

Introduced By: Chair DiChiara
Sponsored By: Vice Chair Collazo
Contact: sgacie2@ucf.edu
First Reading: April 18, 2024
Committee Action: Passed 8-0-1
Second Reading: May 23, 2024
Final Vote: Passed 36-0-1



**University of Central Florida
Fifty-Sixth Student Body Senate
Proclamation 56-01**

[Proclamation Recognizing the Florida Purple Star School of Distinction Designation at the University of Central Florida]

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, The Florida Purple Star School of Distinction designation is a prestigious recognition bestowed upon educational institutions that demonstrate exemplary commitment to supporting military-connected students and their families;
WHEREAS, The University of Central Florida has been honored with the distinguished title of Florida Purple Star School of Distinction, reflecting its unwavering dedication to providing a welcoming and supportive environment for military-connected students, veterans, and their families;
WHEREAS, This designation symbolizes UCF's ongoing efforts to create a campus community that values and respects the sacrifices and contributions of our military-affiliated population, while providing them with the resources and support necessary to thrive academically and personally;
WHEREAS, The UCF Student Body Senate recognizes the significance of this achievement and wishes to express its utmost appreciation and admiration for the University's commitment to serving those who have served our nation;
WHEREAS, With the creation of the Military and Veteran Caucus during the 55th Session, UCF and MVSC broadened their reach and capabilities, fostering a stronger bond between military-connected students and the administration;
WHEREAS, UCF is a Yellow Ribbon Program participant, ensuring that eligible veterans receive financial support beyond what the GI Bill covers, additionally UCF prioritizes a veteran-friendly campus culture, fostering a sense of community among military-affiliated students;
WHEREAS, In recent years, UCF has continuously received recognition for its commitment, effort, and success in creating sustainable and meaningful benefit for the student-veteran community on campus;
WHEREAS, In 2022, UCF received the Purple Heart Designation from the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the designation is given to universities that have resources to support veterans, including the Veterans Academic Resource Center and the RESTORES program;
WHEREAS, The university also received the Silver Award on the 2022-23 Military Friendly Schools list, given to schools that have programs that score within 30% of the 10th-ranked institution in a given category on the Military Friendly Schools survey; and
WHEREAS, The U.S. News & World Report ranked UCF among the nation's Best Colleges for Veteran in its 2024 undergraduate list; and
WHEREAS, It is recognized that UCF is committed to supporting and honoring the accomplishments of its faculty, staff, and students in all endeavors, including educational initiatives that promote diversity, equity, and accessibility.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fifty-Sixth Student Senate of the University of Central Florida recognizes the Florida Purple Star School of Distinction Designation at the University of Central Florida, attends events in its honor, recognizes the significance of this achievement, and wishes to express its utmost appreciation and admiration for the University's commitment to serving those who have served our nation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Proclamation be sent to Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities Jeffrey Moore, Director of the Military and Veteran Student Success Center Michael Kepner, President of the Student Veterans of America UCF Chapter Michael Richardson, Professor of Military Science/MSIV Instructor LTC Keith Williams, UCF AFROTC Detachment 159 Commander Colonel Phelemon T. Williams II, UCF PD, Executive Director of UCF RESTORES Dr. Deborah Beidel.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

Allison Pohlmann
Senate President

06/04/2024

Date

Bryce Lister
Student Body President

06/05/2024

Date