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4 *ASG Senate Resolution No. 1*

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6 Director of Global Awareness Alric Fernandes, Diversity and Inclusion Student
7 Council

8 Sponsor(s): Senator Mary Eichenburger, Senator Halle Jungmann, Senator
9 Zachary Clonch

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11 **A Resolution to Support the Creation of a Centralized Research**
12 **Opportunity Database**

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14 Whereas, research is an enriching and often necessary undergraduate
15 experience for many students at the University of Arkansas,
16 and

17
18 Whereas, research is required for all University of Arkansas honors
19 students, and students with research experience are stronger
20 candidates than those without when applying to graduate
21 school, medical school, etc., and

22
23 Whereas, students who have research experience report a better
24 understanding of graduate school (73%) and overall
25 confidence in conducting research projects (88%), as well as
26 novel interest in pursuing a PhD (29%)^{1,1} Research also
27 provides opportunities to connect more easily with faculty
28 and other students, directly apply classroom learning, and
29 improve presentation skills, along with many other benefits,
30 and

31
32 Whereas, in order to find research opportunities, students must
33 browse faculty profiles across departmental pages or rely on
34 personal connections to professors they may have in class or
35 other word-of-mouth communication, and

36
37 Whereas, this process is not equitable and accessible for all students
38 and creates barriers, and

39

¹ Russell, S. H., Hancock, M. P. & McCullough, J. Benefits of undergraduate research experiences. *Science (80-.)*. **316**, 548–549 (2007).

40 Whereas, many research projects require student participants for data.
41 These study opportunities are shared sporadically, such as
42 direct emails or announcements in the Arkansas Newswire
43 instead of an organized, consistent posting system, and
44

45 Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic has limited the amount of
46 interactions between professors and students and both
47 groups have expressed difficulty finding research
48 opportunities/assistants, and
49

50 Whereas, a central research opportunity database would benefit
51 students and professors by making research more accessible
52 and equitable, and
53

54 Whereas, several other benchmark institutions such as University of
55 Alabama, University of Florida, University of Kentucky,
56 Clemson University, and Texas A&M University already have
57 databases for open research assistant positions such as this
58 in place.
59

60 Be it therefore resolved: the Associated Student Government Senate
61 supports the creation of a centralized research
62 opportunity database to make research more
63 accessible to students and faculty. The
64 database will be housed under the Office of
65 Undergraduate Research and will include
66 research profiles and open opportunities to
67 help students begin their research journey.
68

69 Be it further resolved: the database allow professors to post research
70 studies and surveys in need of participants for
71 data collection.
72

73 Be it further resolved: the authors of this legislation work with the
74 Office of Undergraduate Research and
75 university administration to create the
76 database as well as inform students and faculty
77 on how to utilize it.
78

79 Be it finally resolved: A copy of this legislation be sent to Faculty
80 Senate.
81

82 Amendments: _____

83

84 Vote Count: Aye _____ Nay _____ Abstentions _____

85

86 Legislation Status: Passed _____ Failed _____ Other _____

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88 _____

89 Jack Switzer, ASG Chair of the Senate _____ Date

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91 _____

92 Coleman Warren, ASG President _____ Date