Resolution Label: ASNAU-SR-002

Date Introduced: February 4, 2021

Sponsors: Vice Chair Katie Cinader and Senator Jacob Carter


Resolution for Mental Health Days During The Spring 2021 Semester

Whereas, The University announced there will not be Spring Break for the Spring 2021 semester.

Whereas, The University moved the end date for the Spring 2021 semester to April 30, 2021.

Whereas, Students will not have a formal, University mandated break for the 16 weeks of the Spring 2021 semester, excluding the single federal holiday on January 18, 2021.

Whereas, Due to COVID-19, the University has implemented remote learning and NAU Flex for students and faculty, which has created a new barrier to students’ education and faculty members’ teaching ability.

Whereas, With no formal Spring break and the continuation of distanced learning, students will be facing increased challenges to their mental health and motivation to be academically successful.
Whereas, Faculty members will face the challenge of accelerating their curriculum and investing increased time to accommodate their students in a demanding and altered environment.

Therefore, be it Resolved by the Senate of the Associated Students of Northern Arizona University:

The Senate of Associated Students of Northern Arizona University advocates for faculty members to immediately implement mental health days for students and faculty into their semester schedule.

Be It Further Resolved, The Senate of Associated Students of Northern Arizona University requests for faculty members to provide students a minimum of two mental health days, or one mental health day if the class is not on the 16 week schedule, during the semester.

Be It Further Resolved, The Senate of Associated Students of Northern Arizona University recommends faculty members implement the mental health days through cancelation of class at least twice during the semester, or through providing students with excused absences usable at the students’ discretion.

Be It Further Resolved, The Senate of Associated Students of Northern Arizona University respects faculty members’ ability to devise plans and consider other adjustments for the implementation of mental health days.
Michael Bolar
ASNAU Senate Chair
Date of Approval: 2/12/21

Joseph Carter La Fontaine
ASNAU President
Date of Approval: 2/26/21

Approved by NAU Faculty Senate 2.22.21.