

Introduced By: Senator Michael Shen
Sponsored By: Director of the Military and Veteran
Student Success Center Michael Kepner;
Mindful Readers Club; Psi-Chi; SBA
Chair Jason Hameed
Contact: sgsci14@ucf.edu
First Reading: August 22, 2024
Committee Action: Passed 10-0-1
Second Reading: September 5, 2024
Final Vote: Passed 38-0-1



**University of Central Florida
Fifty-Sixth Student Body Senate
Proclamation 56-10**

[Proclamation Recognizing August 30th, 2024 as National Grief Awareness Day]

WHEREAS, Senate Rule 2.04(G)(1) states that the Student Body Advocacy (SBA) Committee shall pass measures advocating on behalf of the student body regarding student and university affairs at the University of Central Florida (UCF);
WHEREAS, Senate Rule 5.01(D)(1) states that Proclamations are defined as measures recognizing, celebrating, or condemning extraordinary events, organizations, or individuals on behalf of all Student Government Agents;
WHEREAS, Grief activist Angela Cartwright established National Grief Awareness Day in 2014 in an effort to normalize grief and spread awareness;
WHEREAS, Loss and grief are universal human experiences that transcend creed, ethnicity, nationality, and gender;
WHEREAS, An estimated 2.5 million people die in the United States annually and leave an average of five grieving individuals behind;
WHEREAS, 40% of griever meet the major criteria for depression one month after loss, and 24% meet the number two months after loss;
WHEREAS, 7% of griever will develop Prolonged Grief Disorder;
WHEREAS, Prolonged Grief Disorder was recognized by the DSM-5 in 2022;
WHEREAS, The University of Central Florida provides resources for grieving individuals through Student Care Services, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), Late Drop and Eternal Knights;
WHEREAS, Student Care Services can provide one-on-support and class absence notifications for grieving students;
WHEREAS, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers free-of-charge initial assessments, brief individual counseling, group therapy, workshops and educational presentations, crisis interventions, daily walk-in services, and professional consultations for staff, faculty, students and parents;
WHEREAS, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) served 8.4% of the University of Central Florida student body in the 2022-2023 semesters;
WHEREAS, Late Drop offers the possibility for students suffering the death of an immediate family member to drop their class and receive a tuition refund;
WHEREAS, The Eternal Knights Memorial Service each spring semester honors students who have passed away in recent academic terms;
WHEREAS, The annual Eternal Knights Memorial Service is open to the entire campus community;
WHEREAS, National Grief Awareness Day is crucial to spread awareness for members of the campus community suffering grief;
and
WHEREAS, The University of Central Florida should recognize and spread awareness of National Grief Awareness Day.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Fifty-Sixth Student Senate of the University of Central Florida that the University of Central Florida should recognize August 30th, 2024, as National Grief Awareness Day to shed light on those who suffer from grief;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Fifty-Sixth Student Senate of the University of Central will promote resources for students who may be affected by grief; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Proclamation be sent to President Alexander Cartwright, Provost Michael D. Thompson, Student Success and Well-Being, Student Success and Well-Being Senior Vice President Dr. Paul Dosal, Student Success and Well-Being Vice President Dr. Adrienne Otto Frame, Counseling and Psychological Services, Counseling and Psychological Services Director Karen Hofmann, Counseling and Psychological Services Associate Director Anna King, Counseling and Psychological Services Clinical Services Associate Director Rebbecca Lockwood, Counseling and Psychological Services Administration and Innovation Assistant Director Valeska Wilson-Cathcart, Counseling and Psychological Services Outreach & Prevention Assistant Director Vanessa Stein, Dean of UCF College of Sciences Maggy Tomova, Chair of the Department of Psychology Florian Jentsch, Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, Student Care Services, Director of Student Care Services Dr. Tammie Nadeau, Assistant Director of Student Care Services LaShawn Smith, Military and Veterans Student Success Center, Director of the Military and Veteran Student Success Center Michael Kepner, Active Minds, American Red Cross Club, Bachelors of Social Work Student Association, Gift of Life, Health Awareness and Prevention Society, Knight-Thon, Mindful Readers Club, Mothers and Children Health Association, Perfect Pair, Pre-Occupational Therapy Organization,

Psi-Chi International Honor Society of Psychology, Psychological Society, Relay for Life at UCF, Runway to Hope, Student Organ Donation Advocates at UCF, Students Who Care, and The Cardiovascular Alliance.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES



Allison Pohlmann
Senate President

9/10/2024

Date



Bryce Lister
Student Body President

9/12/2024

Date