University⁸, require students to submit their transcripts through the CAS System; and,

WHEREAS, the CAS System recalculates GPA based on their own Grade Scale which includes a 4.33 GPA for an “A+”;⁹ and,

WHEREAS, University of Georgia Students have no opportunity to benefit from this or any recalculation due to the absence of an “A+”; and,

WHEREAS, a majority of the University of Georgia’s Aspirational Peers¹⁰, namely University of California Berkley¹¹, UCLA¹², University of Michigan¹³, University of Illinois¹⁴, and University of Virginia¹⁵, have instituted a Grade Scale containing a A+ with no GPA increase; and,

WHEREAS, five of our Comparator Peers¹⁶ have instituted this Grade Scale System including: Perdue University¹⁷, University of California-Davis¹⁸, and University of Maryland;¹⁹ and,

WHEREAS, because the A+ still results in a grade point average of a 4.0 there will not be distinction between students who apply for UGA programs that require grade point averages.

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the 31st administration of the Student Government Association, on behalf of the student body, asks the University Council to create an “A+” Classification, coinciding with a 4.0 GPA, in the University Grade Scale Policy.

³ Grand-Jean Survey – Qualtrics – February 2019 – See Appendix for Full Results.
⁵ Harvard University - https://hls.harvard.edu/dept/jdadmissions/apply-to-harvard-law-school/the-application-process/The-application-checklist
⁶ Alabama Law School - https://www.law.ua.edu/apply
⁷ Yale Law School - https://law.yale.edu/admissions/jd-admissions/jd-applicants
⁸ Duke Law School https://www.law.duke.edu/admis/degereprograms/jd
⁹ Law School Admission Council - https://www.lsac.org/applying-law-school/jd-application-process/cas/requesting/academic-record#GradeConversionTable
¹⁰ Office of Institutional Research - https://oir.uga.edu/peers/aspirational
¹¹ University of Berkley - https://registrar.berkeley.edu/faculty-staff/grading/grading-policies-reports
¹³ University of Michigan - http://www.umich.edu/~exphysio/mvs.241/Grading.f06.html
¹⁴ Illinois University - https://registrar.illinois.edu/courses-grades/explanation-of-grades
¹⁵ University of Virginia - http://records.ureg.virginia.edu/content.php?catoid=28&navoid=746#grad_syst
¹⁶ Office of Institutional Research - https://oir.uga.edu/peers/comparator
¹⁷ University of Purdue - https://www.purdue.edu/registrar/faculty/grading/grading-systems.html
¹⁸ University of California Davis - https://registrar.ucdavis.edu/records/transcripts/calculate-gpa
¹⁹ University of Maryland - http://registrar.umd.edu/current/Policies/acadregs.html#plusminus