

Introduced By: Pro Tempore Foster
Sponsored By: UCF President's Leadership Council
Vice Chair Spaulding
Senator Barekman
Chair Temple
Senator Yalamanchili
DLeg McClellan
Chair Modha
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First Reading: March 23, 2023
Committee Action: Passed 6-0-0
Second Reading: March 30, 2023
Final Vote: Passed 28-0-0



**University of Central Florida
Fifty-Fourth Student Body Senate
Proclamation 54-43**

[Proclamation In Memory of the University of Central Florida's Fourth President John C. Hitt]

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, Dr. John C. Hitt served as the University of Central Florida's fourth President from March 1st 1992 until June 30th 2018;
WHEREAS, While President of the University of Central Florida Dr. Hitt conferred 262,858 degrees to UCF students, more than any other president in State University System of Florida history, and second nationally among public university presidents for number of degrees conferred at a single school;
WHEREAS, Under Dr. Hitt's leadership UCF's graduation and retention rates soared, as did SAT scores for incoming freshmen;
WHEREAS, Dr. Hitt oversaw tremendous growth of the University's academic programs and athletics, including the opening of the College of Medicine, Rosen College of Hospitality, Burnett Honors College, FBC Mortgage Stadium, and the Addition Financial Arena;
WHEREAS, Dr. Hitt was a strong advocate for partnership and partnered with the City of Orlando, State of Florida & Electronic Arts to open the Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy in 2005;
WHEREAS, The University's Entertainment Academy has been ranked as the No. 1 video game design program in the world for three consecutive years by *The Princeton Review*;
WHEREAS, Dr. Hitt acted on numerous boards, including the Orlando Economic Partnership, Florida Council of 100 and the NCAA Division 1 Board of Directors;
WHEREAS, Dr. Hitt also served as the Chair of the State University Presidents Association;
WHEREAS, In 2012 the Orlando main campus library was named in his honor to celebrate his 20th anniversary as president of the university;
WHEREAS, Dr. Hitt was a champion of diversity, equity, and inclusion, increasing minority enrollment from 17 to 46 percent while in the position of president;
WHEREAS, By the end of his tenure, one in every four students at UCF were the first in their family to attend college;
WHEREAS, Dr. John C. Hitt made many invaluable contributions to the Orlando community & UCF;
WHEREAS, UCF students will forever remember and appreciate the access to education, as well as the love, dedication, and effort Dr. John C Hitt put into building the brand of the university into what it is today; and
WHEREAS, Dr. John C. Hitt will be remembered as a founding father to the University of Central Florida & his tenure and impact at UCF will forever be memorialized.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fifty-Fourth Student Senate of the University of Central Florida acknowledge and remember the life of John C Hitt; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Proclamation be sent to President Alexander N. Cartwright, Provost Michael Johnson, & finally, to the family of John C. Hitt in an effort to show family members that they are not alone in this difficult time and that the UCF community will always cherish John C. Hitt's memory and his legacy.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

Dylan Hall

Dylan Hall
Senate President

04/05/2023
Date

Daniella Lopez
Student Body President

Date