10/28/2020 Undergraduate Student Government Senate Meeting

10/29/2020 - Now more than ever we, as a campus community, need to be prioritizing Students' Mental Health. Last night the Undergraduate Student Government voted on a piece of legislation calling on the University to take steps to make sure students are receiving the help they need.

The *Statement of Position Regarding Prioritizing International Students Mental Health*, authored by MCD Senator Yibing Zhou and Student Services Advocacy Director Rebecca Feldman, seeks to make sure our International Students are being supported. This legislation urges SHaW-MH to provide adequate resources for our International Students, in the form of reconvening the student support group for international students, forming a group therapy centered around international students, and hiring additional bilingual therapists.

"The importance of this legislation is mainly focused on improving more students' awareness of SHaW-MH resources, especially virtual support for international students. Meanwhile, we will urge SHaW-MH and ISSS to collaborate more and create more targeted events to address people's mental health issues and academic difficulty." - Yibing Zhou, Multicultural & Diversity Senator

*The Mental Health Act* authored by Brittany Diaz, UCCO President, is a proposal to enhance the Mental Health and Student Wellness Services on all University of Connecticut campuses. In addition, create safe spaces and/or enhanced resources with CSD and other university services. This piece of legislation was referred to the Diversity and Outreach Commission and will be discussed at a later senate meeting.

"The fight for accessible and inclusive mental health services for all UConn campuses has been a long one and the drive has never stopped. I am happy this is finally being discussed, students especially regional students, deserve adequate mental health services. This is a minimum given the price students pay to attend the university. Asking for such services and the enhancement of these services is not asking for the university to solve the mental health issues of every student, it is asking UConn to offer support and care when we need it the most." - Brittany Diaz, UCCO President

The Senate confirmed various advocacy coordinators, including confirming Christine Jorquera as the Student Development Advocacy Director.

If you are interested in being updated with additional developments or are interested in running, please email publicrelations@usg.uconn.edu or represent@usg.uconn.edu

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