

Introduced By: Black Caucus

Sponsored By: Black Student Union, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Arnold Air Society, i5 Space, UCF Air Force ROTC Detachment, Muslim Student Association, Student Pride Association, CRT Chair Caringal, Latin/Hispanic Caucus Chair Gimenez Valero, DSR Lazo, LJR Chair Courts, ILA Al-Qudah, MVC Chair Collazo, GAP Chair Vasquez, SBA Chair Hameed, Jordon Peralto, Timia Merrick, Axel Bennett, Service & Advocacy Committee Vice Chair Jovhanise Leonard, Alondra Rivera Roman, Melanie Diaz, Shivani Vakharia, Tatiana Magri, Matthew Berliant, Sydney McRae, Brianna Briddell, Dominique Pierre, Alyson Costa, Francenia Bailey, Alexander Mcmillion, Somtochukwu Nwadike, Ronin Ehrhart, Samara Coleman, Rebecca Montas

Contact: sgblackcaucus@ucf.edu

First Reading: November 19th, 2024;

Committee Action: Passed 12-0-1

Second Reading: November 21st, 2024;
Passed 35-0-1

Third Reading: November 21st, 2024;

Final Vote: Passed 34-0-2



**University of Central Florida
Fifty-Sixth Student Body Senate
Resolution 56-11**

[Resolution Advocating to Make Juneteenth a UCF Holiday]

WHEREAS, Senate Rule 2.04(G)(1) states the Student Body Advocacy (SBA) Committee shall pass measures advocating on behalf of the student body regarding student, and university affairs;

WHEREAS, Article 2.05(C) of the Student Body Constitution states that the Student Body Senate shall express the will and sentiments of the Student Body Senate through legislation;

WHEREAS, The following clauses are sourced from The Emancipation Proclamation, which declared all those enslaved as free persons, and was issued by President Abraham Lincoln on September 22, 1862 and enacted January 1, 1863;

WHEREAS, African Americans residing in the Confederacy still remained enslaved, gradually being liberated through the advocacy of the proclamation through soldiers of the Union Army;

WHEREAS, The final enslaved African Americans became free in Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865, as the army declared all enslaved persons free by the executive order of the President of the United States;

WHEREAS, Juneteenth spread from Texas to the rest of the nation and is the longest-running African American holiday;

WHEREAS, The Juneteenth National Independence Day Act;

WHEREAS, Juneteenth was first recognized on June 19, 1865, which is the proper date when slaves were actually freed;

WHEREAS, President Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law on June 19, 2021, as Juneteenth Day of Observance;

WHEREAS, 15% of the United States population is Black/African American;

WHEREAS, 16.9% of the Florida population is Black/African American;

WHEREAS, 9.2% of the University of Central Florida students are Black/African American;

WHEREAS, The University of Central Florida held its first Juneteenth celebration in June of 2020, spearheaded by the Black Student Union;

WHEREAS, The University of Central Florida continues to celebrate Juneteenth;

WHEREAS, The Student Body Senate and the Black Caucus have been advocating for this for multiple sessions;

WHEREAS, The University of South Florida and Florida State University observe this holiday by suspending classes;

WHEREAS, Currently, the University of Central Florida does not recognize Juneteenth as a holiday; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing Juneteenth as an observed holiday would benefit the greater University of Central Florida student body and faculty by allowing it to honor the history of Juneteenth and engage in uplifting the community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of the Fifty-Sixth Student Senate of the University of Central Florida that the University of Central Florida should improve its mission of diversity and inclusion by re-evaluating the academic calendar expeditiously and make Juneteenth a university holiday; and

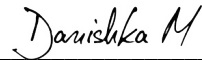
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to UCF Ginsburg Center for Inclusion and Community Engagement Vice President Dr. Andrea Guzman Oliver, the UCF Ginsburg Center for Inclusion and Community Engagement Assistant Vice President Dr. Edwanna Andrews, the UCF Black Faculty and Staff Association President Darryl Gordon, the UCF Black Faculty and Staff Association, Florida State University Student Government, University of South Florida Student Government, University of Miami Student Government, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Student Government, Bethune Cookman University Student Government, University of Florida Student Government, Florida International University Student Government, Edward Waters College Student Government, Valencia College Student Government, Florida Memorial University Student Government, Florida Atlantic University Student Government, UCF Faculty Senate, Provost Michael D. Johnson, Florida Board of Governors, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Chancellor of Florida Board of Governors, Dr. Adrienne Frame, Vice President for Student Success and Well-Being, Jordon Peralto, Timia Merrick, Axel Bennett, Service & Advocacy Committee Vice Chair Jovhanise Leonard, Alondra Rivera Roman, Melanie Diaz, Shivani Vakharia, Tatiana Magri, Matthew Berliant, Sydney McRae, Brianna Briddell, Dominique Pierre, Alyson Costa, Francenia Bailey, Alexander Mcmillion, Somtochukwu Nwadike, Ronin Ehrhart, Samara Coleman, and Rebecca Montas.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES



Allison Pohlmann
Senate President

12/3/2024
Date



Danishka Morissette
Senate President Pro Tempore

12/4/2024
Date