

Senate Resolution
2016/2017-05

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Deleted: Bill 398 .

WHEREAS, financial circumstances are a primary reason for students' inability to attend and/or complete college; and

WHEREAS, the cost of higher education has shifted to students and their families due to diminishing State support of Higher Education, putting more and more financial burden on students and families, and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has one of the lowest household income levels in the United State; and

WHEREAS, the Faculty of the University of Alabama in Huntsville believe that a college-education can substantially improve the livelihood of individuals and families, and

WHEREAS, the University of Alabama in Huntsville aspires to an undergraduate student population of 7,500 with a 5-year graduation rate of 75%, and a graduate population of 2,500 full-time students,

WHEREAS, "Civic Responsibility" is a part of the UAH Mission Statement and "a passion for improving the human condition" is part of the UAH Vision,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the President of the University of Alabama in Huntsville embark on evaluating a "pay it back" plan at UAH (Cover a Charger) similar in scope and operation to the "Back a Boiler" plan (income-share agreement) at Purdue University. The President should provide an initial report to the Faculty Senate at the end of the 2016-2017 AY, a final report will be provided at the beginning of the 2017-2018 AY with possible implementation of the plan occurring during 2018.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the "Cover a Charger" plan will provide support for 10,000 total students; 7,500 undergraduate and 2,500 graduate students.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the "Cover a Charger" funds also have the goal of providing the cost of on-campus housing to students who fall below certain income levels and follow established procedures.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the "Cover a Charger" funds should minimize the number of scholarships where there is no future commitment to the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the UAH Faculty Senate will change its bylaws and establish a new permanent committee for Faculty-Senate-shared-governance of the "Cover a Charger" plan and the establishment of criteria for acceptance and continuing student standards, as well as income and academic criteria for housing provided to students. The title of this committee will be named later. The composition of the primary Committee will have greater than 50% of its members comprised of tenured Faculty who currently serve as Faculty Senators.