



Pets on Campus Resolution F2016-R1

WHEREAS, studies published by the American Psychological Association (McConnell et al.) have found that “pet owners had greater self-esteem, were more physically fit, tended to be less fearful, and tended to be less preoccupied than non-owners.”

WHEREAS, researchers at the University of Ohio (Statts) have found that college students’ main reason for owning a pet is to help cope with adversity and loneliness.

WHEREAS, studies published by the American Heart Association show that pet ownership may have some causal role in reducing Cardiovascular Disease (Allen et al.).

WHEREAS, Stephens College Pet Program allows students to own cats, dogs, or birds on campus in specific residence halls and the college has partnered with a local no kill shelter to create a foster program.

WHEREAS, Eckerd College Pet Life Policy allows students to bring a variety family pets.

WHEREAS, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Residential Housing and Dining Policy allows upperclassmen residents to own up to two cats in specific residence halls.

LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, residents of upperclassmen single occupancy rooms, determined by University of North Texas Housing, be allowed to own pets, following similar standards that are set for Hall Directors and Resident Faculty members.

Respectfully Submitted,
Senator Mercedes Mercado
College of Education

Senator Teresa Aguayo Saldivar
College of Business

Senator Mia Muric
College of Arts and Science

Senator Tiffany Miller
College of Arts and Sciences

In Witness thereof, I hereby certify the Student Senate of the University of North Texas Student Government Association has approved this document and is referred to the office of the President.

Speaker of the Senate

Presidential Action:

- Vetoed
- Approved

President of the Student Government Association

Vice President of Student Affairs

Date

Date

Date

Levine, Glenn N., MD, FAHA, Karen Allen, PhD, and Lynn Braun T., PhD, CNP, FAHA. "Pet Ownership and Cardiovascular Risk." *Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry* 80.11 (2009): n. pag. *circ.ahajournals.org*. American Heart Association, 9 May 2013. Web. 1 Sept. 2016.

McConnell, Allen R., PhD, Christina Brown M., PhD, Tonya Shoda M., PhD, Laura Stayton E., BA, and Colleen Martin E., BA. "The Truth About Cats and Dogs: Pets Are Good for Mental Health of 'Everyday People'." *Www.apa.org*. The American Psychological Association, 11 July 2011. Web. 28 Aug. 2016.

Statts, Sara, PhD. "College Students Find Comfort In Their Pets During Hard Times." *College Students Find Comfort In Their Pets During Hard Times*. The Ohio State University, n.d. Web. 26 Aug. 2016.

Eckerd College Pet Life Policy: <https://www.eckerd.edu/housing/pet-life/policy/>

Massachusetts Institute Technology Residential Housing and Dining Policy:
http://housing.mit.edu/about/residential_housing_and_dining_policies#Pets

Stephens College Pet Program: <https://www.stephens.edu/student-life/pet-program/>