

Resolution 31-12

A Resolution to Offer Resources for Menstruation Across Campus

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WHEREAS, the University of Georgia boasts an undergraduate student population with a gender ratio of 57% female-assigned and 43% male-assigned and a faculty population with a gender ratio of 52.9% female-assigned and 47.1% male-assigned¹; and,

WHEREAS, restroom options vary widely across campus depending on which building one is in; and,

WHEREAS, some restrooms offer "Scensibles" bags to sanitarily dispose of feminine hygiene products, while some restrooms do not even have trash receptacles inside stalls to dispose of feminine hygiene products; and,

WHEREAS, some people who menstruate have to carry their feminine hygiene products outside of private restroom stalls into public areas to dispose of these products; and,

WHEREAS, most restrooms which have vending units installed to provide feminine hygiene products such as pads and tampons are not upkept nor maintained, and usually are empty; and,

WHEREAS, some campus facilities already offer free menstrual products funded through donations, including the LGBT Resource Center and the Bulldawg Basics program in Milledge and Dawson Halls, but these are seldom known to students and few and far between; and,

WHEREAS, there is a major social stigma associated with menstruation; and,

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¹ U.S. News & World Report

WHEREAS, in survey of 70 students, 85.7% report either having not had adequate resources for menstruation in University restrooms or having noticed a lack of resources²; and,

WHEREAS, 77.4% of survey respondents reported instances in which individual restroom stalls did not have trash receptacles and 66.1% of respondents reported that they did not have any feminine hygiene products when needed³;and,

WHEREAS, survey respondents shared that many different campus buildings did not have adequate resources for menstruation, including Park Hall, Boyd Graduate Research Center, the Journalism Building, Science Learning Center, Miller Learning Center, Gilbert Hall, Baldwin Hall, Conner Hall, Aderhold Hall, Biological Sciences Building, Physics Building, the Science Library, Sanford Hall, Memorial Hall, the Fine Arts Building, Bolton Dining Hall [employee facilities], Ramsey Student Center, the Tate Student Center, and individual dormitories³;and,

WHEREAS, 100% of the 70 survey respondents shared that they would like to see the University provide free/affordable feminine hygiene products in all public buildings³;and,

WHEREAS, not providing feminine hygiene products on campus puts the burden of sanitation on women and other people who menstruate, often making it difficult to focus or operate normally on campus if menstruating; and,

WHEREAS, not providing feminine hygiene products on campus sends an unconscious signal to students, faculty, and visitors of the University who menstruate that their bodies are not taken into consideration on this campus;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the 31st administration of the Student Government Association of the University of Georgia urges the University to provide trash receptacles in every stall in women's, unisex, and gender neutral restrooms; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the 31st administration of the Student Government Association of the University of Georgia encourages University maintenance and custodial services to keep feminine hygiene vending units fully stocked, or that the University otherwise provide free menstrual products for faculty and students in every building on campus.

Ammishaddai Grand-Jean, President

Student Government Association

Max Samer, President Pro-Tempore

Student Government Association

2

² Douglas, Google Form, 2019.